

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

Committee Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2021

1. Roll Call of Members:

1. Alan Smith (2nd Vice-Chair) – ABSENT
2. Anita Ortega
3. Catherine Callahan
4. Chris Mullin – ABSENT
5. Clarence Fischer
6. Don Queen
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
Jumana Nabti (Staff)
Heath Maddox (Staff)
Javier Saavedra (Captioner)
Alicia Garispe (Captioner)
Roland Leburn (Guest)
Larry Bunn (Guest)
Aleta Depree (Guest)

Helen Walsh (Guest)
Helena Chang (Guest)
Aaron Infante-Levy (Guest)
Ryan Owen (Guest)
Fabian Diaz Luevano (Guest)
Sid (Guest)

2. Public Comments

Aleta Dupree introduced herself and felt welcome from January's BATF meeting.

Aleta Dupree stated she advocates for full participation because she does not believe in separate but equal and asked to open your mind and embrace new concepts.

Robert Raburn introduced himself as one of the BART Board of Directors and shared the vaccine website information at "myturn.ca.gov," to see if people qualify and to get vaccination appointments.

Helen Walsh would like to see more outreach for the Coronavirus-19 vaccination being held at the Oakland Coliseum, letting the people use public transportation to the Oakland Coliseum.

Larry Bunn let members and the public know if you live in South Bay, Fremont, or Union City, or Newark, Washington Hospital is giving vaccines to anyone who qualifies for the current age requirement.

3. Approval of January 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Clarence Fischer moved approval of the January 28, 2021 meeting amended minutes. Emily Witkin seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with twelve (12) in favor, zero (0) against, zero (0) abstentions.

4. El Cerrito del Norte – Access Update

Jumana Nabti gave a PowerPoint presentation on El Cerrito del Norte – Access Update.

Jumana Nabti introduced herself and mentioned she works in the Customer Access and Accessibility Department.

Jumana Nabti shared some recent changes:

- New South side of station is now open
- Inside the station, the North and South fare gates are open
 - Construction is continuing in the center of the concourse
 - Access between the North and South faregates is currently blocked
- Station Agent Booth is currently located at the new South side of the station and so are the elevators
 - Old elevators on the North side of the station are closed
- Bus Bay allocation current and future

Jumana Nabti mentioned the end of this project is anticipated by late April 2021.

Roland Wong asked if the old elevators are going to be closed permanently and Jumana Nabti answered the old elevators (North side) are down, but they will be maintained for BART maintenance use and if there is an outage with the new (South side) elevators, then the old ones are planned to be used. Roland Wong liked to hear that the old elevator will be used in an emergency situation.

Clearance Fischer asked about the FlixBus service, which used to provide bus service to Davis and Sacramento. He added he recently went under flixbus.com, and there was no connection information for El Cerrito del Norte Station about bus connections to Davis and or Sacramento. He asked Jumana Nabti if she could forward any information regarding connecting bus services at El Cerrito del Norte Station.

Randall Glock clarified what FlixBus service provides. He stated FlixBus is like a mega bus transportation service and there is a website for FlixBus, flixbus.com.

Janet Abelson asked if the bus bays are on the South side or the North side. Jumana Nabti mentioned that all AC Transit buses will be on the South side of the station.

5. Station Access Signage and Wayfinding

Jumana Nabti gave a PowerPoint presentation on Station Access signage and Wayfinding, which detailed the following:

- Signage outside faregates
- Signage to identify and direct passengers to station access facilities such as bus stops, passenger loading areas, taxi zones and bike facilities.
- Wayfinding from both the street and the station

Jumana Nabti explained the purposes behind updating BART Station access signage:

- Improve customer experience
- Establish a cohesive signage program for station access facilities
- Bring into alignment with Regional HUB Signage Program
- Address changes in Station access and the Parking program

Jumana Nabti went over color selection criteria:

- High contrast between graphics and background
- Can easily differentiate between colors from a distance
- Color-blindness test shows high contrast between graphics and background
- Can easily identify the color with words, i.e. “just follow the orange signs”
- Considers existing color standards and color conventions:
 - Blue: ADA
 - Green: bike, recreational, short term parking, exit
 - Red: do not enter
 - Yellow: taxi
- Bus color is not used by any bus agency (if possible)
- One color per use group: parking, active transportations, ADA
- Aesthetically pleasing, meets BART’s aspirational brand
 - Friendly: always pleasant, approachable, welcoming
 - Dynamic: constantly in motion, responsive, thinking ahead
 - Solid: on-time, reliable, trustworthy

Valerie Buell thought the presentation was terrific and loved the signs that she came up with. Valerie Buell mentioned she was using what her office uses to test color contrasting and she would like to send this helpful information. She added you can see the contrast results for people who are color blind. Jumana Nabti thanked Valerie Buell and would be great to get the Color Contrast Analyzer Program and added she has done some color blindness testing because it is included in the graphics program that BART uses.

