

San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District

2150 Webster Street, P. O. Box 12688, Oakland, CA 94612-2688



BOARD OF DIRECTORS DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 2,003rd MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

Members of the Board of Directors

Melissa Hernandez, President (District 5)
Edward Wright, Vice President (District 9)
Matthew Rinn (District 1)
Mark Foley (District 2)
Barnali Ghosh (District 3)
Robert Raburn (District 4)
Elizabeth Ames (District 6)
Victor Flores (District 7)
Janice Li (District 8)

Minutes of the May 28, 2026 BART Board Meeting

MEETING DESCRIPTION

A Regular Meeting of the BART Board of Directors was held on May 28, 2026 in the BART Board Room, 2150 Webster Street, 1st Floor, Oakland, California. President Hernandez presided, with Bob Franklin as District Secretary.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Hernandez called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

A. Roll Call.

Directors Present in Oakland: Directors Ames, Flores, Foley, Ghosh, Li, Raburn, Rinn and Vice President Wright and President Hernandez.

Absent: None

B. Pledge of Allegiance. President Hernandez led the pledge of allegiance.

C. Introduction of Special Guests: none.

2. REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

President Hernandez reminded the Board and the public that staff will be bringing the FY 27 annual budget for adoption at the June 11, 2026, Board Meeting, and that the July 23rd, 2026 and the August 27th, 2026 Board meetings have been canceled.

Public Comment

Barney Smits addressed the Board on this item.

3. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Hernandez turned the item over to Committee Chairperson Robert Raburn, who reported on the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Partnership Special Committee held on May 22, 2026.

Chairperson Raburn said the Committee received a comprehensive update on the Silicon Valley Phase II extension project, including construction progress and funding status design activities. The Committee also received station renderings as the project approaches its 60% design completion. He thanked BART and VTA for their collaboration on this critical regional transit investment. Following the meeting, VTA staff led a site tour.

Director Li noted that VTA was struggling to meet quorum at its Committee meetings on the Silicon Valley extension project and had ongoing questions about the governance oversight structure. She said this should be a concern for VTA, but the BART board needs to be aware of it.

Director Ames said she is hoping to get design clarifications about the variances and to publish these online. Regarding construction of the tunneling, she had concerns based on a similar construction project in Seattle.

Public Comment

Roland LeBrun, Aleta Dupree, and Barney Smits addressed the Board on this item.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of the Minutes for the May 14, 2026 BART Board meeting.

B. Resolution Consolidating 2026 District Elections.

C. Fiscal Year 2027 Proposition 4 Appropriations Limit.

- D. Resolution of The San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from Proceeds of Indebtedness.
- E. Approval of the Clipper BayPass Participation Agreement Amendment.
- F. Award of Agreement No. 6M2131 with Contra Costa County Health Services, Community Response Division for the CORE BART Homeless Outreach Team.

Director Ames had a question about item C, and how the appropriations limit is tied to revenue. Staff said it is not how much BART is spending, but rather it is based upon sales tax and property tax proceeds only, not on the uses of these funds.

Public Comments:

Aleta Dupree addressed the Board on the consent calendar item 3E.

Vote Summary on Consent Calendar

Motions: Moved by Director Raburn/ Seconded by Director Flores
 Aye: Directors Ames, Flores, Foley, Ghosh, Li, Raburn, and Rinn, Vice President Wright and President Hernandez.
 No: 0
 Abstain: 0
 Absent: 0
 Result: 9-0-0, motion carried by roll call vote.

The Board approved the following motions:

A. Approval of the Minutes for the May 14, 2026 BART Board meeting.

B. Resolution Consolidating 2026 District Elections.

MOTION: That the Board of Directors adopt the attached resolution to consolidate the District election of members of the Board of Directors for districts 2, 4, 6, and 8 with the State of California general election to be held on November 3, 2026.

