



City Clerk Department

April 20, 2021

Elsa Ortiz, President  
Board of Directors  
Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District  
1600 Franklin Street, 10th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

*Received 4/29/21  
cc: Board  
Planning  
GMC*

**RE: Restoration of the 80-Ashby/Sixth Street Bus Line**

At its meeting of April 20, 2021, the Berkeley City Council voted to send the following letter in support of restoring this bus line.

*Dear President Ortiz, Vice-President Young, and Directors,*

*The Berkeley City Council urges that the 80-Ashby/Sixth Street AC Transit bus line be restored to its pre-pandemic level of service. This bus line, which serves much of Berkeley, Albany, and El Cerrito, is a critical community transportation service that allows residents to travel car-free through a long stretch of the East Bay which is not accessible on BART and provides a unique route compared with other AC Transit lines.*

*The full termination of the 80 line, as is currently under consideration, would represent a resounding defeat for Berkeley and the broader Bay Area's pursuit of more widely accessible public transportation and a car-free transportation sector. While we understand that the decline in ridership during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order has taken a serious toll on AC Transit's revenue, the steady shift out of the pandemic that we are seeing as vaccinations become more widespread should result in the return of riders within months.*

*As a connecting line between the Ashby BART station, Alta Bates Medical Center, the South Berkeley Senior Center, and the Berkeley Pines Care Center, the loss of the 80 line would permanently deprive many Berkeley seniors of a method of transportation that they have relied on in the past. Those left with no transportation alternatives will likely turn to car travel, be it with personal automobiles or through ride-hailing mobile apps, which will only increase local fossil fuel emissions and air pollution while decreasing street safety. Our community's senior accessibility needs, climate change mandate to lower emissions, and desire to make our streets safer for pedestrians and cyclists, all necessitate the restoration of the 80 line as soon as possible. All of our bus lines*

*are precious and important, but in the face of financial cuts, the 80 line must not be on the chopping block.*

*Sincerely,*

*Berkeley City Council*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Numainville', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mark Numainville  
City Clerk

Cc: Joel B. Young, Vice-President  
Mark Williams, Director  
Diane Shaw, Director  
H.E. Christian Peeples, Director  
Jovanka Beckles, Director  
Jean Walsh, Director  
Terry Taplin, Councilmember, District 2  
Ben Bartlett, Councilmember, District 3  
Kate Harrison, Councilmember, District 4  
Lori Droste, Councilmember, District 8  
Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager