

Speak Out Now at BART (12/5/2022)

Fare Evasion

For some Station Agents, fare evasion presents real challenges. People who pay their way to ride on BART (or maybe the company they work for does) get upset when they see the BART fare gate Olympics. Some vault over neatly. Others slink through easily. Others can't quite make it and push against the fare gate barriers, sometimes damaging it and bruising themselves in the process.

Many are young and this may be the way they budget their little money. Or maybe it's just attitude? Others clearly don't have any money. And others?

There is another type of evader that is less obvious - those who use or have used the existence of BART for their own purpose without paying a dime. They bought property or rented property in downtown S.F. or Oakland or somewhere along the line and their proximity to BART increased the value of their property because of easy access.

The people they hire to work for them, who ride or rode BART to work, helped build those empires. Now, with the pandemic-induced loss of ridership, the ridiculous fare-based model of funding is hitting BART. And the usual "make the workers pay" model is out of the question. It is way past time for those, whose enormous wealth is linked to the functioning of mass transit to pay up.

Tax the rich and fund essential services.

Scrub Crew or Stealth Crew?

There are two scrub crews, one works the San Francisco side of the system, the other in the East Bay. One look at the stations and you know where their focus has been by looking at the yellow platform strips.

For some reason the System Service workers are never told when the crew is going to clean their station. If the scrub crew is going to pressure wash certain areas, it would make sense for workers not to do anything more than pick trash up in those areas that day and follow up the next day with doing the follow-up cleaning.

What's the secret? Is management playing out some sort of childhood fantasy, sending this crew around in the dead of night to attack stations?

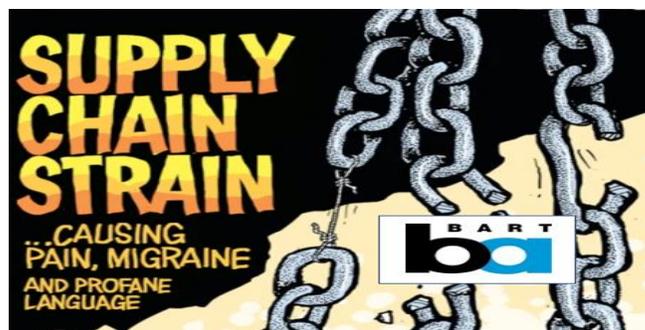
BART's Supply Chain

The global economy is not the only place where supply chain issues are damaged or even collapsing. The functioning of BART has always lacked something, but it seems that it is even more dysfunctional recently.

Departments like System Service, Traction Power, Structures, and most likely all others have had issues where someone forgot to pay the bills and contractor services were canceled, the wrong materials were ordered, or supplies stopped coming at all.

The moving of the main warehouse for the Stores Department to the Central Warehouse (CW) building in Hayward has been messy and disorganized. This is also true for the moving of much of the Secondary (component) Repairs into the new Hayward Maintenance Complex (HMC). All this has meant that the departments depending on these operations for parts and materials have suffered, not having access to what they need when they need it.

What a way to run a transit district—with gaps and holes all over the place, leaving workers without the tools and materials they need to do their jobs.



Come to the Speak Out online townhall

The Revolt in Iran!

Saturday December 10, 12-1:30pm

Morad Shirin, an Iranian activist, currently living in England, will give an update on the situation in Iran and possibilities for the future of the struggle. There will be time for questions and discussion following his talk.

ZOOM Link: [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/DEC-TH-22](https://tinyurl.com/dec-th-22)

Meeting ID: 821 5880 0683

Passcode: 340756

