

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors **DATE:** January 20, 2023
FROM: Board President Janice Li
SUBJECT: Consideration of Action in Response to Director McPartland's Alleged Violation of Board of Directors Code of Conduct

At our Board Meeting on January 12, 2023, BART Director John McPartland used a racist term when providing comments in response to District staff's Racial Equity Initiative presentation. This comment is one of several inappropriate public comments the Director has made during previous Board Meetings since 2019.

Pursuant to the BART Board of Directors Code of Conduct, Directors can be subject to sanctions when their behavior violates the code. The penalties for such violation include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

- A. Public censure
- B. Disqualification from participating in discussion or vote related to the violation and/or
- C. Removal of the Board member from one or more committees.

Because Director McPartland's comments on January 12, 2023 caused harm to staff, the District, and the public, I am recommending that the Board approve the following motions:

- A. The Board hereby censures Director John McPartland for violating section I and section VIII of the BART Board of Directors Code of Conduct for his use of racist language at the January 12, 2023 Board Meeting; and
- B. The Board hereby removes Director McPartland from all Board Committees he is currently assigned to.

As BART Board President, I am committed to ensuring this behavior doesn't occur again and if any racist and/or culturally insensitive comments are made in the future, they will be addressed immediately in a similar manner.



Janice Li
Board President