

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE

Minutes

May 28, 2015

1. Self-Introductions of Members, Staff and Guests

Members present: Janet Abelson, Randall Glock, Janice Armigo Brown, Peter Crockwell, Don Queen, Hale Zukas, Clarence Fischer, Gerry Newell, Herb Hastings, Alan Smith, Marina Villena, Megan O'Brien, Brandon Young, Roland Wong, Linda Drattell

Absent: Larry Bunn

BART Staff present: Ike Nnaji, Bob Franklin

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

Director Robert Raburn, Pamela Herhold (BART), Elena Vanloo (BART), Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez, Jerry Grace, Aaron Brace (ASL Interpreter), Ric Owen (ASL Interpreter), Janice Dispo (Stenographer)

2. Public Comments

[No public comments.]

3. Approval of Minutes of April 23, 2015 Meeting

No opposition to Clarence Fischer's motion to approve the April 23, 2015 meeting minutes, with a second by Janet Abelson.

Motion passes unanimously.

4. FY 2016 Budget Overview

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

Members had a number of concerns that they hope the budget will allow for.

Some of the concerns/requests are as follows:

- Request for earlier release of increased fare schedule to the disabled community
- Improved communication access, (e.g., ASL in canned announcements, hearing loops within station)
- Elevator and escalator improvement
- Allowance for more employees at eBART stations, if needed

Pamela Herhold will follow up with an answer to the BATF regarding how much of the budget is being allocated to elevators.

No opposition to Gerry Newell's motion for the BATF to support all aspects in the FY 2016 budget having to do with improving accessibility (especially escalators and elevators), and getting more cars on the tracks, with a second by Clarence Fischer.

Motion passes unanimously.

5. El Cerrito Del Norte & Concord Upgrades

[No presentation at this time; staff not in attendance to present.]

6. Elevator/Train Operators' Announcements

Bob Franklin had spoken with Fred Edwards of BART.

The comments Bob had received from Fred were that it is hard for train operators to be kept apprised of elevator status, which changes all the time. The operations control center is the preferred location from which these announcements go out.

Elevator status notifications are also posted at stations, and are also available via text message and on BART's service advisory system.

Roland Wong commented that having Wi-Fi connection in the tunnels will be helpful in order to receive real-time elevator outage notifications.

7. Civic Center Station Modernization

Tim Chan started off his presentation with a brief update regarding entrance canopies at the Downtown San Francisco stations.

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

No opposition to Marina Villena's motion to support the use of an accessible honor fare gate system near elevators, second by Herb Hastings.

Motion passes unanimously.

8. Capital Project Status Reports

Warm Springs Station

Randall Glock and Alan Smith will be touring the Warm Springs Station on June 15th

Civic Center Station Upgrade

[See item 7]

Web Design Update

Elena Vanloo gave members a quick presentation on the improvements that have been made to BART's website under "Accessible Services."

No updates were given for the following projects:

- El Cerrito Del Norte
- Oakland Airport Connector (OAC)
- Union City Station Remodel
- Fleet of the Future
- eBART
- Montgomery Station Upgrade
- San Bruno Path of Travel
- Track Maintenance
- Station Hearing Loop
- Entrance Canopies
- Berkeley Station Upgrade
- Stair Tread Color Contrast
- Richmond Intermodal Project
- Berryessa/Milpitas Stations
- Powell Street Station Upgrade
- Embarcadero Station Upgrade
- West Dublin Path of Travel
- Concord Station Upgrade

9. Chairperson Announcements

BATF members have been invited to come to BART's headquarters located at 300 Lakeside Drive, 15th Floor, in Oakland, on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 4:00 p.m., for Grace Crunican to thank them for their participation and service.

Members will receive travel reimbursement for attending this event.

Alan Smith will be attending the next BART Bicycle Task Force meeting, where he will continue to work on a date for a joint meeting, as well as other issues and mutual concerns.

On May 2, 2015, Alan Smith attended an event where scholars and graduates were able to learn about accessibility issues.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will turn twenty-five on July 26, 2015.

10. Staff Announcements

Ike Nnaji reminded members to attend the ethics training, if they had not already done so, and to provide him with a copy of the certificate of completion.

Bob Franklin announced that the bus bridge between Coliseum and Fruitvale stations has been going really well.

It is expected to go on for two more weekends.

11. Member Announcements

Megan O'Brien said that May is Prader-Willi Syndrome Awareness month. She encouraged members to make a donation to the Foundation for Prader-Willi Research as they believe they are very close to finding a cure. She is excited for the possibility of a cure for her son.

Herb Hastings shared that the Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council is holding their 26th Annual Awards Dinner Meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at Zio Fraedos restaurant in Pleasant Hill.

Roland Wong shared that the San Francisco Mayor's Office on Disability and Community Alliance for Disability Advocates is hosting an event called ADA25, in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This event will take place on July 1, 2015 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at San Francisco City Hall, North Light Court.

Linda Drattell suggested that the third rail be marked so as to indicate that it is, in fact, the third rail. She added that having directional signs or arrows will be helpful in the event someone falls onto the track and does not know where the safe area is.

Brandon Young shared a concern that the elevator at the Rockridge Station is often held by the station agent, and anyone needing to use the elevator has to first contact the station agent.

Ike Nnaji clarified that there are times when station agents hold elevators, mostly for security reasons.

12. Future Agenda Topics

[No suggestions at this time.]

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of **Thursday, June 25, 2015, at 2:00 p.m., at 101 8th Street in Oakland, California.**