

**ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 23-001**

**A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LEGACY AND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS OF ACCESSIBILITY
PIONEER HALE ZUKAS**

WHEREAS, Hale Zukas was a lifelong advocate for the elimination of barriers that limit access for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Hale Zukas co-founded the Center for Independent Living (CIL) in Berkeley, California in 1972, an organization whose model for Independent Living has been reproduced and circulated worldwide; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, Hale Zukas co-founded the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) District's Accessibility Advisory Group and was instrumental in the design of the buttons for inside BART elevators so that they could easily be reached by wheelchair users and designed the first curb cuts in Berkeley and convinced BART to become fully accessible; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, Hale Zukas participated in a historical 20-day sit-in at the San Francisco Federal Building leading the protest movement for the ratification of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Hale Zukas was appointed and served as vice-chair on the U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (now known as the Access Board), which promotes equality for people with disabilities through leadership in accessible design and the development of accessibility guidelines and standards; and

WHEREAS, Hale Zukas worked at the World Institute on Disability for 30 years making important contributions to attendant services, fixed rail, bus, and airplane accessibility and much more; and

WHEREAS, Hale Zukas lobbied for the creation of California's In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program, the first consumer-directed program designed to provide attendants in the home to people who needed them. This program has since become partially Medicaid-funded and a model for the nation; and

WHEREAS, Hale Zukas helped write the memorandum guidelines and regulations for accessible design for the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, defining the meaning and needs for accessibility; and

WHEREAS, Hale Zukas, was instrumental in the creation of AC Transit's Accessibility Advisory Committee, was a founding member of the Committee and served faithfully for 31 years, until his death on November 30, 2022, and contributed greatly to the accessibility of fixed route transit service throughout the AC Transit service area; and

WHEREAS, Hale Zukas served as Chair and Vice-Chair several times during his tenure on the AC Transit Accessibility Advisory Committee and demonstrated consistent and reasonable decision-making and a sensitivity to the disabilities of others; and

WHEREAS, Hale Zukas assisted staff in reviewing new and emerging assistive technologies, vehicle prototypes, wayfinding signage and website accessibility; and generously volunteered his time to educate both new and veteran bus operators on how they could better serve seniors and individuals with a disability who ride AC Transit's bus system and participated in numerous outreach and educational events to promote and inform the public of the accessibility of AC Transit's bus system; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zukas's tenure on the Accessibility Advisory Committee is characterized by his great sense of humor, faithful attendance, and positive contributions to discussions; and

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

Section 1. The Board of Directors and staff of the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District declare our respect and admiration to Hale Zukas for his numerous contributions to accessible public transit and for 31 years of dedicated service as member of the AC Transit Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Section 2. The Board of Directors and staff wish to express our sincere appreciation for Hale's contributions and service to the District and the community.

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

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of January 2023.

Joel B. Young, President

Attest:

Linda A. Nemeroff, 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 11th day of January 2023, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Linda A. Nemeroff, District Secretary

Approved as to Form and Content:

Jill A. Sprague, General Counsel