

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT
2150 Webster Street, CA 94612, P.O. Box 12688, Oakland, CA 94604-2688
510-464-6000

A meeting of the BART Accessibility Task Force (BATF) will be held on Thursday, **February 23, 2023**, starting at 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please Note: Pursuant to all necessary findings having been made by the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (for itself as well as all subordinate legislative bodies) to continue remote public meetings in the manner contemplated under urgency legislation Assembly Bill No. 361, public participation for this meeting will be via teleconference only.

Presentation materials will be available via Legistar at <https://bart.legistar.com>

You may join the Committee Meeting via Zoom by calling **1-833-548-0282** and entering access code **867 2239 5177**; logging in to Zoom.com and entering access code **867 2239 5177**; or typing the following Zoom link into your web browser: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86722395177>

If you wish to make a public comment:

- 1) Submit written comments via email to **evanloo@bart.gov**, using “public comment” as the subject line. Your comment will be provided to the Committee and will become a permanent part of the file. Please submit your comments as far in advance as possible. Emailed comments must be received before 12:00 p.m. on **February 23, 2023**, in order to be included in the record.
- 2) Call **1-833-548-0282**, enter access code **867 2239 5177**, dial *9 to raise your hand when you wish to speak, and dial *6 to unmute when you are requested to speak; log in to Zoom.com, enter access code **867 2239 5177**, and use the raise hand feature; or join the Committee Meeting via the Zoom link (<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86722395177>) and use the raise hand feature.

Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per person.

BART provides services/accommodations upon request to persons with disabilities and individuals who are limited English proficient who wish to address Committee matters. A request must be made within one and five days in advance of Board/Committee meetings, depending on the service requested. Please contact the Office of the District Secretary at (510) 464-6083 for information.

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1. Roll Call of BATF members. (Information) 5 minutes
Self-Introductions: Staff and Guests.
2. Public Comment. (Information)
An opportunity for members of the public to comment on items not on the agenda.
Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per person.
3. Approval of January 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes. 5 minutes
(Information/Action)
4. In-Person Meeting Update. (Information/Action) 30 minutes
 - Teleconferencing Option under the Brown Act Law
 - New BATF In-Person and Remote Meeting Requirements
5. Link21 Program – Introduction to the Newest BART Advisory 15 minutes
Committee under BART. (Information/Action)
6. Establishment of an Ad-Hoc Committee to Review BART 30 minutes
Accessibility Task Force (BATF) By-Laws with a Call for
Committee Member Volunteers. (Information/Action)
7. Remembering Janet Abelson. (Information/Action) 20 minutes
8. Member Announcements. (Information) 5 minutes
9. Staff Announcements. (Information) 5 minutes
10. Chairperson Announcements. (Information) 5 minutes
11. Future Agenda Topics – Members Suggest Topics. 5 minutes
Next meeting scheduled: March 23, 2023, Thursday
12. Adjournment.

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2150 Webster Street, P.O. Box 12688, Oakland, CA 94604-2688

BART ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE
Committee Meeting **DRAFT** Minutes
January 26, 2023

1. Roll Call of Members:

1. Anita Ortega
2. Catherine Callahan
3. Clarence Fischer
4. David Fritz
5. Don Queen – ABSENT
6. Emily Witkin
7. Gerry Newell (Vice-Chair)
8. Herb Hastings (2nd Vice-Chair)
9. Janice Armigo Brown
10. Larry Bunn
11. Marjorie McWee
12. Randall Glock (Chair)
13. Roland Wong
14. Shay Roberson – ABSENT
15. Valerie Buell
16. VACANT
17. VACANT
18. VACANT

BART Customer Access and Accessibility Department Staff:

Elena Van Loo
Bob Franklin

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

Robert Raburn (BART Board of Directors)
Ahmad Rassai (BART Staff)
David Coggshall (BART Staff)
Byron Toma (BART Staff)

Mayra Perez (Captioner)
Sara Hill (Captioner)
Daveed Mandell (Guest)
Elizabeth Zambelli (Guest)
Natalie Maxwell (Guest)
Ariel Espiritu Santo (Guest)

2. Public Comments

Elizabeth Zambelli introduced herself and she is a member of the Senior and Disability Action. She stressed to bring back the mask requirement on BART and addressed this is an accessibility issue.

Natalie Maxell introduced themselves who works as a transportation coordinator at Center for Independent Living (CIL) in Berkeley. They would encourage BART to reinstate the mask mandate for the safety for seniors and disabled riders.

