

BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

Resolution Commending
HALE ZUKAS
In Honor of the 30th Anniversary of the ADA

Resolution No. 5448

WHEREAS, BART is committed to delivering safe and accessible transit in the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990, marking 30 years since this landmark legislation first championed access and opportunity for people with disabilities throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, Hale J. Zukas, a founding member of the BART Accessibility Task Force (BATF), was instrumental in forming the independent living movement at local, state and national levels, and has remained active in advocating for disability rights and accessible design since the early 1970s; and

WHEREAS, over the last half-century, Mr. Zukas has demonstrated a fierce commitment to community-centered design and prompted the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District to adopt accessible design solutions, such as the technical features of station elevator buttons, elevator locations and improved signage and wayfinding; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zukas, in partnership with District staff, was directly involved with other key BATF members to integrate 1990s station expansion design, planning, and engineering concurrently with the ADA to meet the needs of all BART users; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his legacy of assisting Bay Area transit riders in gaining public access to transit systems, Mr. Zukas has prompted California's statewide adoption of curb ramp designs and co-founded the Center for Independent Living in Berkeley, the first group of its kind in the world dedicated to advocate for the rights of disabled people; and worked with civil rights pioneers Ed Roberts and Judy Heumann for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zukas was appointed by President Jimmy Carter in 1983 to serve on the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board in Washington D.C., and greatly influenced national accessibility standards while consulting for the National Science Foundation and the Federal Highway Administration; and

Adopted: July 23, 2020

WHEREAS, Mr. Zukas remains one of the key liaisons between BART and the disability community and has previously been presented with an honorary plaque within the accessible passageway between the Ashby BART Station and Ed Roberts Campus in 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District does hereby recognizes the long-standing contributions that Mr. Hale Zukas has made on behalf of the citizens of the Bay Area, the District, the State and the Nation over the past 50 years in conjunction with commemorating the 30th Anniversary of ADA.

Adopted on July 23, 2020