



ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT

MINUTES

Board of Directors - Regular Meeting

VIRTUAL MEETING

Zoom link <https://actransit.zoom.us/j/98487175063>

Phone (669) 900 6833

Webinar ID: 984 8717 5063

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 5:00 PM

<https://bit.ly/3l2qqAA>

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 4)

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 meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of Closed Session. All Board members were present, except Directors Williams and Beckles who arrived at 4:33 p.m. The Board convened in Closed Session to discuss Items 7A-7D as listed on the agenda. Closed Session concluded at 4:56 p.m.

President Ortiz called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Director Peeples arrived to the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

[Written comment received prior to the meeting is attached hereto as Exhibit A.]

Several public speakers addressed the matter of management discussion with ATU Local 192 regarding the implementation of Hazard Pay. Several speakers told stories and expressed reasons to encourage management and labor unions to come together to authorize Hazard Pay. Speakers included:

Sultana Adams, Assistant Shop Steward, D3 Bus Operator

Carter, Local Bus Passenger

Connie Mcfarland, Bus Operator

Anne Marie Ruiz, ATU 265 Member

Rachel Garcia-Feezel, ATU 265 Member

ERIC CHAVEZ, ATU 265 Member

Katy Scott-Smith, Peoples Transit Alliance of the East Bay Democratic Socialist of America (PTA-EBDSA)

Brandi Donaldson, D3 Bus Operator

Dwayne Cook, D3 Bus Operator

Jennifer Purganon, D3 Bus Operator, Member-Driver's Committee

Several public speakers expressed concerns and gave comments about local bus service being insufficient to provide schoolchildren on-time transit to school. Public Speakers requested more Board discussion and action to improve school bus service frequency and on-time performance. Public Speakers included:

Clair Taylor, Parent

Kate Chynoweth, Parent

Carol Herpin, Parent

Christine Kohlmeyer, Parent

Patrick Traughber requested the Board have further discussion on the future of Transbay - Bay Bridge bus lanes. Traughber shared personal observations explaining how it is presently cheaper and faster to drive versus riding the bus when crossing the Bay Bridge and expressed hope that this dynamic would change to the public transit rider's benefit.

4. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no modifications to the agenda.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (AND CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT ITEMS)

MOTION: WILLIAMS/WALSH to receive, approve or adopt the items on the Consent Calendar as indicated with the exception of Item 5.G. (Strategic Plan) which was pulled off the Consent Calendar for questions. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 5.A.** Consider approving Board of Directors meeting minutes of August 11, 2021. [21-406](#)

MOTION: WILLIAMS/WALSH to approve the Board of Directors meeting minutes of August 11, 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 5.B.** Consider approving the Joint Board of Directors/Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes of July 28, 2021. [21-405](#)

MOTION: WILLIAMS/WALSH to approve the Joint Board of Directors/Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes of July 28, 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 5.C.** Consider receiving Retirement Board minutes of July 15, 2021. [21-399](#)

MOTION: WILLIAMS/WALSH to receive the Retirement Board minutes of July 15, 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 5.D.** Consider receiving report on the process to amend the District's Conflict of Interest Code and incorporate the final code approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) into Board Policy 701, effective September 12, 2021. [20-324a](#)

MOTION: WILLIAMS/WALSH to receive a report on the process to amend the District's Conflict of Interest Code and incorporate the final code approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) into Board Policy 701, effective September 12, 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 5.E.** Consider authorizing the release of a solicitation for a qualified vendor to provide high quality professional uniform rental and laundry cleaning services for AC Transit maintenance, materials, and print shop employees. [21-397](#)

MOTION: WILLIAMS/WALSH to authorize the release of a solicitation for a qualified vendor to provide high quality professional uniform rental and laundry cleaning services for AC Transit maintenance, materials, and print shop employees. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 5.F.** Consider the adoption of Resolution No. 21-032 in support of Oakland Pride 2021. [Requested by Director Beckles - 8/11/21] [21-401](#)

MOTION: WILLIAMS/WALSH to adopt Resolution No. 21-032 in support of Oakland Pride 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 5.G.** Consider receiving an update on the Strategic Plan Progress. [21-394](#)

Item 5.G. was pulled off the Consent Calendar by Director Walsh.