Randall Glock read two different public comments shared through emails:

1. Hello. Please bring back the mask requirement on BART. I live with people who can't risk getting COVID, and without a mask requirement, it is less safe to use BART. Masking is an accessibility issue and studies show one-way masking is far less effective than universal masking. Thank you. Laura Danila, Milpitas Resident
2. I'm writing to request that BART reinstate the mask requirement immediately. COVID-19 poses a serious risk to the immunocompromised and disabled members of our community, and we must support them by making public transit a safe place. Many reliable studies have also shown that COVID-19 can have devastating long-term effects on people's health, and that one-way masking is insufficient to prevent spread. Thank you-Dr. Ramesh Sridharan, Lecturer, UC Berkeley

3. Approval of November 09, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Gerry Newell moved approval of the November 09, 2022 meeting minutes. Clarence Fischer seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with eleven (11) in favor, zero (0) against, one (1) abstention

4. Accessible Improvement Program (AIP) within the BART System Update

Ahmad Rassai (AR) presented, "Accessible Improvement Program (AIP) within the BART System Update."

AR informed members and the members of the public that he continues to bid for a few different projects to improve, update, or add accessibility for all abilities under the AIP within the BART System.

AR highlighted the main scope of work under the Accessible Improvement Program (AIP):

- Demo and reconstruct existing sidewalks and curb ramps to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Remove existing and install new cane detection devices (tactiles)
- Remove existing handrails and install new handrails on stairs
- Provide and install new stainless steel panel sheets and trim
- Remove existing courtesy phones and install new District Furnished courtesy phones to improve accessibility
- Remove existing phones and TTY devices and install new public phones and TTY devices to improve accessibility.
- Courtesy phones and public phones will be replaced to provide adequate height and access for ADA
- Lighting fixtures where required will be replaced with new fixtures
- Move existing and re-install new signs and illuminated phone cube signs

Clarence Fischer thanked AR for a very good presentation. He was wondering if there are concerns around the safety area where people can fall off and asked how to contact BART staff for investigation. AR stated during construction, we must follow safety protocols by adding barriers and public notifications.

Randall Glock mentioned testing courtesy phones would be a good idea. He stated some of them work really well and some of them are in loud area where it is hard to hear. He wanted to get members involved in testing the courtesy phones. AR will work with staff in the future to possibly test the courtesy phone as new ones are being installed under the AIP.

Randall Glock mentioned that this was a great presentation with a lot of information and thanked AR for presenting.

5. How to Run an Effective Meeting Refresher

Elena Van Loo went over, “How to Run an Effective Meeting Refresher.”

Introduction

- Let's start 2023 running effective meetings
- “How to Run an Effective Meeting,” as a reminder and helpful steps as quick reference
 - Byron Toma from legal department presented the full presentation in September 2022
 - May be useful for other advisory committees you may be involved with
 - That follows The Ralph M. Brown Act (The Brown Act)

The Purpose

- Maintaining order in business meeting
- Provides an approved and uniform method of conducting meetings in a fair, orderly, and expeditious manner

Remember

No business without a quorum

Key Principles

- All appointed members have equal rights, privileges, and obligations; rules must be administered impartially
- Minority has rights which must be protected
- Full and free discussion of all motions, reports, and other items of business is a right of all members
- Only one question can be considered at a time; take care of only one thing at a time
- Members must be recognized by the chair and have obtained the floor
- Cannot speak more than twice on the same subject without permission of the assembly. No member may speak a second time on the same subject if anyone who has not spoken on that subject wishes to do so
- In voting, members have the right to know what motion is before the assembly and what affirmative and negative votes mean

Steps to Making a Motion

1. A member **MAKES** a motion; one motion at a time
2. Another member **SECONDS** the motion
3. The chair **STATES** the motion
4. Members may **DISCUSS** the motion – **DISCUSSION** must stay on topic of motion
 - a. Listen
 - b. Focus on the topic of motion
 - c. Be polite

5. The chair **PUTS** the motion to a vote
6. Roll call is made of members outcome
 - a. Aye (yes)
 - b. Nay (no)
 - c. Abstain (not for all motions)
7. The Chair (or supporting staff) **ANNOUNCES** the result

Five (5) Types of Motion

1. **Main** – Introduction of an item of business, propose a new action be taken
2. **Subsidiary Motions** – Are motions to modify a motion that is being considered by the members so that it will express more satisfactorily
 - a. Example:
 - ✓ “I move to amend the motion by inserting the word, “three,” before the word “representatives.”
3. **Privileged Motions** – Are motions to enable a member to secure an immediate decision that concerns the comfort, convenience, rights etc. of a member even though other business is pending
 - a. Example:
 - ✓ “I move to adjourn meeting” or “I move to a 15-minute recess”
4. **Incidental Motion** – Motions arise incidentally out of the immediate pending business at any time and must be decided as soon as they arise
 - a. Example:
 - ✓ “I move to withdraw my motion”
 - ✓ “I motion to appeal”
 - ✓ “I move to amend the motion by inserting the word, “three,” before the word “representatives.”
5. **Restorative Motion** – A motion to amend a main motion that was previously approved by members