C. Fiscal Year 2027 Proposition 4 Appropriations Limit.

MOTION: The Board adopts the attached resolution which sets the District's FY27 appropriations limit at \$804,810,944.

D. Resolution of The San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from Proceeds of Indebtedness.

MOTION: The Board adopts the attached Resolution permitting reimbursement of certain project expenditures from future debt proceeds

E. Approval of the Clipper BayPass Participation Agreement Amendment.

MOTION: The Board of Directors authorizes the General Manager, or designee, to execute an amendment to the Clipper BayPass Participation Agreement with MTC and all signatory transit operators, extending the program through December 31, 2030 and incorporating the four program updates as described herein, in a form approved by the Office of General Counsel. (Majority Vote Required).

F. Award of Agreement No. 6M2131 with Contra Costa County Health Services, Community Response Division for the CORE BART Homeless Outreach Team.

MOTION: The General Manager or his designee is authorized to execute Agreement No. 6M2131 with Contra Costa County Health Services, Community Response Division to provide one dedicated CORE program outreach team in Contra Costa County, in an amount not to exceed \$310,000 for a one-year term.



5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

President Hernandez turned the item over to Bob Powers, General Manager, who provided the following report:

Ridership is 9% above year-to-date projections, and 12% higher than a year ago.

Sunday ridership was 20,000 higher than average this past Sunday, thanks to Carnival in the Mission.

Ridership is 14% above budget and 15% higher than a year ago.

BART and Capitol Corridor are meeting in Sacramento about the California Air Resources Board, monitoring the Cap and Invest program, which could have tough implications on BART and Capitol Corridor. The General Manager sent a letter from BART opposing the amendments to program and will send an update later in the day.

Lighting work in Transbay Tube continues Sunday, June 7, when trains will run every 30 minutes, and will be single tracking through the Tube.

June 6 will be the BART prom. BART so far has sold 1,000 tickets and will be releasing 200 more tickets today.

The Small Business Summit was held last Thursday in the BART Board room, which was followed by the Women's Transportation Seminar later that night. 182 people participated in the Board room.

BART just received a \$291,000 grant from FEMA for FIFA preparations for the BART Police and the Operations Departments. Yesterday, BART also received \$1.1 million from MTC via FTA for the commitment to FIFA for transportation services.

Public comments

Aleta Dupree and Barney Smits addressed the Board on this item.

6. ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

President Hernandez turned the items over to Janice Li, Chairperson of the Committee.

Chairperson Li introduced the following items:

- A. Review Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Financial Efficiency Review Strategies.
- B. Fiscal Year 2027 Alternative Service Plan: Capital Program Impacts.
- C. Fiscal Year 2026 Third Quarter Financial Report.
- D. Fiscal Year 2027 Final Budget Update.

A. Review Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Financial Efficiency Review Strategies.

Director Rinn provided opening remarks for this item, as he serves with President Hernandez on MTC's Independent Oversight Committee for SB63's Financial Efficiency Review, which voted to approve the Phase 1 consultant report and over \$1 billion in savings by Bay Area transit agencies. This SB63 report needs approval by the BART Board by July 1, 2026. The action item is currently scheduled for the June 11, 2026 BART Board meeting.

Pamela Herhold, Assistant General Manager, Performance and Budgets; and Mike Eiseman, Director of Financial Planning, gave the presentation.

Public Comments

Glen Overton and Aleta Dupree addressed the Board on this item.

Discussion

Director Raburn noted that comparison of 10% of passengers seeing a fare evader and 20% of passengers seeing a police officer, which is part of the balance that makes fare gates more effective. He also said that BART needs to be granular in how train cars are deployed and needs to factor in events in the Bay Area in order to right size train lengths to match ridership.

Director Flores said that BART is doing exactly for what the recommendations have called, even before being told what to do so. He also appreciates the recommendation in the report that real estate assets can provide long-term value.

