## SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Board of Directors

**DATE:** October 16, 2020

FROM:

District Secretary

SUBJECT: RCI 20-834, Continuing Virtual Public Participation for Board Meetings

At the July 23, 2020, Board Meeting, Director Saltzman introduced RCI 20-834:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, as the BART Board has been meeting virtually, the public has had much greater ability and access to speak on important issues during our meetings. To encourage continued public participation once it is safe to meet in person again, the District Secretary's Office should explore ways for the public to comment via phone and/or internet during in person meetings. The District Secretary should present this research to the Board no later than the second meeting in October and agendize the item as an action item so that the Board can consider taking action.

Our initial assessment indicates that there is potential for limited virtual public participation with existing Board Room equipment and technology. We are actively testing to ensure that the identified strategy produces consistent satisfactory results.

Hatricial Williams

The attached slides provide background information on our proposed short- and long-term solutions.

Thank you.

cc:

Board Appointed Officers Deputy General Manager Information Technology Communications