

ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES

Board of Directors - Regular Meeting VIRTUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 5:00 PM https://bit.ly/3eL1WJj

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELSA ORTIZ, PRESIDENT (WARD 3) JOEL YOUNG, VICE PRESIDENT (AT-LARGE) JOVANKA BECKLES (WARD 1) JEAN WALSH (WARD 2) MARK WILLIAMS (WARD 2) DIANE SHAW (WARD 5) H. E. CHRISTIAN PEEPLES (AT-LARGE)

BOARD OFFICERS MICHAEL A. HURSH, GENERAL MANAGER JILL A. SPRAGUE, GENERAL COUNSEL LINDA A. NEMEROFF, DISTRICT SECRETARY

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District Board of Directors held a regular virtual meeting on Wednesday, April 28, 2021.

Members of the Board participated via video conference from off-site locations in accordance with the statewide shelter in place order issued on March 16, 2020.

President Ortiz called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

[Three written comments were received prior to the meeting and are attached hereto as Exhibit A].

Patrick, Trestle Glen neighborhood, commented that the Board should prioritize the return of the Line B service. Patrick cited many reasons why returning this bus to service was needed. Patrick stated that without Line B, commuters may be forced to purchase cars for their Transbay commute and stop using the bus altogether.

Troy McGill, Division 4 Shop Steward, commented on a rise in bus operator assaults and requested that the Board and management provide a report on the steps the District is taking to provide security for bus operators.

4. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no modifications to the Agenda.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: WILLIAMS/SHAW to receive, approve or adopt items on the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

5.A. Consider approving Board of Directors minutes of April 14, 2021. 21-242

MOTION: WILLIAMS/SHAW to approve the Board of Directors minutes of April 14, 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

5.B. Consider receiving the bi-monthly budget update for the period of July through February of FY 2020-21.

MOTION: WILLIAMS/SHAW to receive the bi-monthly budget update for the period of July through February of FY 2020-21. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

5.C.	Consider 2021.	Receiving the Monthly Report on Investments for February	<u>21-219</u>
	MOTION: WILLIAMS/SHAW to receive the Monthly Report on Investments for February 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:		
	Ayes:	Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples	
5.D.	Consider authorizing the General Manager, or his designee, to file and execute applications and funding agreements with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for the FY 2021 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) to enhance cybersecurity throughout the District and for the construction of two guard shacks and gates at Division 4 (D4) in Oakland.		
	MOTION: WILLIAMS/SHAW to authorize the General Manager, or his designee, to fil and execute applications and funding agreements with the Department of Homelan Security (DHS) for the FY 2021 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) to enhance cybersecurity throughout the District and for the construction of two guard shacks a gates at Division 4 (D4) in Oakland. The motion carried by the following vote:		
	Ayes:	Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples	
5.E.	Consider authorizing a one-year extension of the contract with Eric17-192bRyan Corporation (ERC) for utility auditing consulting services throughApril 8, 2022.		
	MOTION: WILLIAMS/SHAW to authorize a one-year extension of the contract with Eric Ryan Corporation (ERC) for utility auditing consulting services through April 8, 2022. The motion carried by the following vote:		
	Ayes:	Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples	
5.F.	Manager	adoption of Resolution No. 21-014 authorizing the General to transfer ownership of one surplus transit bus to the tation Learning Center.	<u>21-190</u>
	MOTION: WILLIAMS/SHAW to adopt Resolution No. 21-014 authorizing the General Manager to transfer ownership of one surplus transit bus to the Transportation Learning Center. The motion carried by the following vote:		
	Ayes:	Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples	
5.G.	Consider authorizing a one-year single source contract with Service16-057cWear Apparel for operator and supervisor uniforms with a contractterm beginning November 1, 2021 through October 31, 2022.		
	MOTION: WILLIAMS/SHAW to authorize a one-year single source contract with Service Wear Apparel for operator and supervisor uniforms with a contract term beginning November 1, 2021 through October 31, 2022. The motion carried by the following vote:		

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

6. **REGULAR CALENDAR**

Finance and Audit Items - Chair Shaw

6.A. Consider receiving a report on the Draft FY 2021-22 Operating and 21-140a Capital Budgets, including an overview of the major assumptions and drivers to the operating revenues and operating expenses.

