

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 2,004th MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 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 June 11, 2026 BART Board Meeting

MEETING DESCRIPTION

A Regular Meeting of the BART Board of Directors was held on June 11, 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 9:00 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. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

President Hernandez introduced BART General Manager Bob Powers, who gave the following report: Ridership: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 was the highest BART ridership since the pandemic at 236,000. May 2026 was 12% above last year and 14% above budget. Average ridership in May was 203,000, the highest monthly average since the pandemic. Sunday ridership in May was 18% above the previous month. Four of the top ten ridership days since the pandemic were last month.

The World Soccer tournament FIFA begins Saturday. BART will be fully staffed to coordinate transportation with other agencies to the event in Santa Clara, especially for the Tuesday game which begins at 9pm. BART is promoting Tap and Ride for new BART riders.

Wi-Fi: BART has expanded Wi-Fi to 4 additional stations: 16th and 24th Street/ Mission stations and Glen Park and Balboa Park stations, bringing the total to 9 stations with Wi-Fi.

A BART App update will be coming to the Board in July.

BART Prom: it was this past Saturday at Rockridge and it was a great event – the location, weather, staff, planning – it was a family that pulled it together and was a great success.

BART Mart: it will occur today at Castro Valley station from 3pm to 6pm.

The next generation faregates will receive the APTA 2026 rail security gold award at an upcoming APTA conference.

Pride Events: On Tuesday, June 23, BART will host an event from 11am to 1pm with a presentation and a discussion, including Vice President Wright, Dennis Markham and Marshalette Ramsey (who is the point person for FIFA events). This is followed by the June 28 San Francisco Pride event, where BART will be running longer trains for the parade.

The General Manager also shared the new BART Pride Police patch.

Public Comment

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

3. ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

President Hernandez turned the item over to Chairperson Janice Li, who introduced the following action items:

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

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

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree and Kim Ship addressed the Board on this item.

Discussion

Director Flores said that cutting expenses will not be enough to balance the budget, so expressed an interest in activating stations and adding retail. These initiatives will also require support from local government, businesses and community partners.

Director Ames asked questions about the right sizing of the fleet, but also right sizing the agency.

Director Raburn supports all the elements in the review and looks forward to right sizing – in both directions. He also supports new retail in BART stations. He pointed out that MTC is leading this initiative – not BART. He moved the item. Director Flores seconded the motion.

Vice President Wright also expressed enthusiasm for the addition of the retail recommendation. He expressed that the third party recommendations fully align with BART staff and Board’s directions. Chairperson Li summed up the item and said BART is accepting all the recommendations.

Vote Summary:

MOTION: The Board of Directors adopts the early action strategies identified for BART in the Phase 1 Financial Efficiency Review and listed herein.

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.

B. State Loan Agreement with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

Pamela Herhold, Assistant General Manager, Performance and Budgets, introduced Joseph Beach, Chief Financial Officer, who gave the presentation.

Public Comment

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

Vice President Wright moved the item, with Director Rinn seconding the motion.

Vote Summary

MOTION: The Board authorizes the General Manager or his designee to execute an operating loan agreement in substantially the same form as the attached form of loan agreement with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for up to \$285 million.

Motions: Moved by Vice President Wright/ Seconded by Director Rinn
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.

C. Resolution to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget.

Chairperson Li introduced Pamela Herhold, Assistant General Manager, Performance and Budgets; and Chris Simi, Director of Budgets, presented the item.

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree addressed the Board on this item.

Discussion

Director Foley referenced that Senate Bill 1031 was introduced two years ago to identify additional operating funding. This budget represents staff's hard work to plan for two futures. It acknowledges how ridership has changed, how the BART family cares about its family members and is offering the best service possible for the Bay Area. He moved the item. Director Ghosh seconded the motion. Director Ames had questions about the capital backlog and investment in the system and infrastructure funding. She also had questions about overtime costs and right sizing the agency and its positions. Director Flores feels confident moving forward with the budget since there is an Alternative Service Plan and it utilizes different strategies like the TIFIA loan. He said ridership, customer surveys and QPRs show the significant improvements that BART is making, with more improvements coming. Previous investments and Board decisions are paying off, helping BART recover from the pandemic. This budget is a product of that innovation. Vice President Wright associated himself with Director Flores' comments. BART continues to see ridership grow, customer satisfaction increase, and crime go down, a product of investments BART has made. He supports the proposed budget. He referenced pursuing funding opportunities for plazas in the Mission. Director Rinn appreciates staff's approach and accomplishments in how it has addressed the fiscal cliff, with a balanced budget and different scenarios if funding changes. He referenced reductions in crime and other improvements, leading to more revenue and better service. BART is working hard to control expenses internally and will continue to do so. He continues to want to champion not borrowing money to address current financial problems. Director Ghosh said that public transit is a public good. People want more BART, speaking to the importance of BART in the Bay Area, despite revenue constraints. She thanked staff for all their work on the budget and will continue to advocate for greater funding for its capital needs. She referenced the great numbers in recent QPRs, a testament to providing safe, reliable and frequent service. Director Raburn thanked staff and the public for all the work that went into this challenging budget. He said that the reduction in Greenhouse gas reduction funds provides tremendous uncertainty and asked for a future agenda item to discuss Senate Bill 109 as it pertains to the greenhouse gas reduction funds, as well as the corresponding bill in the Assembly. Staff will figure out the timing of when to bring forward these informational items. Chairperson Li has been very supportive of this budget and the process has been very interactive. Staff has been responsive to many concerns that the Board has raised. Increased ridership is the best measure of

