

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE

Draft Minutes

March 24, 2016

1. Self-Introductions of Members, Staff and Guests

Members:

Janet Abelson
Randall Glock
Janice Armigo Brown
Peter Crockwell
Don Queen
Hale Zukas
Clarence Fischer
Gerry Newell
Herb Hastings
Alan Smith
Larry Bunn – (ABSENT)
Megan O'Brien – (ABSENT)
Brandon Young
Roland Wong
Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez – (ABSENT)

BART Staff present: Ike Nnaji, Bob Franklin

Directors, Speaker(s), Guest Staff, and Guests of the Public:

Director Robert Raburn, Elena Vanloo (BART),
Linton Johnson (BART), Carl Orman (BART),
Debby Leung, Marianne Haas,
Janice Dispo (Stenographer)

2. Public Comments

[No public comment.]

3. Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2016 and February 25, 2016 Meetings

No opposition to Clarence Fischer's motion to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2016 meeting, with a second by Gerry Newell.

Motion passes unanimously.

No opposition to Clarence Fischer's motion to approve the amended minutes of the February 25, 2016 meeting, with a second by Janet Abelson.

Motion passes unanimously.

4. Building a Better BART

After the presentation by Linton Johnson, members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had.

More information can be found at <http://www.bart.gov/better-bart>

Alan Smith thanked Linton for his presentation, and looks forward to the continuing dialog regarding Building a Better BART.

5. Pittsburg/Bay Point and North Concord Accessibility Improvements

After the presentation given by Carl Orman, members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had.

Gerry Newell thanked Carl Orman (and Scott Smith) for showing Gerry the work going on at Pittsburg Station.

Clarence Fischer asked about the availability of seats at the Kiss-and-Ride (pick-up/drop-off area).

6. Discussion and possible recommendation to the BART Board of Directors regarding the adoption of a policy and/or other measure to allow disabled persons a priority in the use of BART station elevators over other riders

Carl Orman asked three questions of members regarding elevators: What is the issue? Where is the issue? What is the frequency of the issue so that priorities may be needed?

A short discussion was held and members were able to share their thoughts.

Janet Abelson shared that she oftentimes can't get on the elevators at MacArthur as well as at El Cerrito Plaza, either because they are too crowded or because they are too small.

Hale Zukas stated that he oftentimes shares the use of the elevator at MacArthur with a bicyclist, with no problems.

Clarence Fischer suggested that a reminder be printed in the Bikes on BART brochure, reminding folks to yield the use of elevators to people with disabilities.

Carl Orman plans on giving members an update at the next BATF meeting in April.

7. Capital Project Status Reports

Concord Station Upgrade

Contracts have been approved for reroofing of the supervisor office building at the south end of the platform, as well as reroofing of the maintenance yard.

Powell Street Station Upgrade

A contract has been approved for reroofing work to be done at Powell.

Berryessa/Milpitas Stations

The VTA (Valley Transportation Authority) has announced that they have received authorization from the FTA (Federal Transit Administration) to spend some funds in order to complete an environmental impact report.

Fleet of the Future

A new car is being tested at the Hayward maintenance yard. Two more cars will arrive in May.

All new cars are set to be delivered by 2021, which is ahead of what the original contract called for.

A special tour will be held for the BATF at the maintenance yard, date and time yet to be determined. It will be wheelchair accessible, and BART will provide Paratransit service from either South Hayward or Hayward Station.

(Travel reimbursement approved, per Ike Nnaji.)

No updates were given for the following projects:

El Cerrito Del Norte

Oakland Airport Connector

Union City Station Remodel

eBART

Warm Springs Station

Phase 2 – San Jose Downtown

Civic Center Station Upgrade
Montgomery Station Upgrade
Dublin/Pleasanton Project
Station Hearing Loop
Entrance Canopies
Berkeley Station Upgrade
Stair Tread Color Contrast
Richmond Intermodal Project
Embarcadero Station Upgrade
West Dublin Path of Travel
Track Maintenance

8. Chairperson Announcements

Alan Smith made a few chairperson announcements.

Bob Powers has agreed to meet with members at 3:00 p.m. on April 5, 2016, at 300 Lakeside Drive, 21st Floor in Oakland.

The purpose is for the BATF to meet with senior BART managers and construction supervisors to discuss how to ensure that when obstacles placed in the path of travel, the visually impaired be made aware of its presence.

(Travel reimbursement approved, per Ike Nnaji.)

9. Staff Announcements

Bob Franklin gave an update regarding maintenance issues between Pittsburg/Bay Point into North Concord. Passengers will now be using a shuttle train.

He talked about weekend closures for maintenance, and that there will be a bus bridge between Bay Fair and San Leandro.

Passengers can experience up to an hour delay transferring between these stations.

As it can get confusing, he encouraged members to get the latest information regarding BART maintenance on the BART website.

Alan Smith suggested that information be posted on the website, letting people know of the possible hour delay.

Director Raburn stated that members can go to BART's website to watch a video regarding the Fleet of the Future Digital Display Simulation.

<http://www.bart.gov/about/projects/cars/new-features>

10. Member Announcements

[No member announcements.]

11. Future Agenda Topics

- Discussion on when elevator platform is out of service, such as at Union City, whether the last revenue trains can run reverse direction so that people in wheelchairs can make use of the elevator at the opposite platform
- Safety concerns regarding panhandlers in stations and on trains
- Disabled rates printed in the fare chart
- Updates from staff for West Oakland, Lafayette, Richmond and Pleasant Hill projects

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of **Thursday, April 28, 2016, at 2:00 p.m., at 1750 Broadway in Oakland, California.**