

Speak Out Now! at AC Transit 12/16/2024

New Bid, Same Short Run Times

The new bid is out. A lot of drivers got shuffled around. It is not easy to get the bid you want because there are very few lines that have enough run time. Those get swooped up real quick. There may be a few drivers who will be getting a better run with this new bid. But for most drivers, this new bid, won't change very much. Drivers may be on a different line, driving a different route, but the run time will still be too short.

Time Off? We'll Let You Know

Many drivers requested Thanksgiving off to be with their families and loved ones. But many low seniority, drivers didn't find out if they would get the holiday off until the night before Thanksgiving. That meant they couldn't make plans. They couldn't tell anyone whether they were coming over. They couldn't plan to make a dish. They may have just ended up spending the holiday alone.

Workers have to request days off months in advance. Management should put out the schedule a lot sooner, and not jack around our lives like this.

Happy Holidays!

Those who work with Speak Out and this newsletter wish you an enjoyable holiday season, and hopefully some time away from work.

It can be a stressful time to be on the job. And the year ahead is going to be a challenging one. Our goal is to make it a year of the workers — not the bosses.

We will be taking a break.

See you the week of Jan. 13, 2025

New AC Manager: Preparing for a Fight

The AC Transit Board appointed Kathleen Kelly as the Interim General Manager to replace Michael Hursh, whose total salary plus benefits was \$556,045 in 2022. Kelly's been here before. She left AC in 2011 after six years. She's been a financial officer for AC and other transit systems in the Bay Area, and is known for using budgets to go after workers and cut back on service. We know what the District's plans are — they couldn't make it any clearer with this appointment.

The question is: what are workers' plans? If AC is getting ready for attacks on workers and the transit riders depend on, then that means it's time for AC workers to start preparing. If workers are organized throughout the system, with riders on our side, we can stand up to whatever plans the District has for us.

No School Closures in Oakland (Yet)

The Oakland Unified School District has been threatening to close several schools for months now. But last week students, teachers, and community members filled the school board meeting when the vote was to take place. And one by one, they spoke out against the school closures, demanding more schools not less, saying the schools are already too crowded, and more school closures will make everything worse. With these strength in numbers, and all the testimonies from community members, the school board was too ashamed to close the schools in front of the community for now.

But just because they didn't vote to close any schools this time, doesn't mean they won't try to close them next time. That means the community — students, teachers, workers, families, all of us — will have to increase our efforts to get even more organized in order to stop these closures from going through.

Be Back in 10 minutes because:

The Run Time is too short.

There's no time to take a break.

There's no time to go to the bathroom.

Thank you for your understanding!

We do the work to make society run.

We need to organize!

Get in touch with us!



speakoutsocialists.org



@sonsocialists