Public Comment:

No public comment was offered.

Board Discussion:

Director of Project Controls and Systems Analysis William Tonis presented the staff report and advised that a fuller discussion of amendments to the Strategic Plan would occur at the Board Retreat on September 29, 2021. He added that a full revision of the Plan was scheduled to occur in 2024.

Director Walsh asked how often the Board receives updates on the progress of the Strategic Plan and inquired further about future amendments. Mr. Tonis advised that progress updates are provided to the Board biannually and that staff would be proposing some additional goals, new initiatives and other adjustments for consideration at the Board Retreat. With regard to the Sustainability, Readiness and Modernization initiative, Director Walsh inquired about the District's commitment to environmental sustainability. Mr. Tonis advised that staff was looking to restore the District's environmental sustainability program in the near future. Director Peeples added that the District used to publish periodic reports on the District's environmental sustainability efforts and hoped the District would revive the program.

MOTION: WILLIAMS/PEEPLS to receive an update on the Strategic Plan Progress. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

6. REGULAR CALENDAR

External Affairs Items - Chair Williams

- 6.A.** Consider receiving a report on the District's efforts to increase contracting participation among small, local, women and minority-owned businesses and adopting small business and local business contracting goals equal to the District's current Federal Administration triennial Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goal. [Requested by Director Williams - 4/28/2021] [21-396](#)

Contracts Compliance Program Manager Phillip Halley presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

There were no comments offered.

Board Discussion:

Director Shaw commented on lower participation levels by African-American and American Pacific Islander businesses and asked if staff would consider additional efforts to increase participation. Mr. Halley advised that the proposed goal would allow staff to revise the policy and set bid parameters accurately within the service area. He further explained that the rich diversity in Alameda County could aid in establishing localized bidding perimeters that could yield higher local business participation. Director Shaw further inquired about the possibility of setting goals for internal events that require small-scale services, not just federally funded projects. Mr. Halley deferred to the Board and General Manager on how to implement such a program.

Director Williams commented on the need to increase participation by African-American and Latino businesses. Mr. Halley emphasized the importance of outreach and explained that staff is collaborating with volunteer groups, including other transit agencies, and is reaching out to entities in the region through events and other communication channels.

President Ortiz asked that staff work in partnership with the Oakland Post Salon to promote outreach efforts.

MOTION: ORTIZ/SHAW to receive a report on the District's efforts to increase contracting participation among small, local, women and minority-owned businesses and adopt a small business and local business contracting goals equal to the District's current Federal Transit Administration triennial Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goal of 10%. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Operations Items - Chair Beckles

- 6.B.** Consider receiving FY21 Annual Report on the Activities of the External Affairs, Marketing & Communications Department. [21-380](#)

Executive Director of External Affairs, Marketing and Communications Beverly Greene

presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

There were no comments offered.

Board Discussion:

Board Directors Williams and Beckles thanked staff for their work in promoting AC Transit's projects and events.

MOTION: WILLIAMS/ORTIZ to receive the FY21 Annual Report on the Activities of the External Affairs, Marketing & Communications Department. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Planning Items - Chair Peeples

- 6.C. Consider receiving an update on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Mobility Hub Pilot Program and the Oakland Mobility Transportation Demand Management Program. [Requested by Director Shaw - 4/14/2021 and 5/12/2021] [21-382](#)

Director of Service Development and Planning Robert del Rosario presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

Katy Scott-Smith, PTA-EBDSA, expressed concern with some of the companies associated with the reported mobility programs and advocated for scrutiny when reviewing possible partnerships with private transportation companies. It was also suggested that bike storage/racks be made available to address the issue of first mile/last mile.

