

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT
BART ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE**

Committee Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2021

1. Roll Call of Members:

1. Alan Smith (2nd Vice-Chair)
2. Anita Ortega
3. Catherine Callahan
4. Chris Mullin - ABSENT
5. Clarence Fischer
6. Don Queen - ABSENT
7. Emily Witkin
8. Gerry Newell (Vice-Chair)
9. Hale Zukas
10. Herb Hastings
11. Janet Abelson
12. Janice Armigo Brown
13. Marjorie (Marji) McWee
14. Randall Glock (Chair)
15. Roland Wong
16. Valerie Buell
17. VACANT
18. VACANT

BART Customer Access and Accessibility Department Staff:

Elena Van Loo
Laura Timothy
Bob Franklin

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

Robert Raburn, BART Board Director
Tim Chan (Staff)
Alicia Trost (Staff)
Raphael Garcia (Staff)
Emilia Sanchez (Staff)
Karen Basting (Staff)
Lisa Henley (Captioner)
Mayra Perez (Captioner)

Warren Cushman (Guest)
Aleta Dupree (Guest)
Helena Chang (Guest)
Larry Bunn (Guest)
Joshua (Guest)

2. Public Comments

Aleta Dupree introduced herself and thanked the members. Aleta Dupree would like the committee to ensure that we keep diversity in mind and welcome all diversities. Aleta Dupree supports the move from BART magstripe tickets to the Clipper card and the Clipper Start Program because they are safer and easier to manage fares. Aleta Dupree added she wants people to be safe while riding BART and let's make this a welcoming system.

3. Approval of December 09, 2020 Draft Minutes

Alan Smith moved approval of the December 09, 2020 meeting with the amended minutes. Gerry Newell seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with thirteen (13) in favor, zero (0) against, zero (0) abstentions.

4. Station Planning Update:

- a) West Oakland BART Station Modernization Concept Plan**
- b) Lake Merritt Transit Oriented Development Access Study**

Tim Chan gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Lake Merritt Transit Oriented Development Access Study and the West Oakland Station modernization project.

a) West Oakland Station Modernization

Tim Chan shared the project goals:

- Improve the customer experience
- Increase ridership
- Strengthen and leverage the BART brand
- Value creation and value capture
- Support placemaking and community
- Efficient use of resources

Tim Chan shared what BART staff heard from the community:

- Safety and security
- Capacity improvements
- Vertical circulation improvements
- New technologies Clipper/BART Facility Standards (BFS)
- Preserve Brutalist design

Tim Chan showed the changes for the concourse and platform levels:

- Improved sightlines and prevent fare evasion with relocated station agent booth and emergency exits and reconfigured fare gates
- Enlarged concourse area to accommodate more fare equipment and allow better passenger circulation
- Improved and additional signage to guide customers
- New BART Police facility and relocated staff breakrooms
- Reconfigured lanes for emergency and passenger vehicles
- New Fire and Life Safety Incident Command Post
- New free area in coordination with Transit Oriented Development (TOD) open space
- Bike station
- Widened platform to accommodate future ridership growth
- Increased stair and escalator capacity for daily use & emergency egress

Tim Chan showed the West Oakland Station modernization plans:

- Ongoing coordination with Developer and The City of Oakland.
- Align City and BART housing and access priorities to bring more resources to West Oakland.
- Present to CAC and Community in early February.
- Finalize Modernization Plan in late Winter.
- No station mod funding identified. Position West Oakland for Alameda County Measure BB funding.

b) Lake Merritt Transit Oriented Development Access Study

Tim Chan shared Lake Merritt Access Recommendations:

- Wider sidewalks
- Curb extensions, bulbouts, and curb cuts
- Future city improvements include conversion from one-way to two-way streets

Members requested the PowerPoint presentation to be emailed.

Valerie Buell stated she had to take Uber or Lyft to Lake Merritt BART Station and several times they took her to Madison Street every time which is far from the elevator. She wanted to know if there could be a sign closer to the elevator indicating this is drop off place for people with disabilities. Tim Chan said this is a great point and people have complained about this and this is being addressed with the work on the curb cuts.

Roland Wong thanked Tim Chan for the presentation. He mentioned he is glad to hear that old sidewalks and the old street plans will be improved.

Randall Glock thanked Tim Chan for the presentation.

5. Accessibility in the New BART Headquarters.

Raphael Garcia gave a PowerPoint presentation on Accessibility in the new BART Headquarters, due to open in the Summer of 2021.

Raphael Garcia informed members the new BART Headquarters will be located at 2150 Webster Street in Oakland and it is a ten-story building. Level one is where the public board room will be located. BART staff will be moving to the new building at by the end of June 2021.

He shared the new BART Headquarter Boardroom layout. He pointed out there will be a security check point, three ADA accessible restrooms, an area reserved for wheelchairs for the members of the public, multiple monitors throughout the boardroom to help the members of the public see the presentation, and more sitting capacity than the current boardroom.

Raphael Garcia pointed out key accessibility features:

- Hearing loop technology integrated into the Boardroom design
- ADA compliant access points
- Level Boardroom – Ground floor
- Front row seating reserved for wheelchairs
- Accessible podium for public speakers that accommodate different heights or people with wheelchairs
- Presentations visible to members of the public
- Accessible doors to Boardroom and public restrooms
- ADA Access from the street

Clarence Fischer asked if there will be additional seating in the new headquarter's lobby because there were times where he had to wait in the current boardroom lobby without any available seating and he is not able to stand for long periods. Raphael Garcia confirmed there will be existing benches in the lobby at the new BART headquarters.