Words of Wisdom

- BATF members should be careful not to be engage in serial meetings: discussion matters outside regularly scheduled meetings
- The public must be allowed to participate in the discussion of agenda items
- The public must be allowed to comment on matters outside the agenda
- Only disruptive behavior is subject to taking appropriate and measured sanctions

BART Advisory Committee Member Code of Conduct – II. Professional Conduct

- **II. Professional Conduct** - Members of District Advisory Committees shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the law, this Code of Conduct, District policies, and good judgment. Members shall not commit any act which may bring reproach or discredit upon the District. Speech or behavior that is

likely to create an appearance of impropriety is to be avoided. Members shall not involve themselves in altercations or any other act of hostility with District employees, other Committee members, or the public. Neither shall they engage in acts which will subject the District to criticism or adversely affect the interests of the District. It is up to each member to maintain a professional, safe, and productive environment – Link to the complete BART’s Advisory Committee Member Code of Conduct, bart.gov/sites/default/files/docs/08-08-13%20Advisory%20Committee%20Member%20CofC.pdf

Randall Glock asked Byron Toma, BART Legal Department, if he had any additional information to share. Byron Toma stated the presentation was good and had no other comments.

Valerie Buell and Gerry Newell agreed the presentation was great and found this to be valuable and useful.

Larry Bunn, Roland Wong, Herb Hastings, David Fritz, Randall Glock, and Gerry Newell asked if the presentation could be emailed to members.

6. Discussion of BATF Term Limits for Chair, Vice Chair, and 2nd Vice Chair

Randall Glock lead the agenda item “Discussion of BATF term limits for Chair, Vice Chair, and 2nd Vice Chair.”

Gerry Newell stated he strongly would like to have chair terms as part of the BATF By-Laws. He mentioned having new Chairs, or Vice-Chairs, or 2nd Vice Chairs would be good to get new insight and good to have other members run for an Officer position.

Gerry Newell motioned to have chair term limits, such as a two-year limit, to be part of the BATF By-Laws. David Fritz seconded the motion.

Members asked staff for clarification how to move forward when possibly changing the by-laws. Elena Van Loo clarified that a motion was needed first and then a second to the motion is needed for discussion. Once the discussion has been held, member vote on the motion.

There was a long discussion whether to have term limits as part of the BATF By-Laws:

- Valerie Buell is not comfortable with term limits. Having term limits and elections every year can hamper things even further. Valerie Buell asked members these questions to answer themselves regards to term limits and discuss: What are some ideas of term limits, why do you think we need term limits in place, what changes would you like to see, and how would this change help? Valerie Buell shared she does not see how term limits will help to achieve the goal in getting new members.
- Clarence Fischer asked what happens if a member does not want to be in an Officer position, how does that work with the current Officers, and does this work with term limits?
- Marjorie McWee gave more of a definition of what the chair does and thinks it would be good to have an ad hoc committee to discuss roles and responsibilities. She mentioned as part of the ad hoc committee would be to address what are the issues going on during meetings and what would be some strategies to fix them. She mentioned this agenda item has come up three or four times previously and she thinks there are some underline concerns.
- David Fritz sought clarification as to whether term limits mean a single term limit or multiple terms limits? Also, maybe the BATF should have training from staff for the role of Officers and how to facilitate meetings.
- Gerry Newell made it clear that term limits should be multiple years to get “new blood.” He thinks BATF has had the same Officers for many years. He mentioned he would be comfortable to have a three-year commitment, as well as help and training from staff about the roles and responsibilities of being an officer.
- Larry Bunn stated term limits should be multiple years instead of one year.
- Randall Glock mentioned this agenda item is tough and he mentioned he has been Chair over the years and the topic of agenda is indirectly about him. He shared there are challenges as Chair and stated that there are members that would be really good but have chosen not to be in an Officer position. Randall Glock mentioned that this meeting is going smoothly, but there were meetings where the chair has been blamed for the chaos. He stated that term limits would be a by-law change and expressed by-law change is a long, tedious process to the BATF By-Laws which he does not support.
- Herb Hastings wanted clarification on the process on how to change the by-laws. He is aware that legal department and staff is involved and having BATF members approve the changes and thinks this may be a long process.

Gerry Newell agreed with Marjorie McWee to have an ad hoc committee and wants to withdraw his motion to not to add term limits to the by-laws until further notice and turn it over to staff. David Fritz seconded the motion.

