

Department of Transportation

Henry B. Gutman, Commissioner

March 12, 2021

Carolyn Miller Executive Director New York City Conflict of Interest Board 2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010 New York, NY 10007

Re: Designation of DOT Chief Technology Officer

Cordell Schachter to Serve on ITSA's Board of Directors

Dear Ms. Miller:

For the reasons below, and pursuant to Conflicts of Interest Board Rule 1-13(e), I hereby designate Cordell Schachter, DOT's Chief Technology Officer, to serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the Intelligent Transportation Society of America "ITSA" a non-profit organization comprised of members from the private and public sectors and academia and other research institutions. These include departments of transportation and public authorities from across the nation (DOT included¹) at the federal, state and local levels. ITSA is dedicated to the research, development and deployment of Intelligent Transportation Systems ("ITS") and has the larger goal of improving the nation's surface transportation system. Mr. Schachter previously served as an ITSA Board Member pursuant to COIB Rule 1-13)c)(1) from 2015 to 2019. Former DOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg then joined the ITSA Board when she was designated by Deputy Mayor for Operations Laura Anglin to serve in such a capacity pursuant to recently promulgated COIB Rule 1-13(e) by letter dated May 27, 2020. With former Commissioner Trottenberg's resignation from City service on December 11, 2020, I now designate Mr. Schachter to replace Ms. Trottenberg, and serve the remaining two years of the seat's three year term on the ITSA Board.

Under COIB Rule 1-13(e) a public servant may be designated to perform work on behalf of a not-for-profit corporation, association or other such entity that operates on a not-for-profit basis, including serving as a board member or other position with fiduciary responsibilities provided that:

¹ NYCDOT, as a public sector member of ITSA, paid \$10,000 in annual dues for 2020 to ITSA.

- 1. there is a demonstrated nexus between the proposed work, the public servant's City job and the mission of the public servant's agency;
- 2. such work furthers the agency's mission and is not undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of the not-for-profit;
- 3. the designated public servant takes not part in the entity's business dealings with the City at the entity or at his or her agency, except that Council Members may sponsor and vote on discretionary funding;² and
- 4. within 30 days the written designation is disclosed to the Conflicts of Interest Board.

Here there is strong nexus between ITSA's mission to advance the research and development of intelligent transportation technologies to save lives, improve mobility and promote sustainability and DOT's goals under Vision Zero to achieve the same by implementing cutting edge ITS technologies for many of its projects such as replacing NYCWiN with the Traffic Safety Network, the USDOT Connected Vehicle Pilot, and the advancement of the program for mobile payments for parking. Mr. Schachter's participation on the Board of Directors will directly further DOT's goals of improving surface transportation Citywide while improving the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicle operators. Moreover, ITSA's consideration of and advocacy for the advancement of state of the art ITS technologies will benefit the work of DOT and his active participation will ensure that New York City's voice is heard and taken account of in the development of ITS policies on both the national and local levels of government, directly benefitting the City.

Sincerely,

Henry B. Gutman Commissioner

cc: J. Jarrin, M. Forgione, S. Rogerson Pondish, M. McDonnell, J. Schipper, D. Fenichel

² A review of the City's Checkbook NYC database does not indicate that ITSA has business dealings with the City other than the membership dues DOT pays to ITSA.