



**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT**

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2022

April 25, 2022

Rebecca Saltzman  
PRESIDENT

Janice Li  
VICE PRESIDENT

Robert Powers  
GENERAL MANAGER

Dr. Grant Colfax, MD  
Director of Health  
San Francisco Department of Public Health  
101 Grove Street, Room 308  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**RE: Request to Reinstate Mask Mandate on Public Transit**

DIRECTORS

Debora Allen  
1ST DISTRICT

Mark Foley  
2ND DISTRICT

Rebecca Saltzman  
3RD DISTRICT

Robert Raburn, Ph.D.  
4TH DISTRICT

John McPartland  
5TH DISTRICT

Elizabeth Ames  
6TH DISTRICT

Lateefah Simon  
7TH DISTRICT

Janice Li  
8TH DISTRICT

Bevan Dufty  
9TH DISTRICT

Dear Dr. Colfax,

Last week, due to a federal court ruling, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention rescinded its federal order requiring masks on public transportation and in transportation hubs. Subsequently, the California Department of Public Health terminated its mask requirement for public transit.

As the President of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Board of Directors, I request you exercise your authority and reinstate a mask mandate on public transportation throughout your county.

As you are aware, the requirement to wear masks on trains and buses as well as within transportation hubs like bus terminals and trains stations, helps protect everyone from COVID-19, especially those who are immunocompromised, people with underlying health conditions, and children under 5 years of age who cannot be vaccinated.

On Thursday, April 21, the Health Officer of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health issued an order to continue requiring masks while in all public transit because the requirement is deemed necessary for public health.

I encourage you to issue a similar order mandating masks on public transportation for public health within the City and County of San Francisco. I appreciate your immediate consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Saltzman  
President

cc: Mayor of San Francisco  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
BART Board of Directors  
San Francisco City Administrator  
BART General Manager