

## San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District Memorandum

**TO:** Director Thomas Blalock **DATE:** July 28, 2011

**FROM:** Carter Mau  
Executive Manager, Planning and Budget

**SUBJECT: Roll Call for Introductions #10-388 – Permit Bicycles on the last car of every train at any time**

Staff from Customer Access, Operations Planning and Transportation met to discuss allowing bikes on the last cars of trains at all times. The group's recommendation is to maintain the existing bicycle on board policy given the following:

- 1) There will likely be insufficient capacity for bikes on the last car of trains during the peak period causing confusion, queuing on the crowded platform and spillover into adjacent cars.
- 2) It will be very challenging to enforce this policy. Once bicyclists are on the platform, if the last car is crowded they will likely board other cars (cars that may become more crowded as the train progresses).
- 3) This would permit bikes on crowded rush-hour platforms potentially leading to safety concerns and conflicts with other passengers.
- 4) Vertical circulation is already crowded in busy stations. Allowing more bicycles in the system during peak periods would further tax busy stairways and elevators.
- 5) Overall this would complicate the enforcement issue for the BART Police Department.
- 6) As ridership increases, trains will be getting more crowded and room for all passengers will be impacted. When new cars start deploying and potentially there may be more train capacity, we may have an opportunity to revisit this policy.

For the present two strategies are recommended. 1) Clear communication regarding when bikes are and are not allowed on trains. The bart.gov scheduler, the Fare and Schedules brochure and the platform destination signs now clearly delineate bike blackout times. 2) Continue to improve bike parking at stations to give riders a safe, secure parking option. BART's fourth bike station at Ashby opened recently, two additional bike stations (one at Civic Center and one at MacArthur) are in the planning stages, 64 concourse level bike racks were recently added to the 19<sup>th</sup> Street station and a large electronic locker procurement is in process (up to 1,000 lockers at 25 stations over the next few years). The Bicycle Access Plan, which is currently being updated, will also be recommending additional strategies to improve bicycle parking.

If you would like to further discuss this matter, I'd be happy to do so. I can be reached at 510 464-6194.

cc: Board Appointed Officers  
Executive Staff  
Kevin Hagerty

Steve Beroldo