



ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES

East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee

Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 2:00 PM
<https://bit.ly/3d5xASw>

**AC Transit: President Elsa Ortiz, Director Jean Walsh,
Director H. E. Christian Peeples**

City of Oakland: Council Member Rebecca Kaplan, Council Member Noel Gallo

City of San Leandro: Mayor Pauline Cutter, Council Member Deborah Cox

Alameda County: Supervisor Nate Miley

Metropolitan Transportation Commission/Caltrans: Dina El-Tawansy

1. CALL TO ORDER

The East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee met on Thursday, February 11, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. with Committee Chair Ortiz presiding. AC Transit Board Director H. E. Christian Peeples was present as the alternate for Director Joel Young.

2. ROLL CALL

Present Chair Elsa Ortiz, Director H. E. Christian Peeples, Director Jean Walsh, Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan, Councilmember Noel Gallo, Mayor Pauline Cutter, Councilmember Deborah Cox, Committee Member Dina El-Tawansy

Absent Supervisor Nate Miley

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (For items not on the agenda. Three minutes per speaker.)

There were no public comments offered.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

Committee Chair Ortiz introduced AC Transit Board Director Jean Walsh a new member of the Committee. Chair Ortiz also congratulated members of the Committee, agency partners and staff on the completion of the project.

5. REGULAR UPDATES

5.A. BRT Project Updates:

[21-078](#)

- 1) Project Delivery & Close-Out
- 2) Operational Performance/Ridership
- 3) Security - Fare Enforcement
- 4) Bus Only Lane Enforcement
- 5) Customer Service
- 6) Station Cleanliness and Graffiti
- 7) Tempo Launch Marketing, Communication & Outreach
- 8) Contract Compliance Update

Director of Bus Rapid Transit David Wilkins gave an update on project delivery and closeout activities as well as a broad overview of the various roadway, hardscape, landscape, bike/pedestrian, facilities and operational improvements throughout the corridor. He further gave an overview of the operational and maintenance responsibilities of the cities and AC Transit and discussed the nuances of the District's Camera Use Policy.

Operational Performance/Ridership

Director of Transportation Derik Calhoun gave the presentation, including the line management strategy, duties of the platform agents, and on-time performance.

Security - Fare Enforcement

Protective Services Manager Kerry Jackson gave the update, advising that the District

wanted to pursue fare evasion from a customer service perspective rather than a citation process. He also discussed bus only lane enforcement and training on the forward-facing cameras for operators and Sheriff's deputies, adding that the District had forwarded a report to the legislature concerning the District's use of the cameras.

Director of Maintenance Cecil Blandon reported on station cleanliness and graffiti abatement as well as work with the City of Oakland to help keep the station platforms clean.

Customer Service/Tempo Launch Marketing, Communications and Outreach

Acting Director of Marketing and Communications Nichele Laynes gave the presentation, reporting on customer complaints and the integrated marketing campaign for the launch of the service.

External Affairs Representative Stephen Jones reported on communications and outreach.

Contract Compliance Update

Contracts Compliance Administrator Phillip Halley provided an update on project labor goals and achievements, saying that the numbers had remained steady despite nearing project closeout.

San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter commented on the success of the project and its value to the community. Concerns were raised about the artwork and the punch list items, saying that there was puddling near some street corners and the artwork installed near city hall was actually upside down. Mr. Wilkins advised that staff would look into it saying that pictures of the curb ramps were provided to the city after a heavy rain that showed no puddling. In addition, staff believed there was one light standard that needed to be lowered, but a new inspector had been hired by the city and need to sign off on it. Mayor Cutter insisted that staff work with the city to resolve the puddling issue and wanted a walk through. General Manager Hursh advised that AC Transit will ensure problems are resolved.

San Leandro City Councilmember Deborah Cox commented on the panel that was upside down and requested staff look into it. She further announced that there was a new executive director of the community benefit district who reported that there was a lot of spray painting on sidewalks near the project and was addressing the issue with other utilities as well.

Councilmember Kaplan thanked everyone for their efforts to deliver a successful project and asked what the status of fixing the fiberoptic cable was. Mr. Wilkins advised that it had been repaired.

Councilmember Kaplan asked about outreach to encourage transit ridership to seniors

(via a discounted pass) and to employers through the EasyPass program. Airflow on the bus was also an issue that needed to be communicated with riders as it was a concern for riders. Mr. Hursh advised that the District utilizes hatch ventilation on the buses, which increases airflow and is safer for the public and bus operators.

Councilmember Gallo thanked staff for their tremendous work on the project that would have never been accomplished without AC Transit and also asked about enforcement of the bus only lane. Mr. Hursh advised that staff is still collecting data and it would take a couple more months before staff would have anything to report on. He further thanked Councilmember Gallo for his support of the project and help to coordinate efforts between the city and AC Transit.

Director Peeples reported that the first grant to study this project was in 1992.

President Ortiz extended her appreciation to the members of the PSC for their hard work and dedication to delivering Bus Rapid Transit Project to the East Bay.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 6.A.** Consider approving East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee minutes of February 20, 2020. [21-079](#)

MOTION: PEEPLES/KAPLAN to approve East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee minutes of February 20, 2020. The motion failed by the following vote:

Ayes: Chair Ortiz, Director Peeples, Director Walsh, Councilmember Kaplan, Councilmember Gallo, Mayor Cutter, Councilmember Cox, Committee Member El-Tawansy

Absent: Supervisor Miley

- 6.B.** Consider approving East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee minutes of June 26, 2020. [21-080](#)

MOTION: PEEPLES/KAPLAN to approve East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering Committee minutes of June 26, 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Chair Ortiz, Director Peeples, Director Walsh, Councilmember Kaplan, Councilmember Gallo, Mayor Cutter, Councilmember Cox, Committee Member El-Tawansy

Absent: Supervisor Miley

7. SELECTION OF DATE & TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Staff will reach out to the Committee at a later date to schedule a meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the East Bay Bus Rapid Transit Policy Steering

Committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Linda A. Nemeroff
District Secretary