Marjorie Mcwee would like to make a new motion to form an ad hoc committee to address these issues and to come back to the BATF and staff with some recommendations. Randall Glock asked if members and/or staff should be part of the ad hoc committee and Marjorie McWee confirmed both. Gerry Newell second the motion if it is a combination of staff and members. Herb Hastings mentioned both staff and committee members are usually involved in the ad hoc committees.

The question was who votes for an ad hoc committee or this will be an agenda for future agenda. Staff will look into this.

Randall Glock, Chair, made the first motion to have an agenda item for February 2023 to have a discussion to add an ad hoc committee with up to five BATF members. Gerry Newell seconded the motion.

Roland Wong asked if the BATF By-Laws can be emailed. Elena Van Loo offered to email all members the BATF By-Laws, which are at the following link:https://www.bart.gov/sites/default/files/docs/BATF%20By-Laws%20Amended%20Sept%202017_0.pdf

7. Remembering Hale Zukas – Discussion

Before the presentation, “Remembering Hale Zukas” by Elena Van Loo, Randall Glock asked to have a moment of silent for Janet Abelson, who passed way earlier in the day and for Hale Zukas.

About Hale J. Zukas

- An American disability rights activist
- One of the co-founders of the Center for Independence Living (CIL)
- Active in working for accessible streets and public transit
- Founding member of BART Accessibility Task Force (BATF) –created in 1975
- Played a major role in the creation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that passed in 1990
- BART recognized Hale Zukas for his remarkable, life-long commitment to accessibility within the BART system with a plaque that hangs proudly placed in the passageway between Ashby BART Station and Ed Roberts Campus
 - On December 1, 2022, at the request of Director Robert Raburn, the Board of Directors adjourned its regular meeting in memory of Hale Zukas.

Elena Van Loo read Hale J. Zukas's plaque that is hung between Ashby BART Station and Ed Robert's Campus which BART Board of Directors honored in 2011:

“In Appreciation for outstanding leadership and service to the Bay Area Transit District and the Disability Rights movement. As one of the founding members of the BART Accessibility Task force and in recognition of the decades of service that Mr. Zukas has been one of the principal liaisons between BART and the Disability Right Movement. Hale J. Zukas has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair. He was a co-founder of the Center for Independent Living in 1971 and has worked at the World Institute on Disability since 1983. For almost 40 years, he has worked tirelessly at the local, regional and national level to make public transportation and the built environment more accessible to persons with all types of disabilities. This is in recognition for his work in the area of architectural and transportation barriers which is exemplified in this passageway between the Ashby BART Station and the Ed Robert Campus. San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District Ashby BART Station – Ed Roberts Campus, Berkeley, CA.

Elena Van Loo shared a quote from Hale Zukas, “Disability is not a tragedy, it is a tremendous hassle.”

Elena Van Loo mentioned there was a letter from BART Board of Directors to Tim Zukas, Hale's brother, informing him that Director Robert Raburn adjourned its regular meeting on December 01, 2022, in memory of his loved brother. She shared the full letter is part of the PDF presentation.

Randall Glock would like to adjourn the meeting in Hale Zukas's honor and memory and Gerry Newell agrees.

Gerry Newell mentioned Hale Zukas made the members better because he was on this committee, he was so dedicated and it was an honor to serve with him.

Herb Hastings stated Hale Zukas was a wonderful example of what an advocate is and learned a lot from him over the years.

Clarence Fischer stated that we all are choked up listening to the presentation in remembering Hale Zukas. He mentioned Hale Zukas's tirelessly considered everyone to make accessibility a top priority with support from BATF members, BART Board of Directors, and BART Staff and stated Hale Zukas needs to be remembered.

8. Member Announcements

Roland Wong shared that he recently went to the newly modernized 19th St., Oakland BART Station. He thought BART did a great job as far as improvement of lighting. He mentioned the faregates were moved to a better location and they seems easier to access from the street to the platform elevator on the concourse level on the South end of the station. Roland Wong added the elevator exiting and entering from the platform is wider and is more welcoming on the South side of the station.

Roland Wong mentioned he did not go on the North end of the newly modernized 19th St., Oakland, BART, and was no sure if the brand-new elevator is in operation. Bob Franklin confirmed the North end elevator is in full operation. Herb Hasting also confirmed North end elevator is working and was impressed with the new look at the station.

Herb Hastings shared he is the newest representative for the Caltrans Inner Agency Equity Advisory Committee in the Bay Area.

Valerie Buell expressed concerns when planning a trip under “trip planner,” on the BART app, she finds this very difficult, unreliable, and frustrating.