Chief Financial Officer Chris Andrichak presented the staff report, which included an overview of revenues and expenses leading to a balanced budget. He added that the budget includes the planned July 1st fare increase and does not include any American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds as the District does not yet know how much will be allocated by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). A brief overview of the capital budget was also provided.

Public Comment:

Monica Mallon noted that the District should work with the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) to utilize its ideas for bus operator training and help in crafting the future operating budget that will help return service to pre-pandemic levels.

Other speakers on this matter expressed the following: (1) the need for the District to call on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to release to AC Transit's share of federal funding provided in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP); (2) the need for the District include the ARP funds (or estimate) in the 2021-2022 Operating and Capital Budget; and (3) the need for the District to use ARP funds towards actions that will aid in the return of bus service to pre-pandemic levels in a manner that minimizes bus rider pass-ups.

Speakers who shared all or several of these concerns were:

Mary Lim-Lampe, Executive Director of Genesis, requested that staff provide an alternative budget that shows how they could expedite bus operator training and service restoration. Lim-Lampe expressed concerns about the planned bus fare increase and asked the Board to find an alternative solution to fare increases.

Nicole McCallum, Sunrise, also noted that the District must be prepared as businesses re-open and large companies bring workers back to their offices following the reduction of Covid-19 restrictions. McCallum noted that public agency reporting showed steps taken to restore pre-pandemic transit services in their communities.

Nathan, People's Transit Alliance of the East Bay Democratic Socialist of America (PTA-EBDSA), expressed opinions and concerns about management's reporting of ridership levels and worried that management's ridership predictions serve as potential 'self-fulfilling prophecies' where management budgeting for negatively-skewed expectations actually leads to diminished ridership.

Joty Dhaliwal, PTA-EBDSA, called on the Board to use ARP funds towards hiring for union jobs.

Annie Lloyd, PTA-EBDSA, expressed criticism of management's reasons for limited bus operator training and noted that the District can utilize the assistance from the unions

to address the training issues.

Andrea Lowe, PTA-EBDSA, noted that quickly restoring service promotes positive behavioral changes for riders by reflecting a reliable public transit service. Lowe noted that the time is right for promoting normalcy of service because of the optimistic predictions that Covid-19 restrictions are reducing.

Richard Marcantonio, Public Advocates, recounted that the Board created a "Green Book" published around 2002 that addressed how the District would plan operations when underfunded by the MTC. Marcantonio commented that the Board should act boldly and prepare a budget that includes ARP funding and shows how this money will be spent. Marcantonio requested the elimination of the planned fare increase.

Katherine Scott-Smith, PTA-EBDSA, expressed concerns about the lack of urgency regarding the efforts to return to full service in the draft FY 2021-2022 budget.

Board Discussion:

Director Beckles shared that she was concerned about the future of the agency given some of the issues raised by the public and the staff presentation. Director Beckles asked what the barriers were to hiring more operators and whether it was possible to have trainers work overtime and what discussions had occurred with the union. Chief Operating Officer Salvador Llamas advised that staff met with ATU leadership to discuss what options might be available to expedite the hiring of more bus operators and to streamline the new operator certification process. Staff was exploring all possibilities. General Manager Michael Hursh added that the barriers were behind the wheel time on the bus and the availability of instructors. In addition, there were limitations on overtime as there were a maximum number of hours in a day that operators can drive. Another challenge was that all Bay Area transit agencies were hiring operators. Director Beckles commented on the ARP money and MTC's position that the money should be saved for the future. She felt that this was a decision the Board should have more say in and asked if the next presentation could include an alternative proposal to address where the ARP funds can be spent. Mr. Hursh advised that there will be a first tranche of funding on July 28th and a second that would be available later.

Director Beckles was very concerned about the planned fare increase and asked if some of the surplus funds could be used to stave off a fare increase.

Director Williams inquired about the addition of extra janitorial positions and fuel island workers. He also asked if there were any built-in assumptions related to putting a measure on the ballot. Mr. Hursh advised that positions were approved to be filled; however, the hiring market was competitive and would make recruiting difficult. He added that while federal aid was coming, the District was not out of the woods financially. The staff did not disclose any plans for a ballot measure.

