

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE

Draft Minutes

August 27, 2015

1. Self-Introductions of Members, Staff and Guests

Members present: Janet Abelson, Randall Glock, Hale Zukas, Clarence Fischer, Gerry Newell, Herb Hastings, Alan Smith, Megan O'Brien, Brandon Young, Roland Wong, Linda Drattell

Absent: Janice Armigo Brown, Peter Crockwell, Don Queen, Larry Bunn, Marina Villena

BART Staff present: Ike Nnaji, Bob Franklin

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

Director Robert Raburn, Greg Lombardi (BART), Vincent Bevilacqua (BART), Mike Lemon (BART), Sadie Graham (BART), Elena Vanloo (BART), Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez (Applied BATF Member), Terry Fibble (ASL Interpreter), Abdallah Beth (ASL Interpreter), Janice Dispo (Stenographer)

Randall Glock moved to hold the nominations and elections process earlier in the meeting rather than at the end of the agenda, with a second by Roland Wong.

Alan Smith commented that the number position in which this agenda topic appears was copied from the previous year's agenda.

The motion does not pass.

(1 no, 2 abstentions, and no votes from other members)

2. Public Comments

[No public comments.]

3. Approval of Minutes of July 23, 2015 Meeting

No opposition to Randall Glock's motion to approve the July 23, 2015 meeting minutes, with a second by Gerry Newell.

Motion passes unanimously.

4. El Cerrito Del Norte Station Project

After a presentation given by Sadie Graham, members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had.

Clarence Fischer stated that there needs to be seating available at the passenger drop-off area. He pointed out inconsistencies in the staircases and added that it may be confusing to visually-impaired users.

5. Elevators and Escalators Repairs

After Greg Lombardi, Vince Bevilacqua, and Mike Lemon talked about elevators and escalator repairs, members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had.

Elevators

There is a phone number that riders can call in order to find out whether the elevator is in service. Alan Smith suggested that whenever this phone is displayed, that it should also display the numbers, and not just letters.

Hale Zukas suggested that train operators make announcements before arriving at a station where the elevator is out of service, and perhaps recommend which station to alight from the train instead.

Megan O'Brien said that there needs to be an alternate form of communication, because the deaf and hard of hearing will not be able to hear the announcements. She understands that the current cars will not have the capability, but hopes that the new cars will display elevator outage announcements on screens.

Clarence Fischer suggested that updated lists of out-of-service elevators be posted at the station agent booths.

In response to a suggestion by Clarence Fischer, Bob Franklin stated that station agents are trained to offer Paratransit as an option in the event of an elevator outage, and that this can also be arranged in advance.

Linda Drattell said that there needs to be equivalent access. She added that there should be fewer live announcements and more prerecorded messages that can be captioned immediately.

Janet Abelson suggested that detailed alternate options and instructions should be printed on a document ahead of time and be made available in large print and in braille.

Hale Zukas asked if the north elevator at Ashby is scheduled to have motion detectors installed.

Escalators

Clarence Fischer said that BART needs to make sure that both an elevator and escalator at a station aren't out of service at the same time. He added that there needs to be better communication of escalator outages, and perhaps a phone number for people to call to find out about escalator outages as well.

6. Powell & Montgomery Stations Canopy

[No presentation at this time; staff not in attendance to present.]

7. Wayfinding 16th & 24th/Mission Stations

[No presentation at this time; staff not in attendance to present.]

8. Nomination/Selection for September Election

Nominations for Chairperson:

Randall Glock
Alan Smith

Nominations for Vice Chairperson:

Herb Hastings
Clarence Fischer
Randall Glock

Roland Wong moved to discuss the addition of a third officer/liaison position as an agenda item in next month's meeting, with a second by Gerry Newell. All in favor, with the exception of Alan Smith, Herb Hastings, Linda Drattell, and Janet Abelson, who did not vote.

9. Capital Project Status Reports

Bob Franklin gave a brief presentation about the Transbay Tube closure scheduled to occur on Labor Day weekend, September 5 to September 7. He also shared about the lessons learned from the previous closure and improvements that will be made.

Herb Hastings read an e-mail from Tim Chan regarding project updates.

Station Brightening:

- Station brightening at Powell is completed.
- Painting Civic Center concourse and platform is almost complete. Lighting repairs complete.
- Currently waiting on lighting parts for Montgomery; platform lighting will be fixed when parts arrive.
- Currently deep cleaning and painting Embarcadero.

Station Canopy/Escalator Phase 1

- Scope: New Canopy, escalator replacement, lighting, real time transit information, station area map, art.
- Status: currently at 65 % design. On track to complete design in October.
- Schedule: Advertise Spring 2016, Notice to Proceed June 2016, Complete December 2017.

Changes to the platform flooring to terrazzo will be part of Phase 1 Modernization as an alternative. If the bids come back significantly lower than the budget, flooring will be included. If not, then it will have to wait until future funding is identified.

eBART

There will be payphones with TTY at the platform in both stations.

No updates were given for the following projects:

- El Cerrito Del Norte
- Richmond Intermodal Project
- Fleet of the Future
- Oakland Airport Connector
- Union City Station Remodel
- Warm Springs Station
- Phase 2 – San Jose Downtown
- Civic Center Station Upgrade
- Montgomery Station Upgrade
- San Bruno Path of Travel
- Track Maintenance
- Station Hearing Loop
- Entrance Canopies
- Berkeley Station Upgrade
- Stair Tread Color Contrast
- Berryessa/Milpitas Stations
- Powell Street Station Upgrade
- Embarcadero Station Upgrade

- West Dublin Path of Travel
- Concord Station Upgrade
- Dublin/Pleasanton Project
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10. Chairperson Announcements

Alan Smith shared that he will be out of town during the week of September 14th.

11. Staff Announcements

Bob Franklin stated that Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez's BATF member application will be brought to the Board at their September 24th meeting.

He added that BART is preparing to hold a tech conference in either October or November.

12. Member Announcements

Gerry Newell announced that the Lions Center for the Blind will be moving to a new location, 1722 Broadway in Oakland.

Linda Drattell shared that her organization, BEADHH (Bay Epicenter of Advocacy for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing), along with four other organizations, will be holding a conference called "Enough is Enough" on October 23, 2015, wherein these organizations will be advocating for captioning.

Linda Drattell then shared that people have requested better signage directing users towards TTY phones.

She suggested that holding a "Hackathon" for eBART may be really helpful in order to come up with improvements to serve the visually impaired and deaf and hard of hearing communities.

[A **hackathon** (also known as a hack day, hackfest or codefest) is an event in which computer programmers and others involved in software development and hardware development, including graphic designers, interface designers and project managers, collaborate intensively on software projects.]

She stated that the FCC is creating a new platform that has to do with web-based TTY for smartphones.

13. Future Agenda Topics

- Request for Dublin/Pleasanton project update
- Discussion of or presentation on new fare schedules
- Request that fare schedules be made in Braille and large print versions

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of **Thursday, September 24, 2015, at 2:00 p.m., at 101 8th Street in Oakland, California.**