

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE

Draft Minutes

June 22, 2017

1. Self-Introductions of Members, Staff and Guests

Members:

Janet Abelson
Randall Glock
Janice Armigo Brown – (ABSENT)
Peter Crockwell
Don Queen – (ABSENT)
Hale Zukas
Clarence Fischer
Gerry Newell
Herb Hastings
Alan Smith
Larry Bunn – (ABSENT)
Brandon Young
Roland Wong
Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez
Debby Leung
Catherine Callahan
Valerie Buell
Chris Mullin

BART Staff present: Bob Franklin, Elena VanLoo

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

Carl Orman (BART)
Denise McDonald (BART)
Shirley Ng (BART)
Janice Dispo (Stenographer)

2. Public Comments

[No public comments.]

3. Approval of Minutes of May 25, 2017 Meetings

[No minutes to approve at this time; minutes to be approved at the next meeting.]

4. Underground Restroom Notification Policy

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

A discussion was held.

Some members expressed that they would like to see unisex bathrooms so as to be more inclusive.

Gerry Newell asked if there could be some sort of audible cue in order to alert visually blind users whether the restroom is being occupied or not.

Clarence Fischer said it would be nice to have an indicator both inside and outside the restroom, alerting users when the ten-minute time limit is almost up.

Janet Abelson commented that the doors should have the ability to be opened manually in the case of an emergency.

Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez suggested that users tag their Clipper cards (without being charged) in order to access the restroom. She added that the bathroom needs to be fully accessible, and that the ten-minute may not be enough time for persons with caregivers.

Roland Wong asked that the doors not be so heavy.

5. Accessibility Improvement Projects

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

No opposition to Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez's motion to recommend that BART change its standards to require new stations and station retrofits to include two accessible fare gates, located closest to the elevator whenever possible, with a second by Gerry Newell.

Motion passes unanimously.

6. Tactile Path Refresher

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

Carl Orman spoke of a letter written by Billie Louise (Beezy) Bentzen, asking BART to write a letter of recommendation for her research into tactile paths, for grant funding purposes.

7. Station Map Diagram

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

A long discussion was held

8. Chairperson Announcements

Randall Glock expressed his disappointment with the bus bridge during the Warriors' parade. He emphasized that people with disabilities should have priority and need some extra help when there are bus bridges in effect.

9. Staff Announcements

[No staff announcements.]

10. Member Announcements

Valerie Buell asked whether the BART Watch app can be updated to include the ability to report things other than crimes.

Alan Smith spoke at the May 25th BART Board meeting, thanking the board for keeping the senior and disabled discounts. General Manager Grace Crunican thanked the BATF for their comments and support.

He then talked about an article that was recently published in the San Francisco Chronicle regarding hearing loops at BART.

He shared about his personal experience. He said that the Concord elevators look nice and smell nice.

He then reported that both the Oakland Airport Connector elevators worked perfectly fine.

Herb Hastings invited members to the Alameda County Fair and shared information on how to get there.

11. Future Agenda Topics

- Introduction of BART Police Chief Rojas to the BATF
- Discussion of or presentation on sharps containers at BART
- Balboa modernization update
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12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of **Thursday, July 27, 2017, at 2:00 p.m., at 1750 Broadway, Oakland, California.**

(The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.)