Director Williams asked about healthcare costs and SalesForce Transit Center operating costs. Mr. Andrichak advised that the Transbay Joint Powers Authority would receive bailout money, which would likely reduce (minimally) the District's contribution. Heath care costs did increase, but Mr. Andrichak was not prepared to offer specific details.

Director Williams also asked about quick build projects and opportunities to fulfil some of the District's capital needs. Mr. Andrichak advised that staff was in the process of updating the Capital Improvement Plan and would bring it to the Board soon.

Director Walsh thanked staff for the report, noting that the fare increase needed to be clearly spelled out in the written report as it was an important issue to riders. The issue of physical distancing in training new operators was also raised and she hoped it was something staff could creatively solve. She further commented that she hoped the next budget could help expedite quick build transit priority projects and expressed an interest in how the District planned to spend the ARP funds.

Director Shaw reiterated the issue of the fare increase and wanted to discuss deferring it. She also wanted to address future infrastructure needs. With regard to training, the CDC guidelines changed for students and Director Shaw wanted to understand why that had not changed for AC Transit. Mr. Llamas advised that the CalOSHA guidelines apply to the District which require a six-foot social distance in the work environment. He added that getting more training space was one thing, but what makes it more complex is the number of trainers. The Department of Justice and Department of Motor Vehicles add to delays. Director Shaw hoped that the Transportation Network Company (TNC) fees could be used to offset an increase in paratransit cost. Mr. Andrichak advised that the TNC fees were not a large pot of money and would take time to distribute.

President Ortiz asked about a paratransit expenditure for moving cost and asked staff to explain. General Counsel Jill Sprague advised that the District is currently in negotiations with the building owner.

Director Peeples commented that local TNC fees are determined by local city councils and the District should make a pitch to use these fees for local bus and paratransit service. President Ortiz advised that AC Transit should also involve BART (paratransit).

Director Beckles made a motion to receive the report but also include in the budget proposal an estimate of the budget with the ARP funds and options to focus spending on to increase hiring to expand services sooner than 2021. The motion was seconded by Director Peeples.

President Ortiz asked how we determine an estimate of the ARP money given that AC Transit will not receive as much money as larger transit agencies. Director Beckles guessed that MTC may have provided an estimate to all General Managers and suggested that staff could forecast the amount like they do with other funding sources as part of the budget.

Director Shaw shared the concern that any guestimate of the funds might impact what AC Transit might receive.

Mr. Hursh confirmed that no discussions had taken place as to an initial estimate of the funds and he had no idea how much money would go to each agency. He added that there are fears that this will be the only aid available in the foreseeable future and that a workshop was being proposed to develop principles by which the funding would be distributed. He added that there were agencies that were facing dire consequences that were heavily dependent on farebox and are looking at potential layoffs. Noting the importance of equity, he believed that current and future riders should not have to suffer because AC Transit has made prudent financial decisions. Mr. Hursh stated that staff could provide a high-level list of potential ranges of what was possible to increase service and take care of employees.

President Ortiz raised a concern about making service decisions based on funding estimates, asking what would happen if actual funding fell short of the estimate. Director Beckles clarified that the budget proposal include estimates on what the District can do with ARP funds.

Director Peeples mentioned the "Green Book" the District developed many years ago with a list of priorities that the District could accomplish at various funding levels.

Director Beckles reiterated her motion to receive the report as presented, but to also include in the budget that will come back to the Board a proposal with an estimate of the ARP funds, which includes, options to focus spending on increasing hiring to expand services sooner than 2021. Mr. Hursh advised that he would work with staff to prioritize the list, subject to further discussion by the Board.

While casting his vote, Vice President Young stated that he hoped staff could develop an estimate in a way that does not undermine the District's bargaining position with MTC. He added that staff needed to bring a little more reality to the table and be firm and realistic with the Board and the public about what is being proposed. He also wanted staff to be specific about where cuts in the budget would occur should the Board decide to defer a fare increase. President Ortiz agreed with Vice President Young's comments.

MOTION: BECKLES/PEEPLES to receive the report as presented, but to also include in the budget that will come back to the Board a proposal with an estimate of the ARP funds, which includes options to focus our spending on to increase hiring to expand services sooner than 2021.

