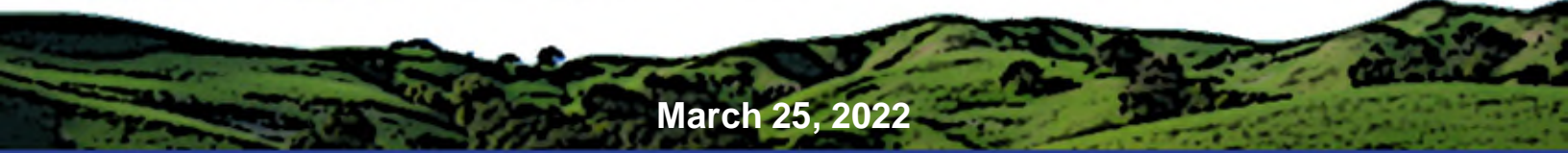




Promoting accountable, cost-effective and efficient government and opposing unnecessary taxes and spending



March 25, 2022

CoCoTax Speaker Presentation – March 25, 2022

CoCoTax Debbie Allen Presentation March 25 2022

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Our speaker at the CoCoTax Breakfast meeting on March 25, 2022 was Debora Allen, who has served on the CCERA Pension Board, The BART Board and is a CPA. She is a co-owner of a construction business.

She explained recent BART travel trends. Pre-Covid pandemic the budget was financed 60% by ridership fares. With the covid 19 pandemic, ridership dropped to 6% of the pre covid period. BART received a \$271 million federal subsidy to help fill budget deficit until 2026. But they have \$10 million in capital projects that are not funded thru the federal subsidy which cannot be used for capital projects. Since the pandemic, ridership is up to 30% of the pre-covid period. But People have a choice. How do people make a choice to use BART?

What the riders want is cleanliness and safety. BART had eliminated 16 police positions during the Covid period and they are now down 26 police officers. There are 47 police officers on a shift for 52 stations. The "Homeless" are camped out in stations and sleeping on trains which is a significant factor in discouraging riders. The customers want a higher level of police service. BART added ambassadors, bathroom attendants, as well as elevator attendants in the SF Powell Street station and in Oakland's 19th Avenue station. But these types of employees have no authority to intervene or and answer questions, and don't even give directions or address problems. The just do call forwarding or tell customers who to call, for example, the BART crises intervention office. The crises intervention specialists are not equipped to handled what is really a mental health and addiction problems of most homeless. BART had a proposal to add 19 police officers but that came to a halt on a 6-3 vote against." It's become just me fighting for police." The BART extension to the Oakland airport which costs \$6 people don't ride. There is a BART extension to SFO which the people do use.

BART stopped taking delivery of new BART cars when they discovered malfunctions in the electronic control system that needed to be corrected at the manufacturer's point of sale location. Most recently a BART Director moved outside of her district boundaries. The PUC regulations state when you move out of your district, your seat is vacant. Alameda taxpayer's association has begun an investigation. The director's position is "the regulations apply to thee but not to me." The regulations provide that a petition to the State AG must first occur. If the AG doesn't pursue it, then a citizen can bring a quo-warranto lawsuit. But it is again referred to the AG. There is 1860 case law that provides the agency's governing Board must first declare the seat vacant before any action can be commenced.

Debbie is now pursuing public service by filing for the open seat of District #4 on the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors.

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