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Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
Tel.: 510.464.7700
TTY/TDD: 510.464.7769
Fax: 510.464.7848
e-mail: info@mtc.ca.gov
Web site: www.mtc.ca.gov

April 22, 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Commission Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Suite TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: File No. NSD-L-99-24, CC Docket No. 92-105

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2), enclosed is an original and one copy of the Memorandum of Melanie Crotty, summarizing an ex parte meeting occurring on April 21, 1999, with Federal Communications Commission's staff regarding matters related to the petition filed by the United State Department of Transportation for the assignment of an abbreviated dialing code, as referenced in the above-cited docket number.

Very truly yours,

Francis Chin
General Counsel

Enclosure

J:\SECTION\EXEC\COUNSEL\FRANCIS\FCC Letter.doc
cc with enclosure:

Al McCloud
Common Carrier Bureau
Network Services Division
445 12th Street, S.W., Suite 6-A320
Washington, DC 20554

International Transcription Services, Inc.
1231 20th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

Nancy McFadden, General Counsel
Rosalind Knapp, Deputy General Counsel
Paul Samuel Smith, Senior Trial Attorney
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 7th Street S.W., Room 4102 C-30
Washington DC 20590

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Lawrence D. Dabms
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Deputy Executive Director

MEMORANDUM OF MELANIE CROTTY

On April 21, 1999 representatives of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission ("MTC"), the California Department of Transportation ("Caltrans"), and the firm of Government Relations, Inc. met with Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC or Commission ") staff at the Commission's office in Washington, D.C. on 445 12th Street, S.W. The meeting lasted from approximately 10 to 11:30 a.m. Attending were:

Helene Nankin, Attorney in FCC Network Service Division of the Common Carrier Bureau
Blaise Cinto, Deputy of FCC Network Services Division of the Common Carrier Bureau
Joel Taubenblatt, FCC Attorney (Wireless Division)
Lawrence D. Dahms, MTC Executive Director
Melanie Crotty, MTC TravInfo™ Project Manager
Emily Van Wagner, MTC TravInfo™ Assistant Project Manager
Clifford Loveland, Caltrans Division of New Technology and Research, Program Manager
John Young, Government Relations, Legislative Analyst

Mr. Dahms described the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and its duties and functions. MTC is the regional agency responsible for transportation planning, programming and coordinating for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. In 1991, federal legislation called the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) provided regional agencies such as MTC new opportunities to be innovative in addressing congestion and air quality problems. Through ISTEA, MTC now manages numerous operational programs, with the primary objective being to more efficiently manage the existing transportation infrastructure. Many of these management programs are elements of the National Intelligent Transportation System program.

Ms. Crotty described one of these programs, the Bay Area's TravInfo™ traveler information system and its principal feature, a traveler information number, 817-1717. TravInfo™ provides comprehensive traveler information, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. TravInfo™ provides direct connections to over two dozen public transit agencies, carpool referral services, and other transportation information services. TravInfo™ was originally funded as a Federal Highway Administration demonstration test. Upon conclusion of the test in October, 1998, TravInfo™ continued operations as a mainstreamed, fully funded service. TravInfo™ callers rank the system high, with nearly 90 percent stating they are very satisfied with 817-1717. The media have similarly ranked the service high. Not only has TravInfo™ been important as a daily tool for commuters, but it has been an essential public service during significant regional events, such as the 1997 BART strike or the 1998 El Nino floods. MTC expects the TravInfo™ program to continue to be important as a permanent congestion management tool

Ms. Crotty described MTC's past experience working with the California state legislature and the California Public Utilities Commission to reserve the existing seven digit number in all new area codes within the Bay Area. MTC was unsuccessful in securing guaranteed assignment from either party. This lack of guarantee has caused uneven service, complicated marketing messages, and resulted in an uncertain future for the number. Ms. Crotty discussed alternative numbering options that MTC has researched, including 555 information services.

Mr. Loveland described Caltrans' department mission and duties. He described the operational features of the Caltrans' information number, 1-800 COMMUTE, which is available throughout Southern California and other rural counties. This program provides direct connections to transit agencies and traffic information. He also described the California Highway Information Number (CHIN) which provides road condition and weather information on all major California interstate highways. This system handled over 2 million calls in a single month during the 1998 floods. Mr. Loveland described the state of California's interest in getting a three-digit number so that travelers throughout the state could access a number that is easy to remember and convenient to dial.

Lastly, Mr. Dahms described MTC's and other regional agencies' support for the referenced docket.

Melanie Crotty by ST

Melanie Crotty

April 22, 1999

Date