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

6.B. Consider receiving an updated report on the possible effects of "free" <u>20-134a</u> fares on AC Transit and a review of how it is implemented at other agencies.

Chief Financial Officer Chris Andrichak presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

Joty Dhaliwal, PTA-EBDSA, noted that LA Metro created a program called "People Assisting the Houseless (PATH)" to address the problem of unhoused people on public transit. Dhaliwal added that 24 people were hired to help unhoused people find assistance at a comparable cost to three police officers and suggested that this type of servicing is an excellent reimagining of public safety.

Board Discussion:

Director Williams asked what the removal of fareboxes would mean to IBEW workers and whether it was possible to place a wealth tax on the ballot. General Manager Michael Hursh advised that his position was to not lay people off, but to retrain them for other jobs. He added that fare collection is very complex and any notion of eliminating fareboxes was well into the future and would require discussions with the union after assessing the impacts across the agency. General Counsel Jill Sprague commented that staff was looking at the various legal frameworks to generate taxes and the District's authority, noting that Transit District Law did not provide for a wealth tax and the matter was under review.

Director Peeples believed that Transit District Law allowed the District to impose any tax it wanted, but Proposition 13 and other propositions imposed constitutional limitations. In addition, Director Peeples reported that during American Public Transportation Association meetings, Monterey-Salinas Transit conveyed a dramatic increase in operator assaults during the (Covid) free fare period and it was their ATU workers that insisted on resuming fares to solve the problem. He also shared that AC Transit ATU workers shared similar concerns with the Board.

Director Beckles felt it was possible to address both the homeless population on buses and have free fares. She asked what it would cost to address the issue of the homeless riding the buses as a form of shelter. Mr. Andrichak explained that staff had not considered the cost of a proposal to address homelessness. Director Beckles agreed that it was a big problem but felt there needed to be a regional approach to address it.

Vice President Young believed that all of the Board members supported free fares in some form or fashion, but there needed to be a common reality in what the District can do in terms of free fares and service, given that fares represent \$68 million in revenue to the District. He added that the proponents of free fares needed to find a funding source to pay for it long-term in order for it to come to fruition. Vice President Young further commented on the cost to mount a successful campaign for a tax measure of any kind, saying that it is incredibly difficult to raise money to fund a campaign.

Director Beckles clarified that it was not about pulling money out of the air insomuch as it was about working on ways to make it happen, which included support at the federal level and taxing the wealthy.

Director Beckles also requested clarification of the amount of fare revenue the District receives, saying that when she came on the Board, she was told by several staff that

fare revenue was only \$26 million pre-Covid, not the \$60 million presented in the report. Mr. Hursh advised that pre-Covid fares were \$68 million with EasyPass and contractual services factored in. He added that staff expects ridership to continue to grow in the future, so staff wanted to present the full number. He assured Director Beckles that fares were upwards of \$68 million, not \$26 million. President Ortiz shared that she thought the District was losing \$5 million a month in fares due to the pandemic.

MOTION: ORTIZ/WILLIAMS to receive an updated report on the possible effects of "free" fares on AC Transit and a review of how it is implemented at other agencies. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

Planning Items - Chair Peeples

6.C. Consider receiving a report on the District's pass-up prevention efforts during the pandemic and service recovery analysis. [Requested by Director Beckles - 1/13/21 and Director Peeples - 4/14/21]

[A PowerPoint presentation was presented at the meeting and is incorporated into the file by reference.]

Service Planning Manager Michael Eshleman presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

Nicole McCallum, Sunrise, commented that the District needs to use the federal stimulus money to drastically increase the hiring and training of more operators. McCallum asked for more reporting of the status and the number of trainers being used. McCallum cited public agency reporting on public transit planning challenges faced by public agencies.

Katherine Scott-Smith, PTA-EBDSA, commented that social distancing on buses caused by the pandemic is not the only issue related to bus pass-ups. Scott-Smith noted that increasing bus service by hiring more bus drivers through incentives, such as hiring bonuses, and reaching out to the bus operators union for hiring ideas, can help the District overcome its competitive hiring challenges.

