

BART Bicycle Advisory Task Force Meeting
December 6, 2021

MINUTES

Chairperson Rick Goldman called the meeting to order at 6:10PM.

Attendees

- **BBATF:** Rick Goldman (Chairperson, At Large), Allison Quach (SF), Jianhan Wang (Alameda), Jon Spangler (Vice Chairperson, Alameda)
 - **BBATF Members Absent:** Phoenix Mangrum
 - **BART Staff:** Heath Maddox
 - **BART Board of Directors:** Robert Raburn
 - **Guests:** Bill Pinkham (candidate), Bruce Ole Ohlson, Patricia Schader (Oakland BPAC Vice Chair)
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1. Introductions

2. General Discussion / Public Comment

- Robert Raburn shared experience from attending Biketopia (recent Bike East Bay event)

3. Approval of October 2021 minutes

- Minutes were not distributed; deferred approvals to February 2022 meeting.

4. BBATF Bike Access Letter

- Jon Spangler was not yet in attendance; item deferred to later in the meeting.

5. 2021 BART Bike Parking Occupancy Counts (Heath)

- Heath shared annual bike parking occupancy count data – comparison of 2021 and 2019. Count conducted on one day in October 2021. Low bike parking usage reflects drop in BART ridership overall.
 - Rick Goldman: May also reflect riders being able to take their bikes onboard.
 - Allison Quach: What is bike parking use as a share of overall ridership?
 - A question that staff is looking into, but requires reconciling different datasets.
- BikeLink elocker usage is also lower compared to 2019. MacArthur and El Cerrito have the highest % occupied of lockers
- Bike Station data
 - Fruitvale, Uptown, and Berkeley were historically the highest use valet stations pre-COVID. These were intentionally chosen due to high demand.
 - Green/blue lines show card access stations (self-park).
 - Use of Berkeley valet has been rising. Uptown and Fruitvale are also increasing, but not as high.
- North Berkeley will be getting additional lockers as part of the access project. Bike Stations are being planned in conjunction with upcoming TODs, including West Oakland, Lake Merritt, and Fremont.

- Robert Raburn: These data are generally consistent with ridership data. BART ridership to downtown SF has been tracking with offices that are open. Essential workers living in the Fruitvale area are likely driving the higher ridership at that station.
- Bill Pinkham: It seems like there's less staffing in the stations; is that true or just my imagination?
 - Robert Raburn: Have had some struggles in re-opening, particularly with late-night service starting in August. Delta variant meant offices didn't reopen, and there were/are lags with training. Approximately 400 staff (15%) have not yet been vaccinated.

6. BART Bicycle Access Updates

- Heath shared that the new BART building (2150 Webster) has new bike racks!
- Heath shared that he recently submitted a grant application for the Caltrans Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program, for the BART Bicycle Preferred Path of Travel program. Systemwide assessment of bike access and improvements needed. Goal is to provide people arriving by bike with easy path to the station for people to find bike parking, access the station, etc. Many previous bike access projects are complete or underway. Will likely develop a prioritization system, and focus on older stations that weren't designed with bike access in mind. Develop conceptual plans that are shelf-ready, to be built in-house by BART or as the basis for future planning efforts. Timeline is 3 years – not fast, but a significant amount of money (\$400,000).

7. BBATF Bike Access Letter

- The BBATF reviewed the draft letter regarding expanding Safe Routes to BART program and station access studies to improve station access at San Mateo County stations. Allison and Jianhan agreed to delegate final edits to the letter to a subcommittee consisting of Rick Goldman and Jon Spangler.

8. BBATF Membership Renewals

- Jeremiah, Jackie, and Rick have not received nominations yet, and cannot be approved at this meeting.
- Rick moves to approve Jon Spangler's renomination to the committee. Jianhan seconds.
 - Ayes: Allison, Jianhan, Rick, Jon
 - Absent: Phoenix
- Introduction to Bill Pinkham – interested in representing Contra Costa County.

9. Member Recruitment

- Discussed status of member recruitment across counties. Still in need of members representing San Mateo County.

10. Other Comments/Updates

- Robert – update on Fleet of the Future layouts. Implementing leaning bars at two doors at a rate of approximately 5 train cars per week. Currently have approximately 300 new train cars in possession, with approximately 100 with updates to bike layout made. All new cars are coming in with the bars.
 - Heath – air intake grate prevents straps from being longer, on both new and old cars.

- Robert - In some cases, buckles have been removed from straps. Maintenance is aware and taking note of this.