Clarence Fischer announced he’s been fortunate enough to be nominated as one of the eighteen members to BART’s Link21 Access Advisory Committee, <https://www.bart.gov/news/articles/2023/news20230119>, and shared his “doors are open” if any questions arises about accessibility and seniors.

Clarence Fisher informed members that he participated in the recent BART Board of Directors meeting via telephone and mentioned there may be a shift in the start time of some of their meeting time from 9:00 am to an afternoon meeting. He asked the Chair and staff to keep an eye and ear of the BART Board of Directors change of meeting time to the afternoon meeting on Thursday, as the BATF meeting starts at 2:00 pm.

Marjorie McWee shared that she is a chair with another committee, Contra Costa County Transit Authority and updated organizational changes.

9. Staff Announcements

Elena Van Loo sadly announced Janet Abelson passed away today, as announced earlier.

Elena Van Loo informed members Ethics Training is scheduled for April or May 2023 and will share more detailed information in the near future. The due date to complete Ethics Training AB1234 is May 31, 2023. She reminded members Ethics Training is part of the BART By-Laws to be completed every two years.

Bob Franklin announced on January 31, 2023, BART will be hosting Fleet of the Future (FOF) Safety and Orientation Tour for the Blind and Low-Vision Riders from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm at the 19th St., Oakland BART Station.

10. Chairperson Announcements

Randall Glock, Chair, said, “Happy New Year,” and added he hoped everyone had a good holiday.

11. Future Agenda Topics – Member Suggest Topics

- Remembering Janet Abelson
- Elect ad hoc committee to provide guidance on BATF Term of Limits for Chair, Vice Chair, and 2nd Vice Chair for the BATF By-Laws.
- Update on the bicycle project at the Lafayette BART Station
- Invite other Accessibility Advisory Committees within BART and outside of BART
 - Education and awareness

12. Adjournment

Randall Glock asked BATF members in favor of adjourn the meeting in honoring Hale Zukas and an unanimous vote was done to adjourn meeting to honor Hale Zukas. The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting, February 23, 2023.



BART Accessible Task Force (BATF) New In-Person and Remote Meeting Requirements

February 23, 2023 – BATF meeting

Byron Toma, BART Legal Department

Go over teleconferencing option under the Brown Act Law
(slides 2 to 6)

Elena Van Loo, Customer Access and Accessible Department

BATF in-person and remote meeting requirements
(slides 7 to 12)

Committees Subject to the Brown Act

A committee is subject to Brown Act if:

- Members appointed by the BART Board of Directors
- A committee was created by action of the BART Board of Directors

Note: Committees that are not subject to the Brown Act are not required to comply with these rules (AB2449) but may choose to do so.

AB 2449-Key Dates



- January 01, 2023 – AB 2449 went into effect
- February 28, 2023 – CA State Emergency ends
- March 09, 2023 – 1st BART Board of Directors meeting under AB2449

AB 2449 Teleconferencing Requirements

1. **In-person quorum**

For any BATF member to participate remotely, a quorum of the Board must be present in person at a single physical location that is within the BART District and open to the public

2. **“Just cause” or “emergency circumstances”**

Remote participation is only allowed for “just cause” or “emergency circumstances” as defined

3. **Disclosure of others present**

BATF member participating remotely must publicly disclose the presence of any other person age 18 or older in the room with the BATF member and the general nature of their relationship

4. **Both video and audio participation**

BATF member participating remotely must participate by both video and audio

AB 2449 – Just Cause

The member **must** notify the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible, including at the start of the meeting, of their need to participate remotely for just cause, including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely at the given meeting. This provision **cannot be used by any member for more than two meetings per calendar year.**

“Just Cause” is defined as:

- Childcare or caregiving need that requires them to participate remotely
- A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person
- A need related to a physical or mental disability not otherwise accommodated by the ADA
- Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency

AB 2449 – Emergency Circumstances

“Emergency Circumstances”: A physical or family emergency that prevents a member from attending in person. The following requirements apply:

- A member **must** make the request **as soon as possible**. If the request does not allow sufficient time to place proposed action on the request on the posted agenda for the meeting, the legislative body may take action at the beginning of the meeting.
- **Must** make a separate request for each meeting.
- The legislative body **must** take **action** to **approve the request**. The legislative body shall request a general description of the circumstances relating to the need to appear remotely at the given meeting.
- Members do not need to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is already exempt under existing law.

Who does not need to be present, in-person*



- Members of the public
- Presenters (BART Staff or any 3rd party presenting)
- Closed captioners
- ASL Sign Language Interpreters

*until further notice

BART staff will provide live webcasting two-way audio visual platform and by two-way telephone service through webinar.