Director Ames said BART needs to examine cost-saving measures for staffing levels and position vacancies. She expressed concerns about enhanced parking revenue and doesn't want to see parking increases if the funding measure passes. She shared an organizational chart from Los Angeles Metro, which she held up as an example for BART. She wants to see the capital improvement program and to keep up with the state of good repair.

Director Li clarified that the report is for things done, as well as to be done in a 1-3 year timeline and a real property analysis. She said that action by the BART Board is required by July 1 to accept recommendations of the third-party study. Director Li asked if staffing changes were a part of the plan. Staff said the consultant study did not come to conclusion to lay off any staff.

Vice President Wright wanted to see a peer comparison for the region for cost efficiencies, especially with 10% higher costs in the Bay Area as we adjust for inflation. He also wanted to know how staff reconcile the fact that there have been \$500 million in cost savings since 2019, and yet operation costs have been flat since 2019. He wants to see timetables for early action strategies and when progress would be reported back to the Board.

Director Ghosh said that most of the recommendations are already in progress. She said these cost savings only work if BART meets rider expectations, such as providing reliable service. She spoke about demand-based parking fees, pointing out that parking fees may go up as well as go down. She said that leasing parking lots is also a good strategy and a good use of the resource when they are not being fully utilized. She said that parking fees are a way to manage demand, not to force people to another mode of access.

Director Foley supports the consultants' recommendations. He asked if BART must provide deliverables for early action strategies. Staff said the deliverables are in Phase II and all that is required is to adopt and agree to implement the recommendations. He mentioned that when parking rates increase, BART needs to be mindful to encourage people to make a different choice and to partner with bus agencies to make access improvements, such as adding routes and increasing bus route frequencies.

Director Li said that stakeholders like the Bay Area Council demanded third party review, to show efforts to increase efficiencies. This review proved that BART has made smart moves, which has led to \$500 million in cost savings. She also said that the review shows that decreased headcount impacts riders and does not necessarily make BART more efficient.

B. Fiscal Year 2027 Alternative Service Plan: Capital Program Impacts.

Pamela Herhold, Assistant General Manager, Performance and Budgets; Sylvia Lamb, Assistant General Manager, Operations; and Joy Sharma, Interim Assistant General Manager of Infrastructure and Delivery gave the presentation.

Public Comments

Glen Overton addressed the Board on this item.

Discussion

Director Flores said this was the early stages of a potential roadmap if the measure fails. He suggested bringing in local officials to provide input.

Director Raburn said this was not a plan anyone wants to invoke. He asked where 50-70 impacted position comes from – staff said it was in addition to the 850 people that were shown in the capital budget, with the current personnel for the operating budget. He asked if BART would run out of personnel before furloughing with all the projects running parallel to each other. Staff said the outlook was only for 1 year ahead at this time. He also asked about its impact on labor partners, with the goal to reduce layoffs. If the revenue measure fails, it has the largest impact on operations, although the capital budget still has funds through Measure RR, at least in the short term.

Director Ghosh sought clarity about the 850 capital heads and how many of those positions were consultants. There are currently about 100 positions for the CBTC project. She asked how many people from the operating budget are needed for capital projects. She said BART needs ongoing operational workers to maintain the capital program, as well as a minimum level of operating staff to ensure that safety standards are met. BART still will have regulatory and preventative maintenance work, regardless of the level of service provided. She thinks that one year is a good length of time for which to plan. She encourages BART to work in collaboration with its labor partners. If the measure passes, maybe BART should still take these jobs in-house.

Director Ames asked about the 9pm single tracking in the West Bay to build the CBTC program.

Director Foley thanked staff and wants stakeholder input, including labor partners, to help navigate this scenario, should the sales tax measure fail. Organizational charts are necessary for this discussion as BART moves forward.

