

Speak Out Now at BART (5/1/2023)

Safety - It's On Who?

Everyone knows you have to be alert when you are working in the system at BART – whether it's on the trains, in the stations, the shops or on the trackway..

From Management's perspective, safety is a simple matter. They showed this during the 2013 strike when they didn't follow basic safety protocols and sent two workers onto the trackway and had an untrained BART employee at the train controls on the same trackway.

Safety in the Stations and on the Trains

When it comes to safety, it usually means avoiding confrontations with people who are deeply troubled. Any confrontation with passengers, regardless of the situation, often leads to a worker being out of service until their case is decided. In the "normal world," what might be considered a minor encounter can be called an assault by a Station Agent or Train Operator and seen as grounds for termination. And, when an investigation reveals the truth, it is often too late. Months without a paycheck can have horrible consequences.

Safety In the Yards - In the Dark?

Safety in the yards usually doesn't involve non-BART workers, but it can. The problem is the dangers posed by equipment and infrastructure in the yards. Management's contribution to safety is yellow vests. They can make it easier to spot someone.

In the Richmond yard, some places are really dark. That vest doesn't light the area up. What use is it when walking across the yard or stepping down from a train? "Accidents" are waiting to happen all over.

There are lights that have been burned out for years. What are they waiting for?

If it's Up to the Workers

If safety is up to the workers, then the people working should be the ones to set the safety protocols – from staffing, to lighting, to proper equipment and more.

Join us at a Speak Out Online Celebration

Saturday, May 6th, 11am

Celebrate May Day with us!

May Day is the celebration of the struggles of the international working class.

Go to <https://speakoutsocialists.org/> for the Zoom link and more information

Coliseum Connections--Still Displaced!

Residents from the Coliseum Connections apartment building are still living out of hotels since flooding forced them to be evacuated from the building on New Year's Eve. BART owns the land that the apartment building sits on and leases the land to the developer of the building in exchange for getting some of the rental income.

Tenants turned out to the last Board Meeting to demand answers. During the meeting, they also let the Board know that a displaced resident of the building committed suicide last week.

This is an unacceptable situation! As the owner of the land, BART should be doing more and not having the residents come to Board Meetings to beg for solutions.

BART plays a major role in developments like Coliseum Connections all over the Bay Area and this what they have to show for it?

Bombardier Update - Take the Money & Run

Concerned about Bombardier because of all the problems with the Fleet of the Future? Now that it isn't building trains, it is reporting record profits building jets for billionaires and their corporations, and dipping into taxpayers' pockets around the world producing military jets. 'Nuff said...

New "Re-imagined" Schedule

BART announced its new planned schedule beginning in September, with shorter wait times on some lines and maximum 20-minute headways. This will supposedly "improve on-time performance and improve reliability." We shall see.