Continue to:

- Provide meeting notices and agenda items within the 72-hour window including live webcasting, phone webinar information
- Members of the public will have access to public comment (s) by staff providing webcasting, phone webinar information within the 72-hour window

Will add:

- Location of public meetings

March 23, 2023 – 1st in-person meeting

BATF meeting location:

East Bay Paratransit
1750 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

1st Floor conference room

➤ Right next to the South end
elevator location, street level to
concourse level



Meeting time:

1:00 pm (prep for meeting and/or member (s) arrive early)

2:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Travel Reimbursements

Reimbursements for:

- In-person meetings

Reimbursement do not apply to:

- Teleconferencing/video conferencing

Thank you...Questions

Teleconferencing Options Under the Brown Act

	Traditional Brown Act	AB 361 ¹	AB 2449 ² : Just Cause	AB 2449: Emergency
Voting	Roll call voting			
	No legislative body vote	30 days before meeting, legislative body adopts AB 361 findings	No legislative body vote after public disclosure	Majority votes to allow after public disclosure
Quorum Restrictions	Quorum in jurisdiction	No quorum limitation	Quorum in-person at location accessible to the public in jurisdiction	
Frequency Restrictions	No frequency limit		2 per calendar year	No individual limit
			Not more than <u>3 consecutive months</u> , <u>20%</u> of the regular meetings within a calendar year, or <u>2 meetings</u> if body regularly meets < 10 times <u>per calendar year</u>	
Conducting Meeting	Each teleconference location <u>accessible to the public AND offers opportunity for public comment</u>	Board provides public with teleconference access as provided on the agenda		
		Cease legislative action if internet is disrupted		
		No additional requirements	Member must participate with audio and visual Disclose presence of persons 18 or older	
Agendas and Notice	Agenda <u>at</u> AND <u>lists</u> each teleconference location	Executive Order N-29-20 Accommodation Notice		
		Agenda notifies the public of teleconference access		
Factual Precondition	None	State of emergency declaration ³	Just Cause disclosure	Emergency Circumstances disclosure
		Adopt AB 361 findings 30 days before meeting		Majority votes to allow teleconference

NOTES:

¹AB 361 provisions in effect September 30, 2021 through December 31, 2023; **during** active state of emergency proclamation.

²AB 2449 provisions in effect January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025.

³Governor's state of emergency proclamation set to expire February 28, 2023.



Link21 Equity Advisory Council (EAC)

Tim Lohrentz, Acting Equity Programs Administrator



Northern California's Megaregion Today

Economy, Jobs & Housing:

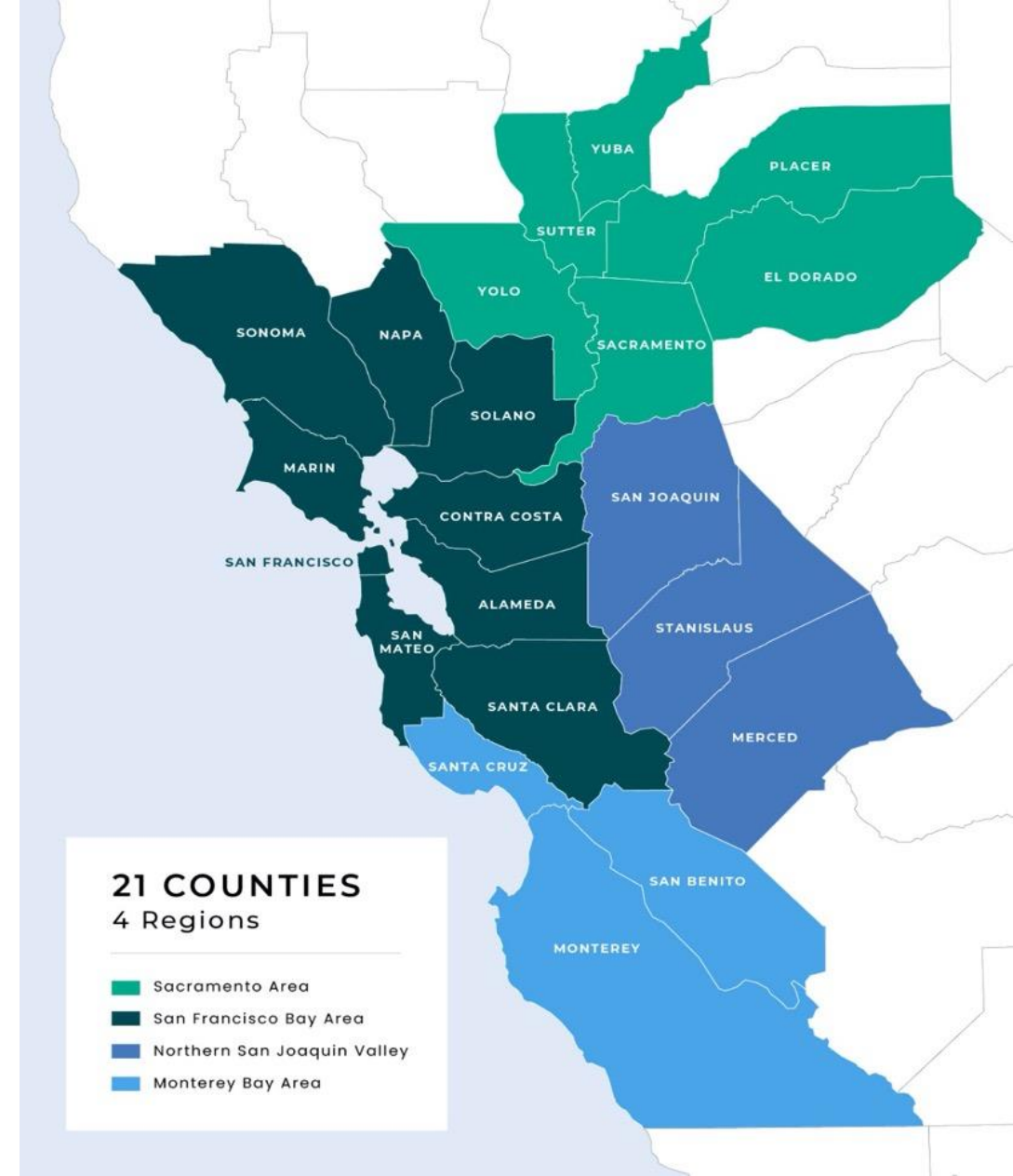
- Fifth largest megaregional economy in country
- Jobs and affordable housing imbalance

