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Nathaniel P. Ford, Sr. | Executive Director/CEO

December 5, 2007

Jared Blumenfeld
Director
Department of the Environment
11 Grove St.
San Francisco, CA 94102

Subject: Resolution Supporting the Green Roof Bus Shelter Demonstration Project

Dear Director Blumenfeld:

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) thanks the Policy Committee of the Commission on the Environment for continuing Item 6 on the November 19, 2007 agenda for the resolution supporting the Green Roof Bus Shelter Demonstration Project until December 10, 2007.

As you know, SFMTA has a new transit shelter contractor, Clear Channel Outdoor, as of December 10, 2007. The designs of the shelters went through an extensive public participation process, including three days of shelter design displays at City Hall and One South Van Ness Avenue and a month-long comment period on the SFMTA website. The SFMTA received comments from approximately 1,025 individuals. The preferred design, the Seismic Wave for the shelters and kiosks, which is being reviewed by the Arts Commission, is shown in Attachment A.

Additionally, the Planning Department (Planning) reviewed the proposed new contract per the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Planning approved replacement of the existing transit shelters and kiosks, with a future CEQA review for 400 additional transit shelters and other structures.

Proposed green roofs on transit shelters involve many complex issues which will require detailed study and analysis. Therefore, SFMTA suggests that the Green Roof Bus Shelter Demonstration Project propose a three-month Pilot Program to Clear Channel and SFMTA for review and approval, such as a prototype demonstration, using one existing shelter near City Hall, in particular, the transit shelter in front of the Main Library on Larkin Street.

Jared Blumenfeld
December 5, 2007

Issues to be reviewed prior to and during the Pilot Program and included in an agreement might include:

1. Design of the proposed green roof on an existing transit shelter;
2. Installation of the proposed green roof on an existing transit shelter;
3. Maintenance, including broken glass, graffiti, bird nests and droppings;
4. Repairs of the proposed green roof on an existing transit shelter;
5. Safety of maintenance employees;
6. Source and use of water for cleaning shelter and watering green roof;
7. Electrical power versus green roof;
8. Proposed future solar power versus green roof (the new transit shelters could not accommodate both features);
9. Comfort and safety of transit customers while waiting under a transit shelter with a green roof;
10. Insurance of Green Roof Bus Shelter Demonstration Project;
11. Liability of Green Roof Bus Shelter Demonstration Project;
12. Process to track public phone calls to 311 Center re: this one shelter; and
13. Evaluation team and report.

Clear Channel Outdoor (who will own the transit shelters), the SFMTA Board of Directors, and the Arts Commission would have to approve the Pilot Program. The SFMTA also plans to implement a public comment process to obtain input from our customers and other interested stakeholders.

If the Pilot Program is successful, an agreement will need to be executed between your agency, SFMTA, and Clear Channel addressing the points above.

We appreciate giving the SFMTA an opportunity to weigh in on this proposal.

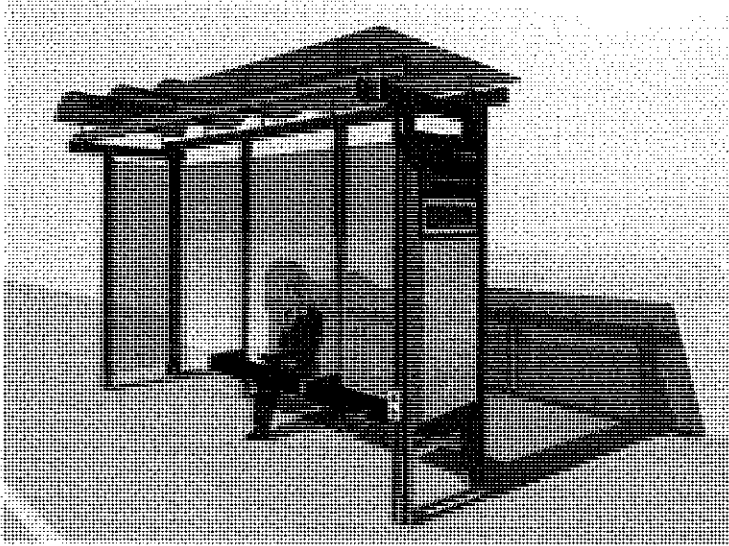
Sincerely,



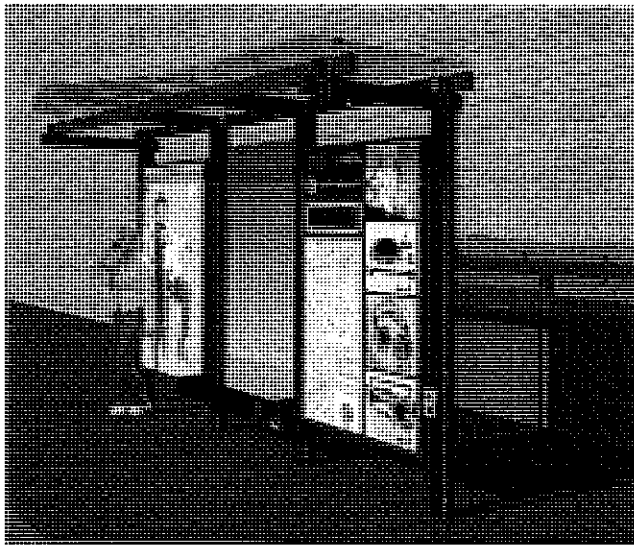
Nathaniel P. Ford, Sr.
Executive Director/CEO

cc: Johanna Wald, Chair, Policy Committee, Commission on the Environment
Monica Fish, Commission Secretary, Commission on the Environment

Attachment A



Transit Shelter Designs for Most Streets in San Francisco



Transit Shelter Design for Market Street