# Speak Out Now! at AC Transit 5/20/2024

## It's Back

AC Transit has been on and off about the Realignment proposal to redo many of the runs. Now the plan is to go ahead with it. Why shouldn't we have a say in any changes that take place? There is now a petition directed to the Board of Directors that advocates that ALL runs have adequate time so that operators can get real breaks. Check out the QR code to sign the petition and share it with a friend!



### **On The Frontlines**

A few videos on social media have been making the rounds that show passengers fighting with bus operators in different parts of the country. These videos are just reminders of the conditions in which we work. While most passengers are cool and don't give us any problems, there is a small portion that seems like they are just trying to pick a fight. On the streets, we see people who are discarded by the system, often with serious mental health problems. These people, with all of the issues that they are dealing with and no real support, wind up on the bus. We shouldn't have to feel unsafe on the job. These are problems that we cannot address alone as transit workers fighting by ourselves. A real solution will only come when we lift everyone up in a fight for a better society.

# Los Angeles Transit Workers **Begin To Stand Up**

In response to recent violent incidents, roughly 360 bus and train operators in Los Angeles engaged in a "sick-out" on May 2nd. Last year, there were 168 assaults on transit workers in the LA Metro system, including stabbings and people being spit on. Several months ago, a passenger hijacked a bus with a BB gun and ran it into a hotel. Despite management promising more of a police presence, the cops don't seem to give a d@mn in the best of times.

Here at AC, the problems are all familiar to us. AC Transit was reported to have the highest rate of assaults on transit workers in the entire country last year. Transit workers in LA show us that we are not powerless!

### The Swiss Cheese Model

Ever feel like we're trying to fill in the holes in a piece of swiss cheese when we come to work? We come to work, our leader or follow are missing, BART breaks down and there's no buses or operators to do a bus bridge, an accident on the freeway lockes up the buses there for a while... Not only does this make for a disfunctional transit system that the public depends on, it keeps us tired and running all the time. These conditions make it difficult to connect with and share similar problems with each other, problems that if discussed, real solutions could be made. We arene't reposnisble for the holes in this swiss cheese, even though we are the ones who constantly trying to fill them in.

## **Biden Pledges \$1 Billion More In** Military Aid For Israel

As of October 7th, over 34,568 Palestinians have been killed and 77,765 have been seriously wounded. Israel is reported to have killed more children during the first four months of its bloody onslaught than all of the child deaths in all of the world's conflicts over the past four years. The Biden administration plans to give \$1 billion more in military aid for Israel. Who is expected to open up their wallets to pay for these atrocities? We are!

Not another nickel, not another dime, no more money for Israel's crimes!





SpeakOutSocialists.org IG: @sonsocialists

