Expansion plans for Transbay Terminal
Gain support from District Directors

Two plans to expand San Francisco's Transbay Transit Terminal have received support from AC Transit's Board of Directors this month.

Unanimous endorsement of two of four proposals for the future of the transportation facility, at First and Mission streets, was voted by the Board.

Approximately 45,000 weekday AC Transit riders use the terminal, which also handles passengers from Golden Gate Transit, SamTrans, San Francisco Muni and Amtrak, as well as private carriers.

AC Transit favors two of the proposals presented in an environmental impact statement issued last month - both proposals calling for expansion of the current terminal facility by building a second tier to accommodate expected increases in passenger ridership.

New buses ordered by District Directors to meet needs of wheelchair users, others too

A new look in buses will be appearing on East Bay streets beginning next Spring.

AC Transit Directors this month awarded a contract for providing 175 new buses to Flyer Industries Ltd., a Canadian firm which builds standard buses using mostly American-made components.

The Flyer bus generally approximates the characteristics and features of the standard city buses with which AC Transit riders are now familiar, though its external appearance is slightly different.

The new 40-foot Flyer bus will accommodate up to 47 riders in comfortable, fabric-covered seats. And each of the new buses will be equipped with a wheelchair lift, plus tie-down positions to accommodate two wheelchair users.

When delivery begins early next year, the new additions to the AC Transit fleet will be employed on regular bus routes throughout the urban East Bay, in Fremont and Newark, and on bus lines operated in Central and Eastern Contra Costa County.

Estimates are that use by transbay passengers will increase between five and six percent per year, quickly exceeding the already strained capacity of the terminal.

Two other proposals - one for only minor face lifting and upgrading, the other calling for tearing down the current facility and building a new structure - did not receive support from the Board.

An anticipated cost of between $47 and $54 million is listed in the environmental impact report for the two expansion plans endorsed by AC Transit. No date is projected for the beginning of construction in the report, prepared for the San Francisco Bay Area Transportation Authority, which will hold a public hearing on the proposal August 23rd.

AC Transit and its predecessors began using the terminal in 1939, with the building of the Bay Bridge.

Our 'Stockholders' Write

We wish to compliment you on having such courteous and understanding employees as a driver (Emeterio Lopez) on the 34 Express line. Recently, at Jack London Square there was an elderly woman who was lost and confused. This driver made it a point to inquire from headquarters the best route to direct this woman after ascertaining her destination.

She was not too coherent. He made it a point to inquire from the woman after ascertaining her destination. This morning he courteously, and with a “thank you”, asked that some passengers stop smoking. They ignored his request, so he walked back and spoke to the offenders sternly. The smoking stopped. He handled a touchy situation well.

During my trip, I was impressed by the cheerful and courteous deportment of this driver. He is an asset to your organization.

John M. Bell
El Cerrito

As a long-time rider of AC Transit I feel qualified to comment regarding your drivers.

Driver D. B. Mullen is one of your best. He has a warm and friendly manner enhanced with patience and driving competence.

Fred Tessonard
Oakland

I want to commend your driver, Lucius Lee, Jr.

This morning he courteously, and with a “thank you”, asked that some passengers stop smoking. They ignored his request, so he walked back and spoke to the offenders sternly. The smoking stopped. He handled a touchy situation well.

During my trip, I was impressed by the cheerful and courteous deportment of this driver. He is an asset to your organization.

John M. Bell
El Cerrito

I was on a 34 bus, which I ride real often, when a young man got on who refused to pay full fare. The driver tried to explain to him he would have to pay more, but the man refused.

The driver (Carl Swanson) was as nice as anyone could possibly be. He called for security, and when the police got there, the passenger was really like an animal.

I have ridden the buses since the old streetcars, and if I can always be on a bus with a driver who holds his ground, I know I will be safe.

Mrs. D. H. Hutchinson
Oakland

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Flyer's low bid for the 40-foot coach was about $118,500 each. Total capital funds available for this procurement is about $22.3 million.

The 175 new buses will consist of 155 40-foot buses and 20 similar 35-foot buses.

The COVER - Asian Manpower Services immigrants receive assistance from AC Transit Customer Service personnel Lorrie Gonzales, left photo, who explains routes, and Bernell Thomas, right photo, who distributes pocket timetables. The newly arrived travelers from the Far East are helped in identifying where essential services such as hospitals and social agencies are located and how to get there by public transit.
**PROMOTING CONSERVATION —** AC Transit buses are displaying a visual reminder encouraging people to save gas by using public transit. The posters, which went up this month, are a cooperative effort between AC Transit, the United States Department of Energy and the American Public Transit Association.

**Fremont Area Riders Get Wider Service**

AC Transit Line 21-North Fremont-Union City bus service was extended this month to make local stops in Hayward.

This long-planned improvement, developed in conjunction with the District's Five Year Plan and approved by the Board of Directors will provide Fremont and Newark bus riders direct access to local bus lines serving educational, governmental, medical, recreational and shopping facilities in the Hayward area.

Line 21 service, now operates between BART/Fremont (via central business district, Centerville and Cabrillo Park) and BART/Union City, extending north via Decoto Rd. to transfer connections along Mission Blvd.

