

Dear Madame Vice-Chair Diane Mahon,

I'm waxing formal as I introduce you to Brian Kane, the Executive Director of the MBTA Advisory Board. I have known Brian for over 15 years, and I've worked with him during his involvement with the MBTA (as part of the Executive staff) and his involvement with the MBTA Advisory Board, both in the distant past and the present. Brian knows the MBTA very well, and he has a solid understanding of the laws and regulations that affect the T. Per our conversation on Wednesday morning, I reached out to Brian yesterday to inquire as to whether there is a formal process by which municipalities can request a reevaluation of their assessments. Brian is not aware of such a process.

Brian, however, thinks that the legislature will at least have to review the MBTA assessments in the next session because the South Coast Rail extension of the Commuter Rail will add more municipalities to the MBTA's service area. That will be the time for Arlington and possibly other Inner Core communities to ask their Statehouse delegates to work toward creating a better formula for the assessments.

I took the liberty of Cc'ing Brian so that he can chime in if anything I conveyed needs to be corrected or supplemented. I also know that Brian welcomes any opportunity to discuss MBTA matters with those from the communities that are represented by the MBTA Advisory Board. Please feel free to communicate with Brian directly, and please feel free to Cc me or not.

Have a good weekend!

Len