Valerie Buell asked if the chairs are going to be built into to the floor or can they be moved. Raphael Garcia mentioned when the BART Board of Directors meetings are not in session, the boardroom will be used for meetings and trainings. He mentioned all the chairs are stackable, storable, and the chairs do not have armrests.

Clarence Fischer understood the existing columns cannot be removed due to structural and added depending where you are seated, you might not be able to see the nine BART Board of Directors. Raphael Garcia agreed with Clarence Fischer that some areas might be difficult to see the Directors and added there are monitors for your viewing.

Janet Abelson asked if the columns can be moved to other parts of the conference room. Raphael Garcia confirmed the columns are structural and cannot be moved.

Randall Glock thanked Raphael Garcia for his presentation.

6. Elimination of Senior and Disabled Magstripe Ticket Sales

Karen Basting presented on Elimination of Senior and Disabled Magstripe Ticket Sales.

Karen Basting highlighted bullet points on the magstripe tickets:

- In 2015 the Clipper Executive Board amended and restated the Clipper Memorandum of Understanding to include the stated goal that paratransit trips be paid for with Clipper.
- The RTC program is currently slated to be governed by the Clipper Executive Board, this is being presented to the CEB for approval in March.
- To provide consistency with current Clipper operating rules, no fee is to be collected for discount fare card media. The \$3.00 - \$5.00 fee currently collected by transit agencies for a new or renewal card will be eliminated but the card replacement fee will remain. (BART has charged \$3.00 for new and renewal cards and \$5.00 for replacement cards - the \$3.00 fee will be eliminated).

- Additionally, BART is eliminating the sale of all magnetic fare media; however, customers with these tickets can continue to use them indefinitely - at this time there is no end date for use. The proposed end date for sales of all blue, Youth, Senior and ADA magnetic tickets at the BART Customer Services Center and other retail vendors is March 1, 2021.
- Currently 98% of all BART trips are paid for using Clipper.

Clarence Fischer thanked the presenter and acknowledged the magstripe tickets will no longer be sold after March 2021. The question he asked was if you still have magstripe tickets, can you continue to use them until further notice. He also asked when BART decides to no longer accept magstripe tickets if the public will be informed in advanced. Karen Basting confirmed there is no end date at this time to use the magstripe tickets and the public will be notified of any changes in advance.

Randall Glock thanked Karen Basting for her presentation.

7. New BART Elevator Outage Notification Option Through the Official BART App.

Alicia Trost gave a PowerPoint presentation on the New BART Elevator outage notification option through the Official BART App. Members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had after the presentation.

Alicia Trost introduced herself as the BART's Chief Communication Officer. She mentioned there is a new feature to get information you want tailored to your trip with the new app called "BART Elevator Outage Notification," under the BART Official App. She shared screen shots from the BART Official App on how to use the BART elevator outage notifications.

Alicia Trost shared that there are four different kinds of notification settings:

1. Advisory Setting
2. Elevator Outages Setting
3. Station Departures Setting
4. Announcements Setting

Herb Hasting asked about notifications updates on the BART Official App. Alicia Trost mentioned the app should automatically be updated but sometimes you may have to update depending what smart phone you have.

Valerie Buell gave her feedback and she thinks this app is fabulous. She is excited to start using it when she commutes back to work. She saw some features with the

BART Official App that has not seen from other apps. She wanted to give the staff positive feedback and thanked for the work BART staff have done.

Hale Zukas asked why train arrival should say only minutes from current station to the next station instead of using hours and minutes. Alicia Trost will take the question back to staff and see what can be done.

Randall Glock thanked Alicia Trost for her presentation.

8. Member Announcements

Marjorie (Marji) McWee announced that the Contra Costa Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan survey is asking for input from the public and she emailed Elena Van Loo the survey to forward to members with the link and added you do not have to live in Contra Costa County. She encouraged members to take the survey.

9. Staff Announcements

Elena Van Loo informed members Ethics Training is coming in April/May 2021 and will share more detail information when the date gets closer. She reminded members Ethics Training is part of the BART BATF By-Laws to be done every two years.

10. Chairperson Announcements

Alan Smith thanked Bob Franklin and staff in producing the letters in support of relief funding for public transit agencies that went to the Senate Majority, Minority Leaders, California's two Senators, and the nine House Members who represent the five Bay Area counties within the BART stations. He also thanked Bob Franklin for including a letter to the House Majority Leader, Kevin McCarthy.

Randall Glock announced dates for the BART Board of Directors workshop meeting scheduled for February 25th and 26th, 2021, both days will be half days, and will have information as the date gets closer.

11. Next Scheduled Meeting. February 25, 2021: Draft Agenda Items (Staff to Lead)

Elena Van Loo led the agenda item.

Elena Van Loo let members know three agenda items have been confirmed to present scheduled for February 25, 2021:

- El Cerrito del Norte Access Updates
- Station Access Signage/Wayfinding
- BART Bike Program - Update

Elena Van Loo mentioned she is still working with staff to see if “Balboa Station Modernization,” can be added to February’s scheduled meeting.

Gerry Newell suggested to add “BATF Term Limits,” to explore term limits for Chair, Vice-Chair, Second Vice-Chair and members and would be good to discuss.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting, **February 25, 2021.**