

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 1,993rd MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025

Members of the Board of Directors

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

MEETING DESCRIPTION

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors was held on December 18, 2025 in the BART Board Room, 2150 Webster Street, 1st Floor, Oakland, California. President Foley and President Hernandez presided, with Bob Franklin as District Secretary.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Foley called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

A. Roll Call.

Directors Present in Oakland: Directors Flores (arrived at 9:14am), Li, Raburn, Rinn and Wright, Vice President Hernandez, and President Foley

Directors Present via Teleconference: Director Ghosh (under “Just Cause”) (left at 10:20am)

Absent: Director Ames

B. Pledge of Allegiance: President Foley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

There was no report.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports given.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

President Foley introduced the 2025 Holiday Toy Drive Recipient, We Care of Concord, California.

This is an annual event where BART selects a local nonprofit serving families and children and through the planning efforts of the Office of External Affairs and the BART Police Department give toys and gift cards collected from employees across the District to the recipient.

President Foley provided background on We Care, who offers trauma-informed early childhood education, developmental support, and Mental Health Services to children from birth through age 0-6 and to their families. Pete Caldwell, Executive Director, and Erica Williamson, Director of Community Engagement, represented the organization and addressed the Board. They provided further details on their organization and graciously thanked the Board and everyone at BART for their generosity.

Public Comment

There were no public comments on this item.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items.

6. ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

Janice Li, Chairperson

There were no items.

7. ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS ITEMS

Elizabeth Ames, Chairperson

There were no items.

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

Robert Raburn, Chairperson

There were no items.

9. BOARD MATTERS

A. Board Member Reports.

(Board member reports as required by Government Code Section 53232.3(d) are available through the Office of the District Secretary. An opportunity for Board members to report on their District activities and observations since the last Board Meeting.)

Director Raburn provided the following update:

December 4: Participated in a Bike Ride with Bike East Bay to Dirty Bird in Hayward along the future route of East Bay Greenway.

December 5: Went to the Oakland Marriott for the Building and Construction Trades gala.

December 5: Attended the COMTO gala at the Oakland Marriott.

December 9: Attended the OUSD Fall Trades Faire at Cypress Mandela Training Center, featuring BART trades.

December 10: Participated in the Oakland Builders Alliance and Chambers event at Prescott Market.

December 11: Attended the BART to Silicon Valley-VTA Steering Committee and Diridon Station steering committee at VTA headquarters.

December 12: Attended the annual Carpenters Moose Feed.

Director Wright

Congratulated the American Indian Cultural District (AICD) for gaining recognition as a state-designated cultural district. He attended their site visit with Molly Burke and Bradley Dunn. Director Wright thanked AICD, who has been a critical partner activating and renovating the 16th Street Mission BART Plaza.

He invited everyone on December 20 to Mission Loteria Holiday Market at 16th Street BART Plaza for many family oriented activities. This is a partnership between BART, San Francisco's Office of Economic and Workforce Development, Mission Loteria, the American Indian Cultural Center and the American Indian Cultural District.

He also addressed a letter received from the Mission Vendors Association, about street vending on BART plaza, following a ban 3 years ago by the City of San Francisco. He said street vending isn't the problem, but it is the fencing and drugs. This issue is being partially addressed by the Safe Streets Act. BART is working with the City to come up with a program to return vendors to the plaza. BART shares the goals of the City and wants vendor to be properly restored around the plaza.

B. Roll Call for Introductions.

(An opportunity for Board members to introduce a matter for consideration at a future Committee or Board Meeting or to request District staff to prepare items or reports.)

Public Comment

There were no public comments on this item.

C. Election of Officers.

i. President

President Foley made his outgoing remarks on the previous year as Board President, which included the installation of next generation faregates. These helped advance the goals to reduce fare evasion, and maintain cleanliness and a good appearance. Crime is down 45% from last year, delivering the promise of a safe ride on BART. He also referenced Tap and Ride, with BART being the first agency in the Bay Area to allow tapping of a credit card or an app, with no preregistration, to pay for a fare. This will be great, especially for travelers. This feature is now available for all agencies beginning December 10, which was the starting date of the next generation Clipper 2.0 transition. He mentioned the Big Sync in August, which coordinates schedules and transfer discounts. Ridership and Customer Satisfaction increased, up to 89% of riders satisfied with BART. Ridership now is over 200,000 weekday riders. Additional highlights included the arrival of the 1000th new train car, with the fleet all new cars now. BART also connected with the community with many community events: Valentrain, May the Fourth, movie night at Concord, Let's Glow anime fest, Halloween train, and Sound Tracks at North Berkeley. Capital improvement projects included the access improvements at North Berkeley, 19 canopies over escalators and a new Civic center substation. All of this has made BART safer, cleaner and easier to use. He thanked his colleagues on the Board and all employees for their support and all their work

President Foley then nominated Vice President Hernandez for BART President. Director Rinn seconded the motion. Vice President Hernandez accepted the nomination.

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree addressed the Board.

Vote Summary

Moved by President Foley, Seconded by Director Rinn.

Aye: Directors Flores, Ghosh, Li, Raburn, Rinn, Wright, Vice President Hernandez and President Foley.
No: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: Director Ames.
Result: 8-0-0, motion carried by roll call vote.

Outgoing President Foley then turned over the gavel to incoming Board President Hernandez. She gave her accepting remarks about the year ahead and set a tone of a welcoming BART and acknowledged the challenges of the coming year. She mentioned the funding initiative in November, which she called one of the most important tasks BART faces. She committed her leadership through the BART Board workshop in February to transparently discuss budget options the agency faces. During this period, she committed to maintain BART's reliable, clean, and more convenient service. Reliable service is the brand, through improved service and actions to prevent additional disruptions. Measure RR work will be critical to maintain reliable levels of service. She thanked the Board for their support and committed to work as a team, putting riders first and to secure BART's future. She presented outgoing President Foley with a gift as a token of appreciation for his year as President.

ii. Vice President

President Hernandez nominated Director Wright as Board Vice President. Director Rinn seconded the motion.

Vote Summary

Moved by President Hernandez, Seconded by Director Rinn.

Aye: Directors Flores, Foley, Ghosh, Li, Raburn, Rinn, Wright and President Hernandez.
No: 0

Abstain: 0
Absent: Director Ames.
Result: 8-0-0, motion carried by roll call vote.

Vice President Wright gave brief remarks, highlighting that 89% of riders are satisfied with BART service. He said this year will be the most consequential year since the system was created. He said the full Board takes seriously their role and looks forward to the year ahead.

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree and Glen Overton addressed the Board.

D. In Memoriam

Director Raburn paid tribute to former San Leandro Mayor Stephen Cassidy, detailing his career and its impact on BART.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board received public comments from the following members of the public: Cesar Oyogoto, Andrea Guirola, Rodrigo Lopez, Maria deLardes Villegas, Leila Ovando, Manuel Soltero, Pedro Yoe, and Milagros Lopez, and Barney Smits, and Aleta Dupree.

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

Bob Franklin
District Secretary