

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

**Minutes**

August 23, 2018

**1. Self-Introductions of Members, Staff and Guests**

Members:

- Janet Abelson
- Randall Glock
- Janice Armigo Brown - (ABSENT)
- Peter Crockwell – (ABSENT)
- Don Queen
- Hale Zukas – (ABSENT)
- Clarence Fischer
- Gerry Newell – (ABSENT)
- Herb Hastings
- Alan Smith
- Larry Bunn
- Roland Wong
- Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez
- Catherine Callahan
- Valerie Buell
- Chris Mullin
- Christina Lasson
- Mussie Gebre – (ABSENT)

**BART Staff present:** Bob Franklin,  
Elena Van Loo

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

- Robert Raburn (BART Board of Directors)
- Debora Allen (BART Board of Directors)
- John McPartland (BART Board of Directors)
- Amanda Cruz (BART Staff)
- Brian Yuen (CBS Station)
- Abigail Sterling (CBS Station)
- Emily Witkin (Guest)
- Jerry Grace (Guest)
- Dan Yutz (Guest)
- Aleta Dupree (Guest)
- Arnold Brillinger (Guest)

Michelle Owens (Guest)  
Michelle Hernandez (Guest)  
Eric Ronquillo (Guest)  
Janice Dispo (Stenographer)

## **2. Public Comments**

Aleta Dupree introduced himself and shared some remarks with the BATF. It is his hope that people recognize the great diversity of the disabled community and be sensitive to that.

Arnold Brillinger shared about his experience encountering a downed elevator while going to an Oakland A's baseball game at the Coliseum, where he felt as if no one at the station knew what to do. He added that it is imperative that station agents know what to do in situations such as this, especially for people in wheelchairs.

Director Debora Allen followed up with some comments regarding East Bay Paratransit and stated that she is working on figuring out ways to improve Paratransit services.

## **3. Approval of July 26, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

No opposition to Clarence Fischer's motion to approve the July 26, 2018 meeting minutes, with a second by Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez.

Motion passes with abstentions from Larry Bunn and Janet Abelson.

## **4. BART Staff, in finance, to discuss the California Prop 6 – Road Repair and Accountability Act – A Fuel Tax**

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

A discussion was held.

Director John McPartland gave a general overview regarding Senate Bill 1 (SB1) and Proposition 6, not just as it relates to BART.

Director Robert Raburn shared some background about the meaning of State transit assistance.

## **5. Disability Awareness/Sensitivity Training to recertify BART Station Agents – Power Point presentation to BATF members**

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

A discussion was held.

Members request for a copy of the training agenda, along with the full version of the presentation.

## **6. Resolution Supporting “Station Hardening,” to improve passenger safety letter to the BART Board of Directors – Draft**

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

A long discussion was held.

No opposition to Christina Lasson’s motion to approve the amended draft, with a second by Clarence Fischer.

Motion passes with an abstention from Chris Mullin.

## **7. BATF Member Discussion of the Future Milpitas/Berryessa BART/VTA Tour**

The construction tour has been canceled.

Elena Van Loo and Bob Franklin shared the reasoning behind why staff feels it cannot go forward.

A long discussion was held.

## **8. Member Announcements**

Valerie Buell reminded members about the Carlos Quintong Self-Advocacy Celebration event happening on October 19th at the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley, from 6pm to 9pm.

Clarence Fischer said that he recently attended a retirement party from Paul Oversier.

## **9. Staff Announcements**

Elena Van Loo reminded members that nominations for BATF office will be held during the September meeting.

She reminded members to fill out W-2 forms, and added that she will be putting together a class for Brown Act certification in March or April of 2019.

## **10. Chairperson Announcements**

Randall Glock shared a few informal updates with members.

## **11. Future Agenda Topics**

- Further discussion on East Bay Paratransit oversight and improvement
- Review on how to share comments and complaints with BART
- Request for presentation on elevator mitigation and Paratransit
- Further information on transfer times for non-commute hours
- Discussion on sharps containers at stations

## **12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of **Thursday, September 27, 2018, at 2:00 p.m., at 1750 Broadway, Oakland, California.**

(The meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.)

Randall Glock, Chair  
BART Accessibility Task Force

August 23, 2018

Robert Raburn, President  
BART Board of Directors  
300 Lakeside Dr.  
Oakland CA 94612

**Subject: Resolution Supporting “Station Hardening” to Improve Passenger Safety**

Dear President Raburn,

**WHEREAS**, passenger safety is BART’s primary responsibility while providing reliable transportation series; and

**WHEREAS**, fare evasion has become an increasing problem costing BART an estimated \$25 million in lost passenger revenue annually; and

**WHEREAS**, existing efforts to reduce fare evasion are ineffectual; and

**WHEREAS**, crime has steadily increased for several years (press reports a 69% increase in the past ten years) including aggravated assault caused in part by fare evaders; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a growing perception on the part of many current and former riders that BART is no longer safe; and

**WHEREAS**, ridership has been declining especially on the weekends; now

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the BART Accessibility Task Force strongly urges the BART Board of Directors make “station hardening” (e.g. raising fence heights around the paid area of stations, installing new fare gates and including platform elevators within the paid area of the stations etc.) its number one project priority which would greatly reduce fare evasion and increase rider safety.

**BENEFITS:**

1. Reduce crime within the BART system.
2. Increase passenger fare revenue, which could help pay for the project.
3. A reduction in crime would reduce the fear many people have about riding BART and could help increase ridership.
4. Help fulfill BART primary responsibility to its passengers of providing safe reliable transportation services.

This resolution passed on August 23, 2018 by a vote of the BART Accessibility Task Force:

Ayes\_11\_\_\_ Noes\_\_0\_\_Abstentions\_\_1\_\_Not present\_\_6\_\_

Sincerely,

Randall Glock,  
Chair

cc: BART Board Members  
Grace Crunican, BART General, Manager