

**ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 24-003**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SEAMLESS TRANSIT PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area, despite being an exceptional place to live, faces an uncertain future due to several interrelated crises -- decreasing housing affordability, increasing congestion, rising pollution, widening inequality, and the recent COVID-19 public health crisis, and systemic racism.

WHEREAS, acknowledgement of existing disparities in equal access to opportunity and committing to prioritize investments to address the disparities that marginalize communities face is critical to avoid perpetuating systemic discrimination; and

WHEREAS, one of the contributing factors to marginalized communities and lack of equal access to opportunities is the historical lack of transit investment into these communities; and

WHEREAS, transit operations funding is inadequate to provide the seamless transit network that the San Francisco Bay Area needs, it is necessary for the region to re-evaluate the way in which public transit is funded; and

WHEREAS, to rectify this incongruence in funding, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) should include a seat for public transit agencies to elevate their needs in the region and thereby their funding allocations; and

WHEREAS, to accomplish the goals of the Seamless principles, housing policies that encourage density must be considered alongside transportation, making public transit a much more affordable and practical means of transportation; and

WHEREAS, Usage of public transit in the Bay Area has declined in recent years, with transit trips per capita declining by 10%, average bus speeds declining by 9%, and transit commute times increasing by 11% between 2001 and 2016; and

WHEREAS, coordinating public transit services makes the overall regional system easier for the end user, which will ultimately help bolster ridership; and

WHEREAS, The California Air Resources Board reported in 2018 that no California regions, including the Bay Area, are on track to meet their greenhouse gas reduction targets, with increasing Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT) and declines in transit ridership cited as a primary factors; and

WHEREAS, Low-income people, many of whom have experienced displacement and have long commutes requiring multiple transit services, are among the most adversely affected by service reductions and delays; and

WHEREAS, fare integration disproportionately benefits low-income people and people of

color and generally makes public transit more affordable to users; and

WHEREAS, A well-functioning and coordinated transit system plays a critical role in supporting public health and safety during an emergency, with 31% of Bay Area essential workers relying on public transit to get to work. It also plays a critical role in supporting an economic recovery. During and in the aftermath of major disruptions to our transit system, close coordination among agencies facilitates prioritization of the most critical needs, efficient deployment of resources, and clear communication to customers; and

WHEREAS, there has been a considerable amount of work done on public transit integration, including through MTC's Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force, and the Seamless principles encapsulate some of the goals identified in those efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Seamless principles align with AC Transit's mission and the District should aspire to achieve these goals; however, the District must be mindful not to strive toward Seamless principles at the expense of low-income people, people of color, or any other historically underserved population.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District does resolve as follows:

Section 1. Affirms commitment to working collaboratively with State agencies, MTC, municipalities and other public agencies develop a highly integrated regional transportation system that provides frequent, reliable, convenient, seamless, equitable, and affordable transit for customers.

Section 2. Supports the Seamless Transit Principles listed in Exhibit A.

Section 3. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage by four affirmative votes of the Board of Directors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of November 2024.

Joel B. Young
President

Attest:

Linda A. Nemeroff

Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

I, Linda A. Nemeroff, District Secretary for the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on the 13th day of November 2024, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Linda A. Nemeroff
Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

Approved as to Form and Content:

Aimee Steele
General Counsel/Chief Legal Officer