Roadway Congestion & Climate Risks:

- Persistent traffic
- Climate - and health-damaging air pollution

Passenger Rail Service & Infrastructure:

- Inconvenient, disconnected train network with limited routes and service
- One rail crossing of Bay (BART Transbay Tube)



Link21: A New Transbay Rail Crossing

- Transportation across the San Francisco Bay is a major impediment to regional transportation
- A new transbay rail crossing will provide another link between San Francisco and the East Bay (Oakland) and the entire Megaregion
- Could be standard gauge (e.g., Capitol Corridor, Caltrain) or BART gauge
- It is a joint program between BART and Capitol Corridor

Link21 is an Equitable Program

- Prioritize engaging communities that have been systemically marginalized
- Benefit those who need it most:
 - Transit-dependent riders
 - Those harmed by past transportation projects
 - Those with limited access to important resources like housing or job opportunities
- Partner with these groups every step of the way to avoid harms and create needed benefits



Commitment to Equitable Engagement

- Link21 is committed to partnering with communities to shape the work that matters to them the most
- Key efforts have included:
 - 3 rounds of co-creation
 - Overcome limitations of traditional planning
 - Compensate CBOs and participants
 - Collaborate early and often to design the project
 - 1 equity poll
- Planning an upcoming robust equitable engagement campaign for the first half of 2023
- Recently launched the Equity Advisory Council (EAC)

Equity Advisory Council

- The Equity Advisory Council (EAC) is a body of community members with lived expertise that will provide continual guidance on key Link21 work through bimonthly meetings
- The EAC members loosely represent communities that have been marginalized in the 21-county Megaregion
- Another opportunity for the Link21 team to co-create with community members
- There are 18 members of the EAC, with the potential for 20 members
- First EAC meeting was February 14, with the second one February 28

EAC Charter

Charter establishes guiding principals and values, including:

- Integrating lived experts (those who have lived experience in inequitable transportation and infrastructure) into Link21 -- especially for interim non-Board input into decisions
- Supplementing other co-creation activities, such as co-creation workshops, to increase opportunities for community partnership and influence at key points in the program development
- Introducing a community-driven body which has the benefit of long-term engagement with the program, which will allow for deeper discussions and stronger community alignment with how Link21 progresses

EAC Characteristics

- EAC is an advisory council – it provides input on the Link21 Program, but it is not a decision-making body
- The Bylaws allow member(s) to raise an equity flag. Staff must then investigate the issue and bring it back to the EAC for consideration

Name	City
Ameerah Thomas	Oakland
Angela E. Herring	Sacramento
Beth Kenny	Alameda
Clarence R. Fischer	Cherryland
Cory Mickels	San Francisco
David Sorrell	Union City
David Ying	San Leandro
Elizabeth Madrigal	Seaside
Fiona Yim	Berkeley
Gracyna Mohabir	San Jose
Harun David	Richmond
Landon Hill	Oakland
Linda Braak	Davis
Mica Amichai	Oakland
Samia Zuber	San Francisco
Stevon Cook	Oakland
Taylor Booker	Hercules
Vanessa Ross Aquino	San Francisco



Janet Abelson 1947 – 2023



BART Accessibility Task Force (BATF) – February 23, 2023



Thread
See new Tweets
Conversation
BART @SFBART

Janet Abelson was a long time BART partner.
She cared deeply about transit and we cared deeply about her.