**SILVA HONORED—** AC Transit's training department staff called George Silva out of retirement for presentation of a special award for his 25 years of service. Cecil Gross, chief training instructor, right, presents Silva with the award, featuring Silva's mounted badge. The award was the first of its kind presented by the training department. Silva retired Aug. 1, 1978.

**Three Divisions Beat July Safe Driving Goal**

Newark Division drivers continued to lead the District in safety statistics, compiling an average of 54,009 miles per accident during the month of July.

The monthly goal is an average of at least 13,250 miles per chargeable accident.

Drivers at Seminary Division also exceeded the monthly goal by a comfortable margin, registering an average of 16,389 miles. Emeryville Division drivers posted a 14,650-mile average.

During the month of July, the District's drivers wheeled the buses a total of 2,452,025 miles on the road.

**William Wheeler**

William "Pappy" Wheeler, who joined AC Transit as a driver at Richmond Division in 1965 but who transferred to Maintenance four years ago, has joined the ranks of retirees. Ahead, he says, is the possibility of a post-retirement business venture — a shop in San Pablo specializing in sale and repair of firearms.

First on his leisure-life agenda, however, was a lengthy trip by plane to such points as Vermont, New York, Miami, Kansas City, and Washington, D.C. One aim of this trip, he said, was to allow wife Enid to become reacquainted with relatives she hadn't seen in 40 years.

Wheeler had been a driver for more than a decade — with a Kansas City, Mo., transit system and with Greyhound — before he moved to California. Just a few days after arriving, he began driving for AC Transit.

The Wheelers, who live in Pinole, have one son, David, 22, a machinist who also is close to completing studies for a degree in police science/criminal law.

**Three Divisions Beat July Safe Driving Goal**

James Simmons, who is entering retirement after 33 years of transit service. A driver at Emeryville Division for about 20 years, Simmons got his start with Key System doing track and roadway maintenance.

Previously, he had aided the war effort as a shipyard worker at both Kaiser and Mare Island.

Keeping the family freezer stocked with "catch" from his frequent fishing trips is Simmons' main retirement activity. His enthusiasm for the sport is shared by wife Olivia. The couple fish as often as three times a week, though Olivia must plan these joint excursions around her work schedule as cook at a Walnut Creek convalescent hospital.

Simmons does not plan a post-retirement move, preferring to remain in his present home in Oakland. He and Olivia have a son, Donal (formerly in baseball) and two granddaughters.

**The Angler**

"Gone fishin'" might be the most appropriate theme-song for James Simmons, who is entering retirement after 33 years of transit service. A driver at Emeryville Division for about 20 years, Simmons got his start with Key System doing track and roadway maintenance.

Previously, he had aided the war effort as a shipyard worker at both Kaiser and Mare Island.

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New Employees

Emery L. Franklin
Transportation
Emeryville

Brian Gilmer
Transportation
Seminary

Gary Grant
Transportation
Emeryville

Teresa Green
Transportation
Richmond

Scottie Griffin
Transportation
Richmond

Frances Haywood
Transportation
Emeryville

Wanda Henry
Transportation
Richmond

Ramon Hernandez
Transportation
Emeryville

Yvonne Hill
Transportation
Seminary

Phyllis Hooper
Transportation
Emeryville

Deborah Johnson
Maintenance
Seminary

Wilma Jones
Transportation
Seminary

Jacqueline Knox
Transportation
Emeryville

Maxine Knox
Transportation
Richmond

Elaine Lewis
Maintenance
Seminary

Diane Malinak
Scheduling
General Office

Barbara Marcelius
Transportation
Richmond

William Marable
Transportation
Seminary

Parnell Martin
Transportation
Emeryville

Ann Mason
Transportation
Emeryville

Otto Herrera
Transportation
Seminary

Passenger Trips

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Service Miles

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Contract Services:

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*Contract service to Pinole-Hercules-Rodeo-Crockett began Sept. 5, 1978. This service is extension of Line 78A; statistical data is included in East Bay.
At an adjourned regular meeting July 25, the Board of Directors:

- Authorized participation in joint procurement of lamp bulbs with Regional Transit Association, on motion of Director Bettencourt.

- Awarded contracts to lowest responsive bidders for shop tools and equipment, and authorized purchase on the open market of additional shop tools and equipment for which no formal responsive bid was received, on motion of Director McDonnell.

- Authorized participation in joint procurement for furnishing batteries with Regional Transit Association, on motion of Director McDonnell.

- Exercised option for air conditioning to be included in contract for 20 35-foot buses and 155 40-foot buses, on motion of Director Holmes.

- Exercised option for electronic destination signs to be included in contract for 20 35-foot buses and 155 40-foot buses, on motion of Director Holmes.

* * *

At a regular meeting August 8, the Board of Directors:

- Authorized travel for three management personnel to Portland, Ore., to view demonstration of RUCUS Computer Scheduling System, on motion of Director Rinehart.

- Agreed to extend lease of Latham Square Building facilities for four years to April 30, 1985, with option to cancel after two years, with provision for improvements in level of maintenance and remodeling required, on motion of Director Bettencourt.

- Adopted resolution providing current authorization for withdrawal of funds on deposit, on motion of Director Rinehart.

- Adopted resolution supporting two proposed project development plans for improvements at the Transbay Transit Terminal by the San Francisco Bay Area Transportation Terminal Authority, on motion of Director Bettencourt. (See story, Page 3.)