



## **ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Board of Directors/Board Officers Retreat**

HYBRID MEETING

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

Phone (669) 900 6833 Webinar ID: 984 8717 5063

**Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 9:00 AM**

#### **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 Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District held a Board of Directors/Board Officers Retreat on Wednesday, August 30, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by President Young at 9:00 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Director Beckles arrived at 9:39 a.m.

Vice President Shaw arrived at 9:01 a.m.

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

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*[Written comment received prior to the meeting is incorporated into the minutes by reference as Exhibit A.]*

**Sasha Przybyla** commented on a petition that had been started at Change.org to add a 3:15 PM time to the P line schedule. (submitted written comment)

**4. DISCUSSION ITEM(S)****4.A. Employee retention.**[23-349](#)

Staff Contact:

Sebron Flenaugh III, Executive Director of Human Resources

Executive Director of Human Resources Sebron Flenaugh made a presentation addressing the retention strategy, workforce needs, professional development and succession management. General Manager Hursh committed to providing regular quarterly progress reports to the Board.

**Public Comment:**

**Vanetta Keefe** commented that screen went blank during the presentation.

The report was presented for information only.

**4.B. Receipt of recent polling results and efforts to engage with local cities to fund public transit [Requested by Director Beckles - 12/8/21]**[23-348](#)

Staff Contact:

Beverly Greene, Executive Director of External Affairs, Marketing & Communications

Presenter:

Sara LaBatt, EMC Research

Executive Director of External Affairs, Marketing and Communications Beverly Greene introduced Sarah LaBatt with EMC Research, who presented a summary report of polling results regarding a potential parcel tax measure in 2024. Director of Legislative Affairs and Community Relations Claudia Burgos made a presentation about partnering with municipalities to fund public transit.

**Public Comment:**

**Jane Kramer** commented that community and neighborhoods need to own their transportation systems. Kramer also believed that motorists benefited when taxes were raised, not public transit riders.

**Darrell Owens** commented that fewer people have a connection to busses and that local policymakers are detached from public transit affairs.

**Adina Levin** commented that AC Transit needs to have a positive vision and collaborate with cities on its specific and regional measures.

**George Spies** commented that when a clear added value is defined such as service improvements, the measures are more effective, and the public would be inclined to support.

The item was presented for information only.

**4.C. Transit Priority. [Requested by Director Walsh - 4/12/23]**

[23-347](#)

Staff Contact:

Ramakrishna Pochiraju, Executive Director of Planning & Engineering

Transportation Planning Manager Jim Cunradi made a presentation about challenges facing the District in making the streets bus and pedestrian friendly as well as the efforts to upgrade transit signal equipment.

**Public Comment:**

**Adina Levin** commented that a great deal of information paints a positive picture of more reliable and cost-effective transit.

**George Spies** would encourage the City of Oakland to partner with AC Transit on signal priority projects.

The item was presented for information only.

***The Board took a brief recess at 12:23 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 12:26 p.m. All Board members were present.***

**4.D. Overview of Switzerland Study Tour and the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Study Tour & International**

[23-350](#)

Association of Public Transport (UITP) 2023 Summit in Madrid-Valencia-Barcelona, Spain.

Presenters:

Ramakrishna Pochiraju, Executive Director of Planning & Engineering

Vice President Shaw

Director Syed

Director of Service Development and Planning Robert del Rosario made a presentation on key observations from the study tour in Switzerland. Service Planning Manager Michael Eshleman, Vice President Shaw and Director Syed provided an overview of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Study Tour & International Association of Public Transport (UITP) 2023 Summit in Madrid-Valencia-Barcelona, Spain.

**Public Comment:**

Jane Kramer commented on differences between European and local transit systems.

The item was presented for information only.

**5. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS**

(Government Code Section 54954.2)

Congratulations were offered to the General Manager and staff on AC Transit's designation as Outstanding Public Transit System by the American Public Transportation Association.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Linda A. Nemeroff

Board Administrative Officer/District Secretary

### Item 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### Public Comments

- Guest User: As a resident of Piedmont, CA, I am starting this petition to request the addition of a 3:15pm pick up time for the P bus schedule from the Salesforce Transit Center to Piedmont. This petition is personal to me because, like many others in our community, I have experienced challenges with the current bus schedule that do not align with our evolving work patterns post-pandemic. Before diving into the details and reasons behind this request, it is important to acknowledge that flexibility in working hours has become more prevalent due to changes brought about by the pandemic. Many individuals residing in Piedmont now have jobs or commitments that allow them to leave San Francisco earlier than before. However, we are faced with limited options when it comes to catching a bus back home. The current return bus schedule does not adequately cater to those who wish to depart San Francisco at an earlier time. The earliest available pick up time before rush hour begins is at 4:30pm. This forces many residents of Piedmont either into longer waiting times or having no choice but to endure heavy traffic during peak hours. To support this petition's call for a 3:15pm pick up time from the Salesforce Transit Center, let us consider some relevant facts: 1. Commuting Patterns: According to recent surveys conducted by local transportation authorities (source cited), there has been a noticeable shift in commuting patterns since remote work arrangements became more common during and after the pandemic. A significant number of residents now prefer leaving San Francisco earlier in order to avoid congested roads during peak hours. 2. Increased Traffic Congestion During Peak Hours: Traffic congestion data collected by transportation agencies (source cited) demonstrates that rush hour traffic significantly impacts travel times between San Francisco and Piedmont during late afternoon periods. By adding a 3:15pm pick up time, we can alleviate some of this congestion and provide residents with a more efficient and stress-free commute. 3. Demand for Earlier Departures: Through informal discussions with fellow Piedmont residents, it has become evident that there is a growing demand for earlier departure options from San Francisco. Many individuals have expressed their desire to spend more time with their families or engage in community activities upon returning home, rather than being stuck in traffic during peak hours. By adding a 3:15pm pick up time to the return bus schedule from the Salesforce Transit Center to Piedmont, we can address these concerns and provide an improved commuting experience for our community members. This change would not only benefit those who wish to leave San Francisco earlier but also contribute to reducing traffic congestion during peak hours. I kindly request transportation authorities and relevant stakeholders to consider this petition seriously and take appropriate action. Let's work together towards creating a more efficient and commuter-friendly bus schedule that aligns with the changing needs of Piedmont residents. Thank you for your attention and support in making our daily commutes smoother and more enjoyable. <https://www.change.org/p/add-3-15pm-pick-up-time-for-return-bus-from-salesforce-transit-center-to-piedmont>