



Via E-Mail

October 6, 2020

Hope Andrade, Chair, Board of Trustees
Jeff Arndt, President & CEO
VIA Metropolitan Transit
123 N. Medina St.
San Antonio, TX 78207

Re: North SA Chamber Support for November 2020 Election, Advanced Transportation District (ATD)-Proposition A (revised)

Dear Chair Andrade and Mr. Arndt:

The North San Antonio Chamber represents more than a thousand businesses that support over 350,000 employees in the San Antonio area. Our top priority is to advocate on behalf of our Chamber businesses and partners who contribute to the economic success of this the region.

If voter approved in November 2020, the proposed, *Advanced Transportation District (ATD)-Proposition A for enhanced public transportation and public transportation mobility options* (VIA MTA) would reallocate 1/8th of one percent sales tax to the Advanced Transportation District for enhanced public transportation and mobility, to be used for services, operations, passenger amenities, and equipment beginning 2026. The ATD has continued to receive only half of the 1/8 cent sales tax authorized by the Legislature, and historically has been underfunded by comparison with other major cities in Texas. This continues to be a significant challenge to VIA's ability to meet present and future transit needs in Bexar County.

On behalf of the North San Antonio Chamber Board of Directors, we are pleased to share our support for increased funding of the Advanced Transportation District through the increased allocation of the 1/8 cent sales tax. This increased allocation will improve VIA public transportation and mobility services to support our community's coronavirus pandemic response, aid in our economic recovery, and provide a vital and sustainable lifeline to working San Antonians and their families.

Sincerely,

Cristina Aldrete
CEO & President
North San Antonio Chamber

David Pope
Chairman of the Board
North San Antonio Chamber

North San Antonio Chamber Support for November 2020 Election, Advanced Transportation District-Proposition A