

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT**  
2150 Webster Street, P.O. Box 12688, Oakland, CA 94604-2688

**BART ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE**  
Committee Meeting Minutes  
July 27, 2023

**1. Roll Call of Members:**

1. Anita Ortega
2. Catherine Callahan - ABSENT
3. Clarence Fischer
4. Don Queen
5. Emily Witkin - ABSENT
6. Herb Hastings (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair) - ABSENT
7. Janice Armigo Brown
8. Larry Bunn - ABSENT
9. Randall Glock (Chair)
10. Roland Wong
11. VACANT
12. VACANT
13. VACANT
14. VACANT
15. VACANT
16. VACANT
17. VACANT
18. VACANT

Quorum of six in-person BATF members. Six (6) BATF members in total attended in-person. “Just Cause,” was not used for this meeting.

**BART Customer Access and Accessibility Department Staff:**

Elena Van Loo  
Bob Franklin

**BART Director (s), BART Staff, Speakers, and members of the public:**

Director Robert Raburn  
Katherine Alagar (BART Staff)  
Sabrina Baptiste (BART Staff)  
Katie Arioli (Captioner)

Mayra Perez (Captioner)  
Daveed Mandell (Guest)  
Annie Koruga (Guest)  
Hilary Brown (Guest)  
Corvin Bazgan (Guest)  
Shira Leeder (Guest)  
Carolyn Yu (Guest)  
Bruce Yow (Guest)  
Natalie Maxwell (Guest)  
Aleta Dupree (Guest)  
Roger (Guest)  
Jerry Grace (Guest)  
Sara Desumala (Guest)

## **2. Public Comments**

Aleta Dupree introduced herself and shared that everyone should be accepted and accept who she is.

Corvin Bazgan introduced himself and expressed to have BART to continue improve accessibility within the BART system for people who are visually impaired and/or hearing impaired.

Daveed Mandell introduced himself and shared he is involved with a few committees that serves people who are blind or visually impaired. He expressed he would like to be a BATF member to advice BART staff to be as accessible as it can be.

Jerry Grace introduced himself. He stated Center for Independence (CIL) is celebrating, “July is Disability Pride Month,” at Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley.

Hilary Brown introduced herself and mentioned she currently serves as member with Multimodal Accessibility Advisory Committee (MAAC) with San Francisco Muni (SFMTA). She expressed interest to be part of the BATF Advisory Committee.

Director Robert Raburn thanked BATF members and members of the public for their service and welcomed new guests to the meeting.

## **3. Approval of June 22, 2023 meeting minutes**

Clarence Fischer moved approval of the June 22, 2023 meeting minutes. Roland Wong seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with six (6) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention

#### **4. BART Fiscal Year 24 and Fiscal Year 25 budget update**

Katherine Alagar presented, “BART FY24 and FY25 Budget update.”

She mentioned in FY24 and FY25, BART will continue to deliver reliable, safe, frequent service with a focus on ridership experience and at the same time, BART is also focused on extending the fiscal runway.

Katherine Alagar shared the FY24 & FY25 ridership outlook. She mentioned return to work has largely flattened and is no longer forecast to be a major drive-in ridership growth. She went over the weekday forecast for FY23, FY24, and FY25:

- End of FY23 about 165,000 riders
- End of FY24 about 185,000 riders
- End of FY25 about 195,000 riders

She stated about 31% of riders live in households with income under \$50,000, about 44% of riders do not have vehicles, and about 67% identify as non-white.

Katherine Alagar went over FY24 & FY25 Operating Revenue and Financial Assistance. She mentioned pre-pandemic, BART was highly self-sufficient, but post-pandemic, BART has received about \$1.6 billion in federal emergency assistance, which is anticipated to last through early 2025.

She went over FY24 & FY25 total expenses and stated FY24 expenses have increased by approximately 7% from FY23.

She went over the FY24 Capital Sources and Uses budget chart and BART’s Fiscal Runway chart.

Katherine Alagar went over the five-year operating outlook starting from FY24 through FY28. She mentioned the main goal is closing the deficit gap by reducing and deferring expenses or minimizing expense increases. She mentioned BART will be increasing revenues with inflation-based fare increases in 2024 and 2025 and parking fee adjustments.

