



ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

PUBLIC HEARING - REDISTRICTING

AC Transit General Offices
2nd Floor Board Room - 1600 Franklin Street, Oakland, California

English Phone (669) 900 6833, Webinar ID: 984 8717 5063
Spanish Phone (707) 304-7195, Conference ID: 647 528 554#
Chinese Phone (707) 304-7195, Conference ID: 983 252 334#

Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Spanish Phone Number: (707) 304-7195, Conference ID: 647 528 554# Chinese Phone Number: (707) 304-7195, Conference ID: 983 252 334#

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOEL YOUNG, PRESIDENT (AT-LARGE)
DIANE SHAW, VICE PRESIDENT (WARD 5)
JOVANKA BECKLES (WARD 1)
JEAN WALSH (WARD 2)
SARAH SYED (WARD 3)
MURPHY MCCALLEY (WARD 4)
H. E. CHRISTIAN PEEPLES (AT-LARGE)

BOARD OFFICERS

MICHAEL A. HURSH, GENERAL MANAGER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
JILL A. SPRAGUE, GENERAL COUNSEL/CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER
LINDA A. NEMEROFF, BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/DISTRICT SECRETARY

1. CALL TO ORDER

The AC Transit Board of Directors held a special meeting on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

Prior to the start of the meeting, the General Counsel confirmed that Director Peeples met all the conditions to participate in the meeting remotely under the "Just Cause" exception under the Brown Act and advised that all votes must be taken by roll call vote.

President Young called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: YOUNG, BECKLES, WALSH, SHAW, PEEPLES, McCALLEY, SYED

3. PUBLIC HEARING

- 3.A.** Receive presentations from the District's public outreach and demographer consultants regarding upcoming workshops and outreach activities and the process and criteria for redistricting to a seven-ward election system for the Board of Directors; and hold the first of two public hearings to receive public input and provide direction regarding the boundaries and composition of wards before draft maps of proposed ward boundaries are drawn.

[23-391b](#)

Staff Contact:

Linda A. Nemeroff, Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

Presenters:

Jennifer Nentwig, Tripepi Smith

Michael Wagaman, Wagaman Strategies

President Young welcomed everyone to the public hearing and advised that legal notice of the hearing was given in accordance with Board Policy 110. The Spanish, Chinese and Cantonese interpreters were introduced and instructions were given on how to access language services.

The hearing opened at 6:08 p.m. and the meeting was turned over to Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary Linda Nemeroff who introduced the following presenters:

- Jennifer Nentwig, Tripepi Smith, who provided an overview of the public outreach plan for the redistricting process, and
- Michael Wagaman, Wagaman Strategies, who presented an overview of the redistricting process and timeline.

Mr. Wagaman addressed questions from the Board and agreed to include county

supervisory district boundaries as well as city council boundaries to the extent the information was available.

Two persons presented testimony concerning the redistricting process to transition to a seven-ward election system.

A copy of the oral comments are attached hereto as Exhibit A and are made a part of these minutes. Email, fax, voicemail, and written comments received up to the close of the hearing are incorporated into the file, and by reference hereto, are made a part of these minutes.

The public hearing closed at 6:56 p.m.

President Young announced that the next public hearing on redistricting would be held on September 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

4. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS

(Government Code Section 54954.2)

Members of the Board and Board Officers thanked staff for their efforts on the redistricting process. President Young reported on the American Public Transportation Association Study Mission to Australia and New Zealand.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for September 13, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Linda Nemeroff

Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

**Board of Directors Meeting
September 6, 2023
Transcript of Testimony (Public Hearing #1 – Redistricting)
Exhibit A to the Minutes**

JANE KRAMER: Thanks. Okay. One of the.. to me, one of the salient comments of the speaker was defining a community as “others need to be talking with each other”. That means you don't want to create chaos. But, on the other hand, you don't want to exclude anyone. So that means that you represent the community and their interests, but you also have to consider the general welfare of the entire AC Transit district. And that means you have a complicated job and you have to do it with subtlety, supply, and ethically. And that can be soul searching. Thank you.

ALFRED TWU: Hi, good evening, everyone. So I looked at some of the more overarching larger level communities of interest based around some of our transit lines, but also the way that the East Bay has been doled out. So, starting at the top, I have what I call Ward 72 along the 72 San Pablo bus. This area has more working-class industrial jobs. It also has to deal with a lot of the air pollution issues from the freeway and the refineries in the district.

TWU: Next, we have Ward 51B along the College Ave-University Avenue bus in Berkeley, and this area is more very highly educated, very high voter turnout. So it's good to group this together so that their votes don't dilute everybody else's. Moving on down, we have a ward which go through Alameda as well as Oakland, Chinatown, which has many links to Alameda, and also over to San Leandro, where we've seen a growing Chinese American population.

TWU: And next here in the green, we have ward 1T along the International Boulevard Corridor, but I could also see this extending around 14th Street into West Oakland. This is more of a working-class area in both sides and also very high transit ridership. Continuing down, we have ward 10 around the unincorporated areas into Hayward. Ward 97, which is more west of 880, more suburban area. And finally, Ward 210, city of Fremont is conveniently the size of one ward and could easily become one. Thank you.