Adina Levin commented on the importance of selecting a mobility program that most benefits riders and that regional investment include provisions for the creation of union jobs. Levin also encouraged the Board to watch what the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is doing in terms of open payment with Clipper 2.

Board Discussion:

Director Williams asked how labor may be impacted, infrastructure costs and also expressed concern with the lack of hubs in Ward 4. Mr. del Rosario advised that MTC was still trying to gauge the impact of the pilot program on transit operators, cities and private transportation companies, adding that the dollars that are available were for infrastructure and not intended to subsidize private transit operators. Mr. del Rosario also expressed staff's surprise with the lack of pilot locations throughout the service area and in Central Alameda County and would lobby MTC to add more locations. Director Williams volunteered to work with staff to extend the pilot into Castro Valley and Hayward.

Director Shaw commented that she was disappointed that BART was not more supportive of mobility hubs but added that her biggest concern was AC Transit being ready and prepared when the opportunity presented itself in the future. She added that this issue was about making the rider experience better and easier and that cities needed to be the ones to drive the effort and that additional conversations needed to be had with BART. Director Shaw offered that South Alameda County is open to the idea.

Director Shaw commented on the Oakland project near the Tempo line and asked how AC Transit is partnering with the City of Oakland to provide data on how many AC Transit passes are purchased with the debit cards and how many rides occur as a result in order to determine the pilot's success. Mr. del Rosario believed that staff could obtain the data on the transit pass purchases and would coordinate with the City with respect to usage data. Director Shaw advised that she would like to see the City's metrics and believed it would help gauge the success of the pilot. Director Shaw also felt it made sense to construct a mobility hub in the Fruitvale area near the Tempo service.

Director Beckles commented that there are many scooter and bike share organizations near several AC Transit bus stops and wanted to know how mobility hubs are different. Mr. del Rosario advised that mobility hubs help to better organize mobility connections in terms of wayfinding, ticket purchases and how to get to other modes of transportation. He added that mobility hubs provide a much better approach to transit over the current circumstances. Director Beckles commented on the downside of public/private partnerships and asked what a partnership with a private transportation company might look like in the future and how can we ensure that we are entering into partnerships with companies that aren't going to go out of business. Mr. del Rosario responded that while staff has no intention of entering into any partnerships at this point, other transit agencies have done so to promote micro mobility or complementary services at a discount. He went on to say that first and last mile is an issue that could be addressed through these partnerships but noted that it was difficult to predict which companies would be bought out by larger companies in the marketplace.

Director Walsh encouraged the idea of mobility hubs and wanted the Board to have a larger discussion about it to see how the rider experience can be improved regardless of the labor issues, perceived competition, or dynamics of the micro mobility industry. She also expressed disappointment that AC Transit did not apply for any of the grants.

On the issue of public/private partnerships, President Ortiz asked if it was being suggested that AC Transit enter into contracts with private companies, expressing a concern with interaction of represented and non-represented employees in each agency. Mr. del Rosario explained that partnerships could come in the form of infrastructure or micro mobility for first and last mile trips. He added that it can also be in the form of discounts between transit modes.

MOTION: SHAW/WALSH to receive an update on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Mobility Hub Pilot Program and the Oakland Mobility Transportation Demand Management Program. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 6.D.** Consider approving staff's methodology and priorities for Transbay service recovery across the next year. [Requested by Director Walsh - 5/12/21 and 7/28/21, and by the Board of Directors - 7/28/21] [21-385](#)

[Written comment received prior to the meeting is incorporated into the file by reference.]

Director of Planning and Service Development Robert del Rosario presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

Adina Levin commented that the Transbay service in South Alameda County must be offered greater consideration against service rollbacks. Levin noted that Line M in particular may have reported lower ridership in the survey, but it is the only bus line servicing this essential bus route. Levin noted the availability of funding from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and suggested that San Mateo County's Measure W could support Transbay service.

Evan Adams commented that Line M provides needed service for those going to work in Foster City. Adams noted letters from Foster City groups to the Board express the need to restore and continue Line M to that area.

