

Berkeley ILC Notes | March 20, 2025

*please note this is not a transcript

RECORDING: <https://bit.ly/4imNu9S>

ATTENDANCE

- Committee Members: Dir. Peeples, CM Taplin, Dir. Walsh, CM Kesarwani
 - ACT Sta : Robert del Rosario – Director of Service Planning & Development, Carissa Lee – Sr TP, Howard Der – Acting Planning Manager, Ryan Lau – LA/CR Rep, Tammy Kylo, Kathryn Vo – Senior Transportation Planner, Crystal Wang – Transportation Planner, Rama Pochiraju - Exec Director of Planning & Engineering
 - City Sta : Elliot Schwimmer – Senior TP, Catherine Clark – Associate TP, Eric Anderson – Principal Planner, Maxwell Banks – Staff to CM Taplin
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PUBLIC COMMENT

ITEM 2A. ILC PARAMETERS

Presentation

- Who/What: Robert del Rosario presented on ILC Parameters (context and purpose of ILC meetings)
- Presentation:
<https://actransit.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=13926674&GUID=CA70E128-1C45-4862-94FE-2E87FE57A0C6>

Public Comment – None

Committee Comment

- Walsh: worth updating it to say that we do meet at the jurisdiction locations
- Rob: We will come to the Board to propose that change and also holding meetings remotely

ITEM 2B. ILC RESTRUCTURING AND MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

Presentation

- Who/What: Robert del Rosario presented on proposed ILC restructuring; seeking feedback on proposal to change ILC parameters:
 - Update the purpose to include regional coordination, joint advocacy, fares, and the rider experience (customer first)
 - Consolidation of ILC's: reduce # of meetings, increase coverage
 - Berkeley would be a part of the North County ILC (Albany, Berkeley, and Emeryville)

- ACT is reducing to 7 wards. 2 directors per consolidated ILC
- Presentation:
<https://actransit.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=13926675&GUID=0FD5555C-3C48-4DBC-9F2F-6F4843FF3B8D>

Public Comment - None

Committee Comment

- Walsh: where does Dir Young fall on this?
- Robert: still figuring this out
- Walsh: we should aim for equity in terms of distribution
- CM Taplin and Kesarwani: no comments
- Peebles: Opposed to merging with WCCTAC because it focuses on freeways and other objects. Support keeping ILC's in individual cities as an effective way for staff, CM's
- Taplin: I do support the restructuring. Grouping the three together makes sense. We often see commuting amongst the three cities. I do want to acknowledge what Dir. Peebles said about each jurisdiction getting adequate attention.

ITEM 3A. BERKELEY CITY PROJECT UPDATES.

Public Comments - None

Notes

- a. Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Grant Updates
 - a. Cap and Trade funds.
 - b. North Berkeley BART. 2024 the City and its partners secured funding for additional ped facilities, bus stop improvements at 5 stops. Putting together another application through EBALDC to identify additional bus stop, bike lane improvements. Applications due in May. If successful, Council would need to accept the award by Dec 2025.
 - c. Kesarwani: can you clarify how much funding you're seeking
 - d. Eric: We're working with BART, developers to submit a second grant. Don't know exact amount, but will be a similar scope of work. Improvements at 5 bus stops within a mile at the TOD, ped access improvements, bike improvement scope is still being determined. Potential traffic calming along the neighborhoods.
- b. Southside Complete Streets
 - a. Currently in construction. Completion end of April 2025.
 - b. Remaining items: signal timing coordination

- c. Walsh: could you say more about the signal timing. I believe the City makes the final decision with input.
- d. Catherine: we're closely coordinating with ACT. Our city electrician is reviewing the entire intersections around the area and is tested before anything is live.
- e. Eric: At a granular level, we've been looking at how to optimize the signal timing along Bancroft to maximize the green time. Coordinating bike signal timing/bus signal timing with ped crossings
- f. Walsh: I want to ensure we're looking at not just the bus but the bus rider.
- g. Eric: In our bike plan, we're working with the disabled community to look at isolated ped crossing phases for visually impaired peds. Help them get to the bus stop safely.
- c. Telegraph Multimodal Corridor Study
 - a. Resumed in late 2024. Studying three design concepts two of which would have bike lanes and bus only lane. The third concepts would be a 4 to 3 road diet, class IV bike lane, no bus only lane, loading.
 - b. Presenting the results of concepts and evaluation matrix to Transportation Commission
 - c. Public workshop in May 2025
 - d. Council – present preferred design in late July 2025
 - e. Waiting to hear back on ACTC grant
 - f. Peebles: I don't understand ACT staff reluctance to acknowledge that bus lanes speed up buses. BRT on international 20 – 25% faster. Of course, bus lanes will speed up the buses. Everywhere in the world bus lanes, speed up buses.
 - g. Robert: Staff is unequivocally supportive of bus lanes. On San Pablo there was discussion about center running bus lanes. The side running proposal on San Pablo in Oakland/Emeryville have different benefits.
- d. Adeline Street Transportation Improvements
 - a. Location: from SP south to the City Board. Focus on improving safety and coordinating with redesign at Ashby BART and Ashby flea market. Focus on local business engagement.
 - b. Conceptual Design, public engagement in late 2025
- e. ACTC San Pablo Corridor Project
 - a. Parallel Bikeways Project: sidewalk, curb, bike lane upgrades to bike boulevards and adjacent intersections. Finishing 95% design. Construction in spring 2026
 - b. SP Ave Safety Enhancements Project: Transit and Ped upgrades to all intersections along SP Ave. 65% design comment period. Construction in Fall 2026

- c. SP Ave Bus/Bike Project: In Berk/Oakland. Undergoing conceptual design. ACTC Commission will provide an update in the next corridor.
 - d. Taplin: can you comment on the impact not having bus lane.
 - e. Eric: Analysis has not been done yet
 - f. Elliot: what was presented was Oakland's study.
- f. Berkeley Bike Plan Update
 - a. Working on drafting the plan for circulation and adoption late 2025.

