

DATE: June 15, 2013

TO: BART Board of Directors

FROM: San Francisco Bicycle Advisory Committee (SFBAC)

SUBJECT: **Comments on Bicycle Storage on Rail Cars**

Dear Board President Keller and Members of the BART Board of Directors,

The SFBAC wishes to weigh in on consideration for the next generation of BART cars.

**Design for Change and Growth** – Bicycle utilization will increase in the next 50 years. During the life of this new generation BART cars, the basic design of the bicycle is likely to change. This suggests the need for spaces at the two end doorways for bicycle storage, at a minimum, but without fixed mooring that reflects assumptions on the dimensions of a standard bicycle in this part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Instead, we hope the design will establish a clear space for bicycles, so that they don't interfere with ingress and egress, and a horizontal bar for anchoring, but avoiding a built-in device that only a limited number of bicycles can accommodate. This area should be clearly designated as an area for human-powered mobility with signage, so there is no dispute of the intended purpose of the area.

**Improved Signage** – The two end doors should have, on the exterior, a sign that indicates designation for bicycles near the entrance. The middle door should not have this sign, and perhaps even show a symbol that bicycles should not be allowed at this door. The area around the outer doors should have no vertical bars that make positioning difficult or delay the ability for bicyclists or disabled users to efficiently enter or leave the train.

**No Fold Down Seats** – Fold down seats should not be used in the bicycle area, as it places people on bikes in the awkward position of asking passengers to move. This could result in confrontations, compromising comity between passengers.

**Removal of Vertical Bar** – Whether to optimize ingress and egress during stops, or to quickly evacuate the train, a vertical bar obstructing the walkway is not in the best interests of people with luggage, bicycles, or wheelchairs.

Thank you for the exceptional consideration you have offered the public in providing a continuous review of the evolving designs of the next generation of rail cars. We hope they will serve our needs for the next 50 years better than the design of the first generation.

Respectfully,

*Bert Hill*

Bert Hill

Chair, SF Bicycle Advisory Committee

Adopted on May 28, 2014

AYES: 10

NAYS: 0

ABSTENSIONS: 0

ABSENT: 1