Nick Ratto, Peoples' Transit Alliance, noted that transit service needs to meet the ridership demands as more bus riders return following the easing of pandemic restrictions. Ratto expressed the importance of eliminating the pass-up problem and the District must increase its bus service to achieve this goal.

Board Discussion:

Director Shaw asked about three-foot distancing and whether it would address a significant number of pass-ups. Mr. Eshleman advised that reducing social distance to three-feet would double capacity and reduce the number of pass-ups significantly. Director Shaw also asked if there had been any discussions with the union about part-time operators or the use of retired operators on a short-term basis. Chief

21-172

Operating Officer Salvador Llamas advised that in staff's meeting with the union, the issue of using retired bus operators was discussed and staff expressed to ATU an openness to any innovative ways that would expedite the hiring of new operators.

Director Beckles was very concerned about pass-ups and felt that staff's estimate to provide full service was over inflated and would be unnecessary once social distancing requirements were alleviated. Director Beckles asked if there were other options available to help eliminate pass-ups sooner rather than later, including whether operators are interested in overtime to help with the problem. General Manager Michael Hursh reported that the rough estimate on what it would take to provide an equivalent level of service was requested by a Board member. He added that he would like to bring back retirees for a limited period of time to immediately address the operator shortage. He further elaborated on the qualifications and certifications necessary to become a training instructor.

Director Beckles asked if more service could be provided on bus lines that were most impacted by pass-ups. Mr. Eshleman advised that some of the lines were constricted by the size of the bus and that all of the heavily used lines were brought back up to full weekday service last August. He added that the plan is to be able to ramp service up with each sign-up.

Director Walsh commented on the issue of pass-ups and the amount of inconvenience this condition has imposed on riders, adding that she is excited to get back to three-foot social distance in June. Director Walsh noted that sometimes the bus head sign says "drop-off only" when there are only a few people on the bus and wondered if anyone followed up with operators to make sure they turned off the head sign when they have seating capacity to board more passengers. Mr. Llamas advised that this was something that should not be happening. He explained the process and said that he would follow-up with staff on this issue.

Director Peeples asked why articulated buses could not be used on the 51A and the (Line) 72s. Mr. Eshleman advised that some stops can accommodate them and some cannot. Staff is also looking at opportunities to assign double-decker buses.

MOTION: SHAW/ORTIZ to receive a report on the District's pass-up prevention efforts during the pandemic and service recovery analysis. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

Operations Items - Chair Beckles

6.D. Consider receiving a report on the District's responsiveness to customers regarding their feedback tickets. [Requested by Director Shaw - 1/27/2021]

Customer Services Manager Margaret Tseng presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment offered.

Board Discussion:

President Ortiz was concerned that riders who log complaints or feedback are not receiving acknowledgment from customer service. President Ortiz detailed the distinction between an acknowledgment and a response, and asked staff to clarify whether they provided acknowledgments to all complaints. Ms. Tseng advised that the customer service staff has an automated process that sends out an immediate acknowledgment to electronic complaints. She added that postcards with acknowledgment are mailed to senders who mailed their complaints. General Manager Hursh further clarified that an automated response is sent out thanking the customer for providing feedback and advising them how to track their complaint.

Director Shaw appreciated the work that the Customer Service Department was doing and asked what staff's goal was in terms of the number of resolved tickets, what types of complaints or feedback are received, and whether it was possible to track the frequent issues or frequent complainants. Ms. Tseng advised that the customer service policy had been updated in the past year and since then, her staff has established baseline responsiveness at 85%. She further advised that training will be provided to all departments involved with responding to customers' feedback with the goal of reaching the standard of 100% responsiveness. She added that she would report on the progress in three to six months. General Manager Hursh suggested that the customer service report with details about complaints be provided to the Board with the Quarterly Operations Performance Report.

Director Walsh concurred with a suggestion to report on customer complaints data quarterly. Director Walsh also commented on the feature on AC Transit's official app to collect complaints, compliments and lost-and-found entries, which she believed was limited and asked staff to allow the riders to provide other types of feedback. Acting Director of Marketing and Communications Nichele Laynes advised that staff is looking into expanding the capability of the customer relations software to include and offer different channels of communication with the customers and collect various types of feedback.