Chairperson Li said that this Alternative Service Plan was BART being responsible and doing scenario planning in its operations. For the capital budget, it is more of a thought plan, not even a roadmap or a vote, but an initial discussion so that the Board understands the complications of the capital plan. She also wants to engage stakeholders and labor partners as early as possible.

C. Fiscal Year 2026 Third Quarter Financial Report.

D. Fiscal Year 2027 Final Budget Update.

Pamela Herhold, Assistant General Manager, Performance and Budgets; Chris Simi, Director of Budgets, and Erin Spragan, Assistant General Manager, Finance; presented on items C and D

Public Comments on 6C and 6D

Glen Overton, Roland LeBrun and Aleta Dupree addressed the Board.

Discussion

Chairperson Li asked staff to clarify the TIFIA loans referenced in the deck, which staff said would be BART funds freed up from the car replacement project.

Director Rinn appreciated the efforts to run two budgets and acknowledged the net zero approach in the best-case scenario, including use of TIFIA loans to get to net zero. He still was uncomfortable with the use of \$89 million from loans. He is still looking to control internal costs to drive down the amount borrowed. He asked what the mechanisms are to repay the loan. He said that borrowing to get to net zero creates additional problems down the road. He wants staff and BART partners to control expenses and create efficiencies and to continue to look at the operating budget to borrow less.

Director Ames wants to see the capital budget increased, to align with previously released Capital Improvement Plan to not get behind in infrastructure investment. She wants to look at vacancies to reduce expenses and is interested in lowering overtime costs to \$60 million.

Director Flores likes that BART is keeping costs low. He said that increased ridership is a vote of confidence in quality-of-life improvements, seen in QPR report. He is proud of this work to move BART in right direction. Even with all the improvements and cost cutting, the challenge will be how to diversify revenues, which he said is a long-term conversation.

Vice President Wright clarified that a budget “Plan B” is the Alternative Service Plan, which is supported by the Board, a bet to maintain service that is paying off, shown by increased ridership. With respect to the Capital budget, he is uncomfortable without the inclusion of resurfacing 16th Street / Mission southwest plaza or complete design work. BART has said it is necessary and is relying on good faith in the community. Their collaboration requires some funding for this project, which would go a long way with all the community initiatives.

Director Ghosh asked if the Capital Budget is fully funded. Staff put forward what BART has and can expect to spend. Director Ghosh also asked if BART does get more money, does BART have staff to implement the projects. She had a question on outstanding grants receivable, specifically the Mercy Housing Transit Oriented Development. Staff said they are billed monthly, but each request may take up to four months. Director Ghosh asked if TOD funds could be streamlined more. She also shared Director Flores’ appreciation for the work done. She asked if the measure passes, how will BART diversify revenue. She asked if there is a good goal for BART’s farebox ratio, which is about 30% now and increasing, down from 2/3rds pre-pandemic. Staff said that diversification is key, for both ridership and sales tax revenue.

President Hernandez thanked staff for the thorough, transparent presentation. She asked if staff has contemplated the implications of a suit delaying a potential new sales tax, if the measure is successful. Chairperson Li summarized the item, setting up the approval of BART’s annual budget at the next BART Board meeting. She included in her summary Director Rinn’s request to limited borrowing to as little as possible wanting as little borrowing as possible.

6. ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS ITEMS

President Hernandez turned the committee over to Director Mark Foley, Chairperson, who introduced Sylvia Lamb, Assistant General Manager, Operations; and Police Chief Kevin Franklin, who gave the presentation on the following:

Quarterly Service Performance Review - Third Quarter FY26 (QPR).

Director Li said she correlated reliability and safety improvements of the system which has helped increase ridership. She is proud of BART’s 89% customer satisfaction. With respect to safety performance metrics, she noted the correlation between more riders and less crimes, perhaps because of more eyes in the system. She was curious about the time of days when crimes occur, and whether peak vs. non-peak travel is a factor. She seeks to hear more about crime patterns and is looking forward to the new faregate presentation.

