

Speak Out Now at BART (July 13, 2026)

Sign-ups It's That Time - Again

It's a system-wide bid. Many high seniority workers, will keep the same bid or move from their summer to their Fall schedule. For lower seniority workers it's a different thing all together.

For many Train Operators it is a "blind bid". Bid and hope for the best and wait until all the bids are in and then you see what the months ahead will bring.

For Station Agents you know what you are going to get, unless the bid is messed up and people have to bid again. But increasing numbers of bids are horrible. People end up working at multiple stations with huge differences in start times which makes getting proper sleep and organizing childcare and other aspects of life unnecessarily difficult. (Not to mention that regular passengers do like seeing familiar faces at their station.)

It's like workers' lives are something to be disregarded or gambled with.

Management is sending a clear message. The lives of the people who make this system run aren't important. They may think the measure of worth is reflected by the amount on the paycheck. Let them think that. But there are many ways their self-important bubble can burst. When it does, they are going to understand who is essential to operations and who isn't.

RESPECT!

Last month's memo, giving "Scripts n' Tips" for Station Agents to respond to passengers was beyond insulting! They are telling people who have worked here 5, 10, 15, 20 years or more how to respond to customers? How about doing their jobs and get this Clipper mess straightened out! And stop messing with people who know what they are doing!



BART's bid system,
the Wheel of Misfortune?

Tap and?

The last BART Board meeting celebrated the "hardening" of stations – now Ashby has the county jail look and Hayward and San Leandro stations have a kennel look. This makes riding BART feel safer?

What about getting on a train? BART brags about its "Tap and Ride" system, AKA "Hold and Wait or Hope. " Or "Tap and Tap and Miss My Train." Or hold and get an "Insufficient Funds" or "See Agent" message. How about a "Get a Ride Voucher and Go" message instead?

Many Station Agents have messages for management – unprintable here...

It has been how many months with this excuse and that pointing at Clipper (Cubic Corp)? This is no way to run a railroad. It's certainly not a way to gain public support if you are asking people to vote to tax themselves even more, hand over their hard-earned money to people who seem to be unable to fix something as basic as fare gates.

Frustrated!!

How many people trying to ride BART are made to feel like fools, because they can't make the 90 million dollar gates open? It should be simple. And some don't respond to this frustration in a very calm way.

Of course they turn to the Station Agents who has a new card reader that may or may not give an accurate read-out. Quite often the frustrated passenger's response isn't one of solidarity with the Station Agent, who is trying to solve this problem. They assume the problem is the incompetence of the Station Agent. And from there, it can go from bad to worse.

Come to the Speak Out public meeting

No Coal or I.C.E in the Bay!

No Cuts to Healthcare!

Thurs. July 16, 6:30 pm (doors open at 6:15)

Oakland Peace Center - Shelton Hall

111 Fairmont Ave. Oakland

Find out what we can do about the continued plan to build a coal export port to ship coal out of Oakland, the plans to build an ICE detention center in Dublin and the recent success in stopping massive layoffs at Highland Hospital and the Alameda Health System



Speak Out Now

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We Can't Accept Their System of War and Destruction

The U.S. military has reignited its totally unnecessary, brutal war on Iran. In just the past several days, U.S. forces have struck more than 300 targets across the country, deliberately hitting bridges, power plants, and civilian infrastructure — clear war crimes — and killing dozens more people in this latest round of strikes.

Trump has taken to social media with escalating threats, boasting that the U.S. has thousands of missiles ready to fire and is prepared to decimate the country.

Iran has fired back. It has launched drones at U.S. military bases and oil infrastructure across the Gulf — in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and Oman. It has also begun firing on ships attempting to pass through the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow waterway in the Middle East through which a major share of the world's oil and gas flows every single day.

Back in June, a supposed 60-day ceasefire was agreed to, supposedly giving the U.S. and Iran time to negotiate how shipping would resume in the Strait of Hormuz and who would control it. They also planned negotiations over the future of Iran's nuclear program. But in reality, it was never a real ceasefire. The violence never stopped. One of the conditions of the ceasefire was that the U.S. would force Israel to halt its attacks on Lebanon, but instead, Israel has continued bombing and has now declared that it is permanently occupying new areas of southern Lebanon.

The reason for this renewed fighting is the Strait of Hormuz. Iran knows it is badly outgunned by the U.S., the largest military power in world history. But its one real source of leverage is its ability to disrupt traffic through the Strait through drone and missile attacks, and to disrupt the global economy. And this is leverage it does not want to give up given the repeated U.S. attacks and sanctions on Iran. Iran wants the war to end, but on terms more favorable to them. For example, they want to control which vessels can travel through the Strait, and they want the ability to charge ships a toll to pass through the waterway. Iran does not want to surrender this leverage and accept the U.S. dictating who controls the Strait.

U.S. imperialism on the other hand is unwilling to accept this. The U.S. does not want to give Iran official control over the Strait and has resumed bombings to once again try to force Iran to surrender or possibly take over the Strait militarily. The U.S. wants better control over the flow of oil and resources through the region and is willing to

continue this war to try and get it. So the U.S. has made the entire region a powder keg, with the threat of an even greater escalation hanging over everything.

And while this situation carries on, who actually pays? It is the ordinary people of Iran — with over three thousand dead, millions displaced from their homes, living without electricity, having their schools and universities bombed. The Iranian regime has imposed a crackdown on activists who speak out against the regime. Over 2 million people have lost their jobs, many have not been paid since the war began, and inflation is at 88%. Daily life continues to become increasingly difficult.

At the same time, the people of Lebanon and Palestine wake each day not knowing whether they will be killed in a strike or starve to death in Gaza — murdered by U.S.-Israeli wars they never chose to be a part of.

And in this country and around the world, it is ordinary people that pay the price as well. In the U.S. the resources poured into this war are being taken away from our own needs and redirected toward violence and repression. Estimates now put the cost of the war in Iran at some \$130 billion — money taken from the population that could fund hospitals, schools, housing, transportation, and more.

The longer this horrific war drags on, the greater the danger that it triggers a full international economic crisis, as the flow of oil and other essential goods is further choked off from people around the world.

And while the U.S. government funds these wars abroad, it is building up its machinery of repression at home. In Texas, activists have recently been handed prison sentences as long as 30 to 100 years for protesting ICE. In Minneapolis, organizers who stood up against the ICE occupation of their city have been indicted on conspiracy charges and may face prison time if convicted. This is what our government plans for those who dare to oppose them.

Those who rule our society are a threat to all of us. Their system of profit and exploitation requires wars of domination and destruction. We can't accept their system and the future they have in store for us. We have to oppose their system with everything we have. We must refuse to allow our lives and the lives of future generations to be destroyed. Our future depends on us gathering our forces to oppose their system.