Director Walsh further mentioned another transit agency that responds promptly to social media complaints in real-time and asked how staff responds to social media complaints; and how they respond to email complaints that do not directly ask for a response. Ms. Tseng explained that until a recent software update, the social media complaints were logged manually into the customer relations program by staff and were not tagged as social media complaints. With the latest system update, the team has an option to log the social media complaints directly. To the question about responding to feedback received via email, Ms. Tseng explained that staff would send an acknowledgment; however, any questions would warrant a follow-up response from

staff.

MOTION: YOUNG/ORTIZ to receive a report on the District's responsiveness to customers regarding their feedback tickets and to direct General Manager to provide the customer service data in a quarterly report. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

External Affairs Items - Chair Williams

6.E. Consider receiving the Monthly Legislative Report and approval of <u>21-194</u> legislative positions.

Director of Legislative Affairs and Community Relations Claudia Burgos presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments offered.

Board Discussion:

Staff briefly addressed the Board Directors' questions about pending legislation and will provide detailed updates and recommendations in May.

MOTION: PEEPLES/SHAW to receive the Monthly Legislative Report and approve legislative positions as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ortiz, Young, Walsh, Beckles, Williams, Shaw, Peeples

7. CLOSED SESSION/REPORT OUT

Closed Session was cancelled.

7.A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation (Two Cases)

(Government Code Section 54956.9(b))

7.B. Conference with Labor Negotiators

(Government Code Section 54957.6):

Agency Designated Representative:

- General Manager Michael Hursh;

Acting Executive Director of Human Resources Nathaniel Kramer;
Employee Organizations: ATU Local 192, AFSCME Local 3916, IBEW Local 1245,
Unrepresented Employees

7.C. Public Employee Performance Evaluation

(Government Code Section 54957) Title: General Manager, General Counsel, District Secretary

21-018g

8. AGENDA PLANNING

8.A. Review of the Agenda Planning Pending List.

Director Peeples requested a report with clarification and details about contract terms with Clear Channel that would further specify enforcement of the shelter maintenance provisions. Director Peeples and Director Shaw asked that the report present possible alternatives for shelter maintenance, other than Clear Channel. (Director Shaw concurred)

In relation to staff report 20-134a Free Fares, Director Beckles requested a report with a plan to address the unhoused residents on busses if a fare-free system is implemented and the cost of that scenario. (Director Williams concurred with the condition that staff determine the timeline of the report)

Director Williams requested a report on establishing a participation goal for local minority-woman-owned businesses for contracts that are not federally funded. (Director Beckles concurred)

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

9.A. General Manager's Report for April 28, 2021.

<u>21-020g</u>

10. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS

(Government Code Section 54954.2)

Members of the Board commented on meetings and events attended since the last Board meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. in memory of transportation scholar Martin Wachs. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for May 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Linda A. Nemeroff District Secretary

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comments

- Kuan Butts: Would like to communicate a desire to get TransBay service ramped up as individual return to work and to better support residents who've been commuting across the Bay throughout the whole pandemic as essential workers. TransBay service on some lines is virtually non-existent. For example, P only runs 2x at night and none in the morning. More service is needed to make this line reliable/a viable commute option. Also: traffic is really bad on the Bay Bridge, has negative effects on an already precarious TransBay bus service. Reiterating desire for a bus-only lane to afford the TransBay bus lines the service reliability they need as commuting surges back. (Please!)
- Guest User: Hi AC Transit Board, I am a resident of Oakland, and before the pandemic I relied upon the B line to commute to work. I have been patient in waiting for the line to return, however I have not received any communication about when it will return to service. Meanwhile, other transit agencies are returning their lines to service. Can you please tell us when the B line will return to service? Thank you. Kathy H.
- Guest User: Hello ACT Board Members. My name is Patrick and I would like an update on when the Transbay B line will be unsuspended. I moved to my current neighborhood because I knew the B line would serve the neighborhood, as it has for decades, back to when we had electric street cars (RIP). Now that the majority of our population is vaccinated as we anticipated, and that many people have been commuting to work for the entirety of the pandemic, and many are returning to work now, we need the B line to return to service. Can you please provide an update on the B line, so we can start planning our commutes again without having to rely on private automobiles? Thank you. Patrick