Jonathon Kass, Transportation Policy Manager for SPUR, commented on the evolving return-to-work situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its affects on Transbay service. Kass hoped that regular updated reporting could offer improvement to the reliability of Transbay service and would correspond with new ridership demands.

Katy Scott-Smith PTA-EBDSA, supported the current Transbay service review methodology and recommended no change to this current methodology.

Board Discussion:

Director Peeples asked what the data might suggest about when people will return to work and on which days of the week. Mr. del Rosario commented on data available through regional surveys and the possibility of partial and/or permanent work from home plans for large employers, noting that the current situation has made it difficult to plan service. Director Peeples suggested that staff also consider other destinations like hospitals and industries where work from home is not possible.

Vice President Young commented on the difficulty of trying to predict future Transbay service when travel patterns are so unpredictable. He added that it would be a critical issue going forward.

Director Walsh thanked staff for the report and their efforts to provide service. She further commented that she was surprised to learn that some lines were prioritized to spread service across multiple divisions to ensure that operators would have access to higher paying Transbay runs. Director Walsh questioned the use of this criteria to justify bringing some lines back instead of others rather than give fill consideration to the needs of riders.

Director Walsh also asked when staff would start using current data to plan service rather than pre-pandemic ridership data. Mr. del Rosario advised that staff is reviewing current ridership data and pointed out that pre-pandemic Transbay ridership was 15,500 riders a day versus 1,300 now. He believed that origin/destination data would have greater usefulness in uncovering trends in travel patterns. Director Walsh supported opportunities to attain current data, rather than use data from 2019.

Director Walsh was disappointed to learn that no additional operators would be available in December to provide service. Mr. del Rosario advised that there is new information on hiring since the staff report was written and there is some possibility of adding more local trips in December and perhaps some Transbay improvements as well.

MOTION: ORTIZ/WILLIAMS to approve staff's methodology and priorities for Transbay service recovery across the next year. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Finance and Audit Items - Chair Shaw

- 6.E.** Consider adoption of Resolution 21-035 amending the General Fund FY 2021-22 Operating Budget.

[21-140d](#)

Chief Financial Officer Chris Andrichak presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

John Minot, East Bay Transit Riders Union, commented on the amended General Fund operating budget recommendations. Minot expressed hope that the hiring and training of new bus operators would grow at a pace that helps the District return to 100% service capacity. Minot noted his view that the District faces a major deficit, which must be addressed.

Katy Scott-Smith, PTA-EBDSA, commented that restoring service is higher priority than paying down debt obligations. Scott-Smith added that the District should not focus on paying down debt but should improve service and spend money to market and expand service and solidify worker base.

Board Discussion:

President Ortiz commented on the chart in the report showing projected deficits in future years and asked what service level is contemplated in FY 22-23. Mr. Andrichak advised that the service level would be 90% in FY 21-22, 90% in FY 22-23, 95% in FY 23-24, and 100% in FY 24-25. In addition, President Ortiz asked how the remaining

funds from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) would be used. Mr. Andrichak advised that staff was proposing to use \$20 million of the \$66 million this fiscal year, with the remainder being applied to the next fiscal year. Any additional monies the District receives in the next round would be applied to deficits in future years.

President Ortiz asked about the cost to operate the Salesforce Transit Center. Mr. Andrichak advised that it was approximately \$4 million. General Manager Michael Hursh advised that there were actually two payments: the capital cost (long-term debt) and the annual operating cost. President Ortiz further pointed out that the funding received from MTC was one-time and it was unclear how future deficits would be resolved.

Director Peebles commented that service levels were actually planning levels and that operator unavailability was also a factor that impacted service. Mr. Andrichak advised that staff does take operator unavailability into account when planning service. Chief Operating Officer Salvador Llamas reported that the District is actually putting out more than 90% of service and that operators are being strategically hired in order to slowly ramp up service that is more reliable.