Annie Koruga asked about fare rate increases. Katherine Alagar mentioned that there will two fare rate increases that was passed by the BART Board of Directors. The first fare rate increase of 5.5% will be on January 1, 2024 and the second fare rate increase of 5.5% will be on January 01, 2025.

Clarence Fischer asked to clarify how much BART is in deficit for FY24 and FY25 and Katherine Alagar confirmed the deficit amount for FY24 and FY25 is about \$693 million.

Aleta Dupree asked if we should be concerned about decreasing the discount for seniors and people with disabilities to 50% from 62.5% to help with the deficit and Katherine Alagar stated BART is not going to change the discount for senior and people with disability in the near future.

## **5. BATF member nomination (s) and elections**

Randall Glock introduced Daveed Mandell who is interested in becoming a BATF member.

Daveed Mandell introduced himself and expressed why he is interested in joining the BATF Advisory Committee.

Clarence Fischer moved to recommend Daveed Mandell as a BATF member. Roland Wong seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with five (5) in favor, zero (0) against, and one (1) abstention

## **6. Consider changes to the BATF By-Laws to simplify new membership requirements**

Randall Glock led the agenda item and read part of the BATF By-Laws, Article IV – Membership under, “Nominations and Selection Process”:

- Out of four consecutive meetings, an interested applicant must attend three and then apply for membership. Applicants must be endorsed by the members of the BATF through a majority vote. Their names are submitted by the BATF staff liaison to the BART Board of Directors for final approval. The BATF staff liaison then notifies the applicant of the Board’s decision regarding their application.

Clarence Fischer mentioned he would like to keep the current member’s selection process because this will test whether potential member(s) are serious. Randall Glock and Janice Amigo Brown agreed with Clarence Fischer.

Ronald Wong mentioned attending three out of four meetings takes a long time and he suggested to change to, ‘attend two meetings within three months,’ to speed up the process and keep the potential member(s) interested.

The members did not recommend any change to the By-Laws.

**7. Review and approve BATF recruitment flyers to hand out during BART's outreach events**

Randall Glock led the agenda item.

BATF members reviewed the BATF recruitment flyer to be passed out during BART's events.

BATF members suggested to post the BATF recruitment flyer under bart.gov.

Clarence Fischer motioned to approve the BART recruitment flyer as is. Roland Wong seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with six (6) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention

The motion passed unanimously.

**8. Discuss and approve BATF Holiday Reception on December 13, 2023.**

Randall Glock led the agenda item.

Clarence Fischer felt that in the past, having the holiday reception has been productive to connect with BART staff along with meeting BART Board of Directors.

Randall Glock confirmed that there will be a one-hour meeting and then the holiday reception would follow.

Elena Van Loo mentioned the holiday reception will be at the BART Headquarters Board Room at 2150 Webster Street in Oakland, near the 19<sup>th</sup> Street BART station.

Clarence Fischer motioned to have the BATF Holiday Reception on December 13, 2023 at BART Headquarters, Board Room. Roland Wong seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with six (6) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention

The motion passed unanimously.

## **9. Member Announcements**

Clarence Fischer shared the BART Board of Directors approved an item to increase the travel stipend for members of BART Advisory Committees to match the same rate of increase as rider fares. He mentioned the first increase of 5.5% will start on January 01, 2024.

## **10. Staff Announcements**

Director Robert Raburn announced on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, BART Police will be hosting National Night Out to enhance community outreach and stated everyone is welcome. National Night Out will happen at two different BART Stations - Powell Street and Fruitvale BART Stations.

Elena Van Loo announced that yearly nominations and elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair are scheduled for September. Interested members may reach out to staff.

Elena Van Loo shared that Gerry Newell resigned as a BATF member and mentioned there are now ten (10) elected BATF members with eight (8) available spots.

Elena Van Loo mentioned that July is Disability Pride Month. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) passed in 1990 and celebrating its thirty-third year.

Sabrina Baptiste introduced herself from BART's Office of Civil Rights (OCR).

## **11. Chairperson Announcements**

Randall Glock asked BATF members and members of the public to reach out recruit potential BATF members.

## **10. Future Agenda Topics – Member Suggest Topics**

- Next generation faregate update
- Wayfinding update

## **11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:31 pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting, August 24, 2023 at 2pm.