

Speak Out Now at BART (1/11/2020)

5 A What?!!!

System Service Workers are provided 5 (five) reusable masks a week! People are told that if they need more, they can ask for them.

Ask and you shall receive? Fat chance this is BART. Better to ask Santa, but that's almost 12 months away, but it might be faster.

All kidding aside, do these decision-makers know what System Service Workers do all day and the protocol for using a mask?

How many times are you touching contaminated things? Even a broom or mop handles, not to mention the dump someone took at the end of the platform or that telltale puddle of yellow. Or how many other things?

Moving around breathing, sweating....and this paper thing is supposed to last through an 8-hour shift? Maybe they meant 5 a day, that might cover it.

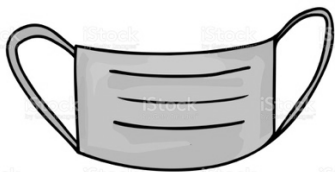
Being Held HASTUS

In the next few months we'll have two bids happening back to back. The question for TO's is whether or not they'll have a chance to give any input as the schedules seem to become increasingly more bizarre even though there are fewer trains running at a reduced rate.

Every TO understands they could be doing anything for the 8 or 10 hours in a day they sign up for. That being said; TO's should have a chance to weigh in when radically different start times throw off your sleep, or have 2 and a half hour fall backs in small break rooms. These are all a factor in the age of COVID where every extra moment in the public means that much more of a risk to your health.

If there are changes here and there that TO's or foreworkers can provide an easy fix to, why not heed the input?

The only explanation of the chaos from the district is that HASTUS (District's scheduling software) is still being fine-tuned. That's been the case now for more than 3 years and counting.



Is this one of the many species going extinct?

Happy New Year?

The New Year's celebrations came and went. People were glad to put 2020 behind us and were hoping for a real change this year.

Nothing has changed for the better at work. And the virus hit harder filling the ICUs. Some looked to the elections for relief, Biden was elected and there was the Georgia election.

But not everyone felt relief. Trump convinced many that he had really won. And called people to come to Washington to overturn the election. He jacked people up and thousands stormed the capitol building in D.C. The groups spearheading this are open fascists and Nazis. Confederate and Nazi flags were all over, some wore bulletproof vests, one wore his Nazi Auschwitz Summer Camp hoodie.

2020 was a dumpster fire, but there is still a lot of flammable material out there. And the embers are still glowing. We've got a year ahead of us and we can't be sitting back waiting for what's coming next.

Poor Leadership Spawns New Leaders

The question is: how far are we willing to go? We already have witnessed through this entire pandemic, thus far, where we stand with the District. It resonates the same here at BART just like everywhere else — the shop must stay open and workers are expendable. Employers obviously don't care about us as workers and the overall lack of leadership is clearly evident.

We are faced with the harsh reality of filling the leadership void ourselves. It is up to us to continue to build and maintain lines of communication concerning those of us that test positive for COVID-19 or are exposed to individuals who do.

The District has already provided us with countless examples of strategically incomplete contact tracing, coercively badgering us back to work prematurely, along with a lackadaisical approach to providing us with cleaning products and PPE. We must continue to demand what we deserve in the name of our safety.

If we are being treated this badly considering the fact that our ridership is at 13%, now is the time to force the District to make things right in preparation for anticipated higher revenue numbers.