



Greater Austin Hispanic
Chamber of Commerce
Expanding Business Culture

Mr. Ken Levine:

We would like to thank you and your staff for conducting the review of our Central Texas Transit Authority: Capital Metro. As an organization dedicated to improving our member's wealth and our regional quality of life, the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce can assure you the most pressing issue and the most frustrating issue for our members is our lack of mobility in Central Texas.

While mass transit cannot solve the mobility crisis – it is a critical part of the solution and until we solve that crisis, our quality of life will continue to suffer. For that reason, we felt it was important for the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to speak in support of the reforms you recommend in your review of Capital Metro and in support for further improvements at the agency.

The last two years have been especially hard for Capital Metro. Much of the financial and operational difficulties are of their own creation. Of that, there can be no dispute. We would advocate and support the following measures:

- Focus on the basics of providing a quality bus service that serves as many riders as possible.
- Prepare to make tough financial decisions that address all cost areas, including programmatic and administrative areas.
- Implement a steady plan to increase revenues so we are positioned for future growth.
- Hire a new CEO with a reputation for implementing systemic change and being active in the community.

Each of these measures will help to slowly improve the public's trust so that we are positioned to provide the array of multi-modal solutions that Capital Metro has the potential to offer. Some of these measures are already being implemented with new board members who are committed to change. We stand ready to stand behind them as we look to our growing and vibrant future in Central Texas.

Sincerely,

Andy Martinez
President

Pilar Sanchez
Chair of the Board of Directors