Director Peebles asked why human beings were needed to take temperatures at the divisions. Mr. Hursh advised that there was a lot more volume at the divisions than the General Office and checkers were needed to ensure everyone has their temperature taken for employee safety.

Director Peebles stated his preference that one-time monies be used to pay off debt sooner rather than later, citing the debt for Transbay terminal and Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Director Walsh felt that \$1 million was a lot of money to be set aside for temperature checkers, masks, and hygienic cleaning and suggested that staff look at ways to reduce these costs. She also asked if these costs would continue to be budgeted year after year. Mr. Llamas emphasized the health and safety of employees, adding that that these services pay for themselves. In addition, the law requires the District to provide Personal Protective Equipment for employees. In terms of cost, Mr. Hursh pointed out that the District has six locations that operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and temporary workers provide a great deal of flexibility. He added that the District has to be respectful of CalOSHA and the needs of employees and riders as the District is required to have masks and sanitizer on the bus for 80,000 riders a day.

Director Walsh commented that she was uneasy about adding new Ambassador positions for Bus Rapid Transit and was disappointed with the lack of additional positions dedicated to the EasyPass Program and management of quick build projects. Mr. Hursh commented that service on street was a priority and, due to financial constraints, some of the longer-term items would need to wait. He added that it was

difficult to improve service with ongoing Covid issues and associated mandated leaves for employees.

Vice President Young supported staff's recommendation and concurred with Director Peeples' idea to pay off some of the District's debt.

Director Williams echoed the comments offered by Vice President Young and the need to pay down debt and supported the hiring of more Ambassadors at the BRT stations.

President Ortiz also offered support for paying down debt.

Director Shaw commented that Covid is not over and asked if there were automated systems the District could invest in. She also felt the District should have more conversations about labor costs and long-term sustainability. She also supported infrastructure projects that help service reliability and increase rider satisfaction, such as bus shelters. She also agreed with the idea of paying down long-term debt.

After some discussion about whether to include the desire to pay off some long-term debt as part of the budget amendment, Mr. Andrichak advised that this issue was not a part of staff's proposed budget amendment.

Director Beckles pointed out that if the Board prioritizes paying down long-term debt, it would not be possible to prioritize an increase in bus service.

MOTION: PEEPLES/ORTIZ to adopt Resolution 21-035 amending the General Fund FY 2021-22 Operating Budget and direct staff to bring back some strategies to pay down debt. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- 6.F.** Consider receiving a report on fare communications, including current and upcoming initiatives, mobile ticketing, Clipper Start, and Clipper fare products. [Requested by Director Shaw on 1/27/2021; and Director Walsh on 2/24/2021 and 3/24/2021] [21-268](#)

Acting Director of Marketing and Communications Nichele Laynes presented the staff report.

Public Comment:

No public comment was offered.

Board Discussion:

Director Shaw thanked staff for the report and asked if there was information on the number of unique trips/rides taken using Clipper Start. Ms. Laynes reported that the data was available from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (absent of any personal identifiable information). Director Walsh requested to see the available data.

Director Shaw shared that a local group that helps provide Clipper Start applications to people has had little success in signing people up for the program. She asked how successful some of the community based organizations (CBO) had been in getting people to sign up and what the challenges were. Ms. Laynes advised that staff is trying to engage riders and CBOs but noted that it was more difficult to engage vulnerable populations who often have trouble with the application, may not have a mailing address or may not want to give one, etc. and is a much more labor intensive process. Executive Director of External Affairs, Marketing & Communications Beverly Greene added that the level of discount could also be seen as a detractor. Director Shaw further asked how people pay the fare on the Tempo service to which Ms. Laynes responded that cash and Clipper were the primary payment methods.

Director Walsh felt new strategies were needed to attract more people to Clipper in order to receive the discounts they are eligible for. She advocated for simpler campaigns that were clear to the audience and could get them motivated to change to Clipper.

Director Walsh further commented on the low number of riders accessing Clipper Start, despite the assumption that possibly hundreds of thousands of people in the Bay Area might be eligible. She agreed that targeted outreach and community partnerships would be essential to increasing access. Director Walsh also suggested that fare discounts through Clipper and Clipper Start should be advertised at bus stops.