Our Board of Directors and staff worked closely with her over the years and she was a tireless advocate for a safe and accessible BART system.

Rebecca Saltzman @RebeccaForBART

Saddened by the passing of Janet Abelson today. She served on El Cerrito Council for 23 years, retiring last month. She did so much for the city and for transit, including improving accessibility of BART.

We often ran into each other on BART, as pictured in this photo from 2017 (photo next slide).

2:26 PM · Jan 26, 2023



Rebecca Saltzman - "We often ran into each other on BART." - As pictured in this photo from 2017



Janet Abelson doing a walk through with BART Staff and El Cerrito Mayor Paul Fadelli at the brand-new modernization station – El Cerrito del Norte BART Station, March 12, 2021

Janet Abelson's Accolades:

(some accolades - too many to list)



- Member and chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Advisory Council and past member and chair of the MTC Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee
- Member and past Chair of the BART Accessibility Task Force, 2002 to 2023
- Chair of the BART Transit Security Advisory Committee
- Member and past Chair of the AC Transit Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Founding member in 1994 and past Chair with East Bay Paratransit's - SRAC (Service Review Advisory Committee)
- Council Member in the city of El Cerrito, 1999 to 2022

Janet Abelson – Was a great advocate for people who use wheelchairs with respect to the following:



- Elevators
- Accessible paths of travel design – to narrow the width of the pathway, to better the design for both blind passengers and passengers with wheelchairs.
- Elevator glass panels for passenger safety
- Elevator orientation: to exit parallel to the trackway, not exiting into the pathway.
- Lighting in stations, especially throughout elevator hallways.
- Bus connections layout, including during temporary construction periods, focusing on passenger safety.
- Signage visibility and placement
- Accessible faregates design

facebook

friends say...



- I am so sorry to hear of Janet's passing. It's a great loss to the community. My condolences to her family-Kristen P.
- My deepest condolence to the family of Janet Abelson. She was a true public servant who will be missed dearly. RIP my dear-Jovanka B.
- I'm sorry to hear this. Rest in Peace, Janet Abelson. Thank you for your many years of service to the city of El Cerrito-Adela D.

Thank you, Janet for your
service to the community and
being a dear friend



JANET ABELSON OBITUARY

Janet Abelson

August 6, 1946 - January 26, 2023

Janet Abelson, longtime El Cerrito resident, passed away peacefully on January 26, 2023. Born in Champaign, Illinois to Gene and Isabelle (Lewis) Hubble, her family lineage included ties to Edwin Hubble and Meriwether Lewis. She was raised in Southern Illinois and Phoenix, Arizona and moved to California to attend UC Berkeley, where she participated in the Free Speech Movement. Janet graduated with a BA in English from San Francisco State University and was also one of the first women to earn an MBA there. A pioneer as a woman in data processing, she worked as a systems analyst at UC Berkeley until the mid 1980s.

A proud and passionate advocate, much of Janet's life was devoted to public



service. She was elected to the El Cerrito City Council in 1999 and served for 23 years, including a record five terms as mayor. She deeply loved her community and was a champion of disability access, public transit, environmental sustainability, smart urban planning, and education. She gave time to many organizations, including the West Contra Costa Transportation Authority, League of California

Cities, El Cerrito Democratic Club, Soroptimist International, El Cerrito High School Archiving Committee, League of Women Voters, Metropolitan Transit Commission, BART, AC Transit, Contra Costa Community College Foundation, and PTA from the school to state level. She even served as a delegate to both Republican and Democratic National Conventions.

Janet is survived by her husband Howard, and sisters Linda (Mike) and Susan (Richard). She loved her children Rachel (Chris), Joel (Cristina), Ruthie, Miriam (Shelley), and Sarah (Brendan), and grandchildren Sophia, Marcos, Brett, and Hailey, niece and nephews, and many furry family members. She will be missed by family, friends, colleagues, and all who saw her zooming around town.

A celebration of her life will be held on 2/25/23 at 1pm at the El Cerrito Community Center. Donations in her memory can be made to the Contra Costa College Fund, Soroptimist International of El Cerrito, or League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa County.

Published by San Francisco Chronicle from Feb. 9 to Feb. 10, 2023.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sfgate/name/janet-abelson-obituary?id=43105431>