

**Notes: City of Richmond/AC Transit Interagency Liaison Committee (ILC)
Meeting, February 16, 2023** (Notes are not verbatim)

Committee Members Present: City of Richmond: Mayor Eduardo Martinez (chairing), AC Transit Board of Directors: Jovanka Beckles H.E. Christian Peeples.

Item 1B—Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda –No comments were made.

Item 2A—Goals and Principles for the ILC (attachment in packet)—AC Transit provided a draft Goals and Principles statement for discussion, introduced by Nathan Landau . Mayor Martinez stated that Richmond should be a “testing ground” for the transition away from cars. Director Beckles expressed her excitement that the Committee is working, that it’s a “wonderful thing.” She noted that at a previous meeting Ms. Braxton had request a bench for senior citizen riders at Cutting & S. 46th St. and now a bench has been installed. She also stated that Hilltop Mall area residents complained about a burned down shelter and now it has been removed. Mayor Martinez noted the value of the ILC as a place to brainstorm.

Mayor Martinez stated that he wished to make Richmond an example of governmental accessibility to the public. Director Beckles asked how the existence of the ILC could be made known to more stakeholders, so they could participate. Beverly Green and Claudia Burgos noted that AC Transit had prepared a list of transit stakeholders, and would share it with the City. Trina Jackson-Lincoln and Lori Reese-Brown could cross reference this list with the City’s list of stakeholders.

Director Peeples noted that the meetings of the City of Alameda ILC (the longest standing ILC) always had significant public participation. Business association members, Transportation Commission members, and staff from the Water Emergency Transit Authority (WETA) often participated. He noted that these outside perspectives often helped “energize” AC Transit and City staff.

Director Peeples requested that staff review AC Transit’s original ILC protocols. Robert Del Rosario stated that AC Transit would return with a draft charter for the committee at the next meeting.

Item 2B—Overview of AC Transit Richmond Service and Service Planning (visual presentation in packet)—Carissa Lee provided a map and verbal line by line review of lines serving Richmond, including regular local routes (70,71,72, 72M, 74, 76), the San Pablo Rid route (72R) night/owl routes (376,800), and Transbay routes (L, LA).

Mayor Martinez noted that there is no bus service to the Brickyard Cove area. He stated that has been used as an argument against providing low income housing there. Bus service would be needed since many people can't afford cars. He asked what criteria, what level of population, AC Transit uses to establish new lines. Green asked about the timeline for development at Brickyard Cove. Mayor Martinez responded that there was no timeline. He opposed development there because of lack of ingress/egress and of bus service. He favors development along existing transit corridors more.

Michael Eshleman responded that there was no hard and fast rule for this. AC Transit hopes to learn about development before it goes in. We consider the level of density in the City's plans. He noted that in the absence of additional funding, service to a new area requires that service be decreased on an existing route.

Hector Rojas (City of Richmond) noted that state law eliminates parking requirements at major transit stops and along high quality transit routes. He noted that the 72R, operating every 12 minutes, qualifies as a high quality transit corridor. He hoped that AC Transit would work with the City to make it possible for other corridors to qualify for this. He noted the "chicken and egg" problem (Cutting Blvd.as example) that without transit typical parking requirements would apply and make development more car centric.

Director Peeples described how the City of Alameda works with major developers to assure that subsidize the initial years of transit service (and infrastructure) This means that is in place when the development opens. In this way, the cost of new service does not cannibalize existing service. Mayor Martinez stated that city planners should have a picture of the transit map in mind when planning where development should go. Landau noted that AC Transit now reviews Housing Elements to help us understand cities' development plans and see how they align with transit.

Director Beckles excused herself to attend Contra Costa County's Black History Celebration.

Item 2C—Community Benefits from Development Applied to Transit—Item deferred to next meeting due to lack of staff availability

Item 2D—Future Hybrid Meetings/Teleconferencing and Location—Trina Jackson-Lincoln (City of Richmond) noted that the Richmond Council Chambers have been set up for hybrid meetings. The next 3 ILC meetings will occur there. Director Peebles discussed the need for the elected officials on the committee to attend in person, so that a quorum would be present.

Item 3A—Richmond Moves, On Demand Shuttle Pilot—Lori Reese-Brown reported that Richmond Moves started in April, 2022. It is supported by California Climate Initiative funds. It's designed to provide service from low income, pollution impacted areas to 9 major destinations such as Richmond BART/Amtrak and the ferry.

Richmond Moves had 1,442 rides in December, 2022; 1,709 in January, 2023. Most rides are to Richmond and El Cerrito Del Norte BART stations. City is requesting additional funding from the California Air Resources Board to expand the program. Via Transit operates the service.

Director Peebles asked if Richmond Moves would, after a 2 year period, would evaluate the service using traditional transit metrics such as cost per ride and passengers per revenue hour. Reese-Brown replied that the City hoped to have resources to conduct this type of analysis.

Del Rosario stated that was important to review whether Richmond Moves was complementary or conflicting with AC Transit service. Reese-Brown noted that she had worked with Del Rosario for many years, and that the City's goal is to build on AC Transit service. Mayor Martinez cited the value of extending Richmond Moves to "isolated areas" that don't have bus service. He requested a map that shows both AC Transit and Richmond Moves to see "how they work together or work against each other." Reese-Brown stated that the City would work with AC Transit to create an overlay of both services.

Item 3B—Bus Shelter Update—Carissa Lee presented. AC Transit will be entering into two contracts for shelters—one for maintenance and one for advertising. AC Transit will need assistance from cities in operating the shelter program, such as waiving permit fees and fast tracking permits.

Item 3C—Richmond Development and Projects Update—Item deferred due to lack of time in this meeting.

Item 3D—Update on Richmond Bus Division (D3) Mural—Claudia Burgos reported that original muralist, Jonathan Bloomfield, had removed graffiti and restored the mural to its original 2017 condition. A triple layer of graffiti resistant coating was applied. AC Transit covered the cost of restoration, but should it need to be done again, AC Transit would discuss available funding sources with the City.

Item 4—Future Agenda Items

Goals and Objectives—ILC Charter
AC Transit Network Realign and Service Update
Community Benefits for Transit
Richmond Moves and AC Transit
Richmond Development and Projects Update

Next Meeting---Scheduled for May 11, 2023, at Richmond City Council Chambers, hybrid in person/online meeting.