MOTION:PEEPLES/BECKLES to receive report on fare communications, including current and upcoming initiatives, mobile ticketing, Clipper Start, and Clipper fare products. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

7. CLOSED SESSION/REPORT OUT

There was nothing to report out of closed session. General Counsel Jill Sprague distributed the General Counsel's Quarterly Report on open claims and lawsuits.

7.A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

(Government Code Section 54956.9 (a))

- Williams v. AC Transit, WCAB Case No. ADJ10265995
- Silva v. AC Transit, WCAB Case No. ADJ12578827

Quarterly Litigation Report:

- Pearl v. AC Transit, ACSC No. RG19-015118;
- Galpern v. AC Transit, U.S. District Court (No.Cal.Dist.), No. 20-cv-02572-TSH;
- White v. AC Transit, U.S. District Court (No.Cal.Dist.), No. 20-cv-03804-TSH;
- Dollene Jones v. AC Transit Retirement Board, et al., U.S. District Court (No.Cal.Dist.), No. 20-cv-00385-SI;
- Dollene Jones v. AC Transit Retirement Board, et al., ACSC No. RG20-050706;
- Claim of Sashinger (21-AL00035).

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

(Government Code Section 54956.9(b))

7.C. Conference with Labor Negotiators

(Government Code Section 54957.6):

Agency Designated Representative:

- General Manager Michael Hursh;
 - Labor and Employee Relations Manager Nathaniel Kramer;
- Employee Organizations: ATU Local 192, AFSCME Local 3916, IBEW Local 1245,
Unrepresented Employees

7.D. Public Employee Performance Evaluation

(Government Code Section 54957)

Title: General Manager, General Counsel, District Secretary

8. AGENDA PLANNING

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

[21-018o](#)

Director Williams requested a policy to ban travel to states with anti-choice laws.
(President Ortiz concurred)

Director Shaw requested an overview of BART's Wayfinding Project and how it will help AC Transit riders. (President Ortiz concurred)

Director Shaw requested a report on actual service levels during the past 18 months.
(President Ortiz concurred)

Director Peebles requested a report on a return to in-person work trend in Oakland and San Francisco business districts, as it relates to ridership; including a possibility to provide direct lines to large employment entities to serve the essential and on-site workers.

Director Walsh emphasized the time sensitivity of a report about operator recruitment, tentatively scheduled for January 2022, and asked that it is advanced to an earlier date.

Director Walsh requested an update on the City of Oakland and AC Transit's Transit Action Strategy and that staff identifies opportunities to expedite the deliverables. (Director Shaw concurred)

Director Walsh requested a plan to improve staff and operator Covid vaccination rates. The plan should include options that the Board would take action on, such as incentives, mandatory vaccination requirement, lottery, etc. (Director Peeples concurred)

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

9.A. General Manager's Report for September 8, 2021.

[21-020o](#)

The report was presented for information only.

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 8:02 p.m. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 22, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Linda A. Nemeroff
District Secretary

**Board of Directors Meeting
September 8, 2021
MINUTES – Exhibit A**

Agenda item 3. Public Comment:

It is getting more and more difficult to simply buy groceries using AC transit. I live at Redwood Gardens, a senior community. Several people here have had to either get off the bus or not be able to get on at all because of the students. I am not able to go to the Thursday farmers market, which does not start till 3pm, or the one on Saturday because the buses are so crowded. I can't go to the one in Kensington on Sunday because you took the 79 away. The Tuesday one would mean two buses and a ten minute walk with heavy groceries. Now you are planning to take away the bus that a lot of people use to get to Trader Joes in Rockridge. If they go to the one on University they encounter crowds. No, they are not able to pull grocery carts up from College Ave. As you know you took many weekend busses away on weekends so I am becoming a social cripple. A lot of people really on these buses. I feel that no one there is listening.