BART's success. Previous budgets have been the right moves. BART now has multiple scenarios ahead, to be able to react to different courses in the future.

President Hernandez thanked BART staff for bringing a budget that won't negatively impact riders, meeting the challenge put forward by the BART Board. She acknowledged the riders confidence in BART and the increase in BART ridership. She thanked the entire team that brought forward this budget.

Vote Summary

MOTION: The Board adopts the attached Resolution in the matter of approving the Annual Budget for the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District and authorizes expenditures for Fiscal Year 2027, July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

Motions: Moved by Director Foley/ Seconded by Director Ghosh

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

No: Director Ames

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Result: 8-1-0, motion carried by roll call vote.

4. ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS ITEMS

President Hernandez turned the item over to Chairperson Mark Foley, who introduced the following item:

A. Root Cause Investigation Findings - M Line Service Disruptions.

Sylvia Lamb, Assistant General Manager, Operations; and Myat San, Chief Infrastructure Delivery Officer; presented the item.

Public Comment

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

Discussion

Director Ames said this is indicative of the infrastructure planning efforts, and a reflection of unfunded projects and wanted a clear capital improvement plan that details how infrastructure projects will be funded.

Vice President Wright summed up that the presentation which addressed the various issues and the complex approach for corrective maintenance for each factor. This is a reactive report and the Board wants to be allies in order to be proactive in the future.

Director Flores reiterated that all potential issues are being further studied and addressed. The initiatives lead to preventative maintenance, predictive maintenance and also future work on capital projects. He asked questions about insulator failures of the past, which have been trending downward.

Director Ghosh agrees with Director Flores' and Vice President Wright's comments and appreciates the transparency of the report. She supports more proactive and routine maintenance in the future.

Chairperson Foley closed the item, stating the BART is a complex system, with the takeaway that BART is always looking to improve its preventative and predictive maintenance programs and capital projects to identify future improvements.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mena Kuchi, Refilwe Gqajela, Sharon Kidd, Glen Overton, Aleta Dupree, Barney Smits, Joan Johnson, and Roland addressed the Board on this item.

6. BOARD MATTERS

A. Board Member Reports.

Director Raburn gave the following report:

May 29, 2026: he participated on the transit panel discussion at Move Bay Area in the Lafayette Library.

May 30, 2026: he attended the League of Women Voters Bay Area annual meeting in Millbrae.

June 5, 2026: he attended the Measure RR Bond Oversight Committee, and the adoption of 2026 Annual Report.

June 5, 2026: he participated in the Contra Costa County Building Construction Trades Council Picnic at the Martinez Shoreline.

June 6 2026: he joined in the Cherry Festival parade and tabled there in San Leandro.

June 7, 2026: he reported that during the Sunday single tracking in the TBT, BART crews took advantage of the M1 closure to piggyback track work onto the light fixture demolition, wiring, and LED fixture installation assembly line. He inspected the lighting fixture installation process, the MECC, negative return shunts, and the new KTE TPSS.

June 10, 2026: he attended the East Bay Greenway Phase II Dedication, Coliseum BART to Seminary Ave

Director Ghosh presented the following report:

May 28, 2026: she attended the Downtown Berkeley Association's General Meeting, where she heard from the Berkeley Mayor, the DBA and the UC Berkeley Chancellor about upcoming plans. She wants BART to be more proactive to prepare for the impacts of the Alternative Service Plan, if necessary.

June 10, 2026: she went to the meeting of the El Cerrito/Richmond Annex Walk & Roll and Albany Rollers and Strollers, who wanted more BART service and were concerned about BART's future.

She wants more improvements in the announcements on trains, especially during large events.

Director Rinn asked about recent Clipper 2 incidents. The General Manager will provide updates to the Board soon.

Director Foley gave the following report:

June 1, 2026: he attended the Contra Costa Transportation Authority Bus Coordinating Committee.

June 5, 2026: he participated in the Contra Costa County Building Construction Trades Council 12th Annual networking lunch at the Martinez Shoreline.

June 6, 2026: he attended the BART Prom, which he said was a fantastic idea and a great event.

June 9, 2026: he gave a BART presentation to the Brentwood City Council.

Public Comment

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

B. Roll Call for Introductions. None

C. In Memoriam. None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

President Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 11:31am.

Bob Franklin
District Secretary