

5404 Claridge Lane
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
April 16, 2019

Mr. Eric Mahler, Chairman
Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority
2700 S. Industrial Hwy
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Via email

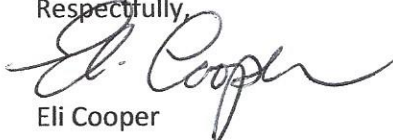
Dear Eric:

The Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) provides world class public transportation service to our communities. Over the past several years the AAATA has successfully increased its service area and ridership due to the efforts of many. We have confronted challenges including millage votes and renewals, changing leadership, major transit center rebuilding, and conversion to Policy Governance to name a few. Through it all the staff and Board has remained steadfast in our focus of meeting and exceeding the communities' expectations for reliable, safe, comfortable and convenient service delivered with a keen eye on sustainability guiding our decisions. Our service is not only urban fixed-route bus service but includes many modes ranging from A-Ride, ArborBike bike sharing, VanRide, all the way to AirRide providing a high quality over-the-road connection to Metro airport for local and international travelers. Much has been done.

Understanding the AAATA's work continues, I come to realize my ability to adequately serve on the Board may not meet my own standards for engagement. It is in the AAATA's best interest that all Board members can fully engage and participate in the work that lies ahead. Opportunities including long range and strategic planning processes require Board members that can not only lead and participate fully in those processes, but be able to follow-up with implementation activities that naturally follow in the years to come.

Although in position to fulfill my short term responsibilities, both I and the Authority can be better served with aligning Board positions with members that have the skills, abilities and long-term capabilities to guide the organization both today and well into the future. In order to be true to my commitment to best serving the Ann Arbor community, I respectfully offer my resignation to the AAATA Board, having appreciated the opportunity to serve for an extended period. My belief is with your leadership, the engaged and committed Board members and staff's excellence, this is a good time for me to step aside and allow others the opportunity to frame the future of the AAATA's planning for, and service to, the greater Ann Arbor Area. In closing, I am grateful to the mayor for appointing me, my colleagues on the Board for working with me, and our excellent staff for supporting our efforts all allowing me to be a part of our brand of organizational excellence.

Respectfully,



Eli Cooper