Marjorie (Marji) McWee stated this took a lot of time and thought and no doubt Jumana Nabti conferred with a lot of people, so she was thankful for all the hard work. Marjorie (Marji) McWee wanted to share that people with visual impairments may think the sign may have too much information and that can be overwhelming. She noted that all visual impairments are not the same. Marjorie (Marji) McWee suggested to get different types of people with visual impairments and have them be part of the signage testing.

Roland Wong mentioned the brighter the background the better as we travel through the stations. He also pointed out when it is dark, or when it rains, it is harder to see the signs and stressed how important it is for the signs to have a bright background. Randall Glock thanked Jumana Nabti for presenting both “El Cerrito del Norte – Access Update” and “Station Access Signage and Wayfinding.” He also asked to have updates on the Station Access Signage and Wayfinding at future BATF meetings.

6. BART Bike Program – Update

Heath Maddox gave a PowerPoint presentation on BART Bike Program – Update.

Heath Maddox introduced herself and mentioned he works in the Customer Access and Accessibility Department, in the bike access program.

Heath Maddox shared BART bike parking summary:

Parking Type	Number of Spaces
Keyed lockers	421
On-demand lockers	1,828
Racks	4,044
Bike stations	1,487
Bikekeep	51
Bike share docks	223
Total	8,054

Heath Maddox shared information about On-Demand Lockers:

- BikeLink elockers are at all BART stations
- Local company, regional network
- Rates: \$.05 per hour
 - With prepaid card
- Double decker lockers coming soon

Heath Maddox shared keyed lockers are being phased out as they are inefficient, less secure, and they are a fire risk.

Heath Maddox mentioned there are three bike stations at Uptown Oakland, Berkeley, and Fruitvale that are staffed 12 hours a day and a fourth bike station at Pleasant Hill that is staffed four hours a day. He also mentioned that there will be future bike stations at Lafayette, West Oakland, Lake Merritt, and Fremont.

Heath Maddox went into details regarding Bikeep Smart Bike Racks:

- High security
- On-demand
- Free to use
- Clipper card access
- Located at 5 BART station
 - Two more planned
- Evaluation underway

Heath Maddox mentioned the Fleet of the Future (FOF) trains are looking into replacing the bike racks with a new prototype. In the FOF the bike racks are different than the legacy trains and are elaborate and bulky. He added that the new bike racks are less space efficient and it is difficult to have more than two bikes at a time. He mentioned riders were not happy with the new bike racks in the FOF. He mentioned he is working with staff to potentially install straps as riders seemed to like this system.

Helen Walsh thanked Heath Maddox for the presentation. She mentioned there was no mention of different styles of bikes that would fit in the enclosed bike storages and bike racks. She would like to see the bike racks accommodate for people with disabilities, like a tricycle, and they tend to be bigger. Helen Walsh also added cargo bikes where multi family members can ride on one bike tend to be big and needs room to lock up the bike.

Herb Hastings mentioned his bike is seventy-three (73) inches long and thirty (30) inches wide and asked if his bike is allowed in the trains. Heath Maddox said it was a good question and he was not involved in the design of the bike parking spaces in the trains but, typically the design size of a bike is six (6) feet long so he thinks Herb Hasting's bike should fit.

Clarence Fischer suggested there should be some discussion in the future with bike parking just like Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) car parking where there is three (3) to five (5) percent for ADA parking and this should be done for bike parking.

Randall Glock thanked Heath Maddox for the presentation.

7. BATF New Member Nomination

Randall Glock led agenda item.

Randall Glock introduced Larry Bunn who is interested in becoming a BATF member.

Gerry Newell moved for approval to nominate Larry Bunn. Clarence Fischer second the motion.

Larry Bunn introduced himself and gave a short speech on why he would like to be a BATF member.

Member nomination for Larry Bunn's passes:

- Fourteen (14) yeses, Zero (0) noes, Zero (0) abstentions

Randall Glock shared Larry Bunn has been nominated which will roll over next to the BART Board of Directors to finalize the nomination.

8. Member Announcements

No member announcements.

9. Staff Announcements

Elena Van Loo informed members Ethics Training is scheduled for April 6, 2021.

10. Chairperson Announcements

No Chair announcements

11. Future Agenda Topics – Members Suggest Topics

Elena Van Loo shared the draft agenda for March 25, 2021:

- Ambassador Program – Guest speaker from BART Police Department
- Oakland Coliseum Vaccination Site
- BART Updates Related to the Coronavirus
- BATF Term Limits: Chair, Vice Chair, and Members

Gerry Newell brought up the topic “BATF Term Limits.” He mentioned he wants new voices to be heard and he did not want the Vice Chair, or First Chair, or Second Chair to keep going over and over. He is asking BART staff to help with the language to discuss thoroughly and to take a vote in March and that everyone's viewpoint is welcome.

Randall Glock wanted clarification from Gerry Newell that he was talking about Officers and members. Gerry Newell stated that he was talking about Officers and if membership is a legal issue, the membership can be taken away and we can just talk about Officers.

Randall Glock asked Gerry Newell if he wants this in full discussion at the March's meeting and Gerry Newell said, "yes."

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting, **March 25, 2021.**