Director Rinn said that the decrease in crime and the high customer satisfaction are the stories to promote, which should be pushed out to communities and elected officials to drive narrative.

Director Ames was impressed with the increase in customer satisfaction. She said that asset performance and reliability shows the maintenance crews are doing a great job. She would like to see how we are addressing the maintenance backlog.

Vice President Wright congratulated staff and wants more people to see the good news with a dashboard on BART.gov - for the public, and a tool for the press. With respect to fare evasion, he wants to see if

there is a better way to measure fare evasion than observed fare evasion, such as using the tools of the new faregates.

Chairperson Foley said this QPR was the best form of advertising, and that sharing the story is critical. He suggested that an executive summary of the report go out to social media with highlights. It is the best thing to help ourselves. He also asked if some crimes are in the commute or reverse commute (empty or crowded trains) direction. He said the focus on timed transfers and police response times under 5 min are the keys to future success.

Public Comments

Jerry Grace, Glen Overton, and Aleta Dupree addressed the Board.

8. PLANNING, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, ACCESS, AND LEGISLATION ITEMS

Turn over to Robert Raburn, Chairperson
State Legislation for Consideration.

Director Flores recused himself before item was presented by Boris Lipkin, Assistant General Manager of Planning and Development; and Amanda Cruz, Director of Government and Community Relations.

Public Comments

There were no public comments on this item.

Discussion

Director Foley said as the sitting member of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority representing BART, this is necessary for the good work they do in Contra Costa County, which included the addition of the eBART extension to Antioch and its auxiliary parking lot when it opened. He moved the item.

Director Ames asked a question if this is a new or carryover task, requiring a public vote. She also wants to look in the future at corporation taxes instead of sales tax.

Director Rinn asked about the implementation, which is as early as 2028.

Vote Summary

Motions: Moved by Director Foley/ Seconded by Director Ghosh

Aye: Directors Ames, Foley, Ghosh, Li, Raburn, and Rinn, Vice President Wright and President Hernandez.

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Result: 8-0-0, motion carried by roll call vote. Director Flores recused himself from the item.

MOTION: The Board of Directors supports SB 1408.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Roland LeBrun, Glen Overton, Barney Smits and Aleta Dupree addressed the Board.

10. BOARD MATTERS

A. Board Member Reports.

Director Raburn gave the following report:

May 18: he presented a BART Update to San Leandro Improvement Association.

May 19: he attended the Hayward Senior Commons Affordable Housing Dedication at 22500 Grand St.

May 20: he participated in Diridon Joint Steering Committee, San Jose City Hall.

May 21: he attended the California Transit Association Legislative Conference to hear the CARB Board Chair Lauren Sanchez. He also met with five State legislators about the impacts on BART capital, operations, and TOD programs of proposed concessions to the oil industry.

May 22: He participated in the Joint VTA Committee at the VTA Headquarters.

Director Foley gave the following update:

On Tuesday May 26 he presented with Director Rinn to the Concord City Council, who expressed an interest in land swaps with BART's North Concord TOD, Concord's Naval Weapons Station and existing the neighborhood.

Vice President Wright reported on the following:

May 21: Held the final open house to improve conditions at 16th Street/Mission plazas. He thanked BART staff, partners at Fletcher Studio and the Friendship House for hosting. He thanked San Francisco Supervisor Fielder, and the City and County of San Francisco

May 22: He attended the Harvey Milk Day LGBTBQ 50th Anniversary, and thanked AFSCME 3993 for being there in support.

B. Roll Call for Introductions. There were none.

C. In Memoriam.

VP Wright adjourned the meeting in memory of his grandmother, Gretna Van Fleet, who passed away at the age of 95. He paid tribute to her varied and accomplished life, who taught him many things, including how to serve the community.

Public Comment

Joe Kunzler and Glen Overton addressed the Board on this item.

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 12:51 p.m.

Bob Franklin
District Secretary