ITEM 3B. DURANT QUICK BUILD (VERBAL)

Presentation

- Who/What: Kathryn Vo
- Presentation: Bus Bulbs, Bus Shelters, TSP at Durant/College, Bus Only Red Transit Lanes. Issues with PG&E delays. We explored solar options but the locations along Durant are not viable due to being under large trees or shadow of buildings. We're working to identify other solutions. Our best-case scenario is that PG&E provides the information so we can hardwire lighting.

Public Comment - None

Committee Comment

- Walsh: Can you share more details about the project?
- Kathryn: Bus bulbs at Ellsworth, College, and Dana.
- Rob: we're having PG&E issues, is there anything we can jointly do to put pressure on PG&E. We're also eager to close out this project.
- Taplin: happy to put my head together with Dir Walsh and our city manager, our government affairs folks.
- Walsh: Will we be doing a post project analysis of travel speeds and if this project will make a difference?
- Kathryn: we don't have this scope for this project but we're interested in doing an analysis.
- Rob: We can pull regular data, and we can look at this analysis.
- Walsh: We should know the project impacts. Strongly advocate for this.
- Kathryn: We're hoping to do an analysis of all our transit priority projects.
- Rob: The enforcement needs to work.
- Walsh: I think that's all part of it.

ITEM 3C. REALIGN UPDATE

Presentation

- Who/What: Howard Der presented on Realign
- Presentation:
<https://actransit.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=13926676&GUID=DB3CEADD-C0A5-4CE2-91A1-4314BB931CE9>

Public Comment - None

Committee Comment

- Walsh: Line 65/67 and 72R frequency will be reduced. Line 88 will run every 20 minutes. Line 18 and 52 running every 15 minutes. Line 7 reduced to 60 minutes.
- Howard: Line 7 will go along Stanford to Emeryville. Ashby will be covered by Line 27 and run every 30 minutes.
- Peebles: We should be clear about what Realign is. Has three parts. This part that we're discussing here is an attempt to rationalize service cuts. We're running about 85% of service in 2019. Attempt to make that 85% be more efficient and serve people better. That's great but it's still miserable service. The second part to rationalize if we somehow got the funding to bring back 2019 service would require a regional and local measure to pass and for funding from the federal government. This is probably not going to happen. The third part is what we would do if funding were not a consideration. Staff have worked really hard, done a lot of outreach, and made the best route system they can given the limited funding. But there's no discussion this is a service cut to make it as efficient and rational as possible and that's unfortunate.

ITEM 3D. TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE DESIGN GUIDELINES

Presentation

- Who/What – Crystal Wang
 - TSDG approved in March 2025
 - Have a dedicated page for public comment on the TSDG by end of May 2025. We'll take edits to document as needed.
- Presentation:
<https://actransit.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=13926677&GUID=82F4861E-EFAB-4BCC-8A58-863A0E5120C3>

Public Comment - None

Committee Comment

- Peebles: Staff got the appendices, the public and ILC's didn't until the last minute. The Board was concerned that some of the appendices deal with a lot of traffic issues and wanted to ensure the public got a change to look and comment. Did not

want to hold up approving the document but ask that be circulated with particular attention to appendix B

- Walsh: Vertical deflection. Read a letter about vertical deflection.
- Eric: They're talking about the axle width; tires go through the gaps on the speed cushion. Looking at this with our fire department.
- Rob: Similar to raised at center and oxford. Side to side. Maybe we can clarify if/when we go back to the Board.
- Walsh: We don't want to do parallel bikeways if we can avoid it.

ITEM 3E. SERVICE PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE UPDATES

Presentation

- Who/What
- Presentation:
<https://actransit.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=13926678&GUID=78208C60-B898-4C42-AE4F-24929C662DD5>

Public Comment - None

Committee Comment

- Walsh: the thing I turn to in all this data is the Service Operated. Did the bus go out. Our goal for AC Transit is 99.5%. We want every bus to go out to go out. When I see the 100s in the FS great. But then I see some 89%. 11% didn't go out and that impacts hundreds of riders. As a Board we're focused on reliability due to operator unavailability, calling sick, not enough operators. So you know when you go out there your bus is going to come. It gets better/worse, trying to make progress on this.
- Rob: Service Op was above 97% which is great. Still a long way to go to 99.5%.
- Peebles: I just want to second what Jean is saying about Reliability

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Telegraph Rapid Corridors
- Bus Amenities Discussion
- Hayden AI in two meetings

NO COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- None
- Next proposed date May 29th – Jean at NACTO
 - Tammy to work with committee to reschedule

ADJOURNED