



# RICHMOND MAIN STREET

## RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA



# July 2025 Newsletter



## Ride With AC Transit Buses: Taking You So Many Places

AC Transit isn't just buses—it's the bridge between communities, opportunity, and economic growth. In a recent conversation with Ryan Lau, External Affairs Representative, we learned how this essential service is redefining public transportation across the Bay Area.

While BART is often called the backbone of Bay Area transit, Lau offers a fresh perspective: "AC Transit is the connective tissue—getting people where BART can't." Lau emphasizes the critical role AC Transit Buses plays in providing first-mile and last-mile solutions for commuters, seniors, students, and those without access to a private vehicle. "Our average trip is about three miles," he explains. "That shows we're helping people with the daily essentials—getting to work, to the doctor, school, shopping, or to visit family. With service from El Sobrante to Fremont, and key connections into San Francisco and Palo Alto, AC Transit supports both independent travel and major transit systems.



And in Richmond, AC Transit makes seamless connections to:

- Amtrak
- Richmond Ferry
- BART

At the heart of these connections lies the Richmond Transit Center Hub, a key AC Transit stop and transfer point. It links local neighborhoods to the greater Bay Area through a well-integrated network of bus, rail, and ferry services—all in one location.

Whether you're commuting, sightseeing, or connecting between systems, Richmond's transit center is a powerful starting point.

Tempo, One of AC Transit's most exciting developments is the rollout of the *Tempo* Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line and it's already their busiest route.

## TEMPO AC TRANSIT



It's nine and a half miles from the San Leandro BART Station to Downtown Oakland, and it's been transformative spanning San Leandro BART to Downtown Oakland, it features:

- **Center-of-the-road**-running dedicated lanes (will this work?)
- Level boarding for accessibility
- Off-board fare payment for speed
- Plans for future expansion into Berkeley and West County

From seniors to students, AC Transit is prioritizing access:



- Student Transit Passes (Alameda & Contra Costa) offer free rides.
- Travel Training helps seniors confidently navigate transit. AC Transit offers guided, hands-on trips that teach seniors how to read bus schedules, plan routes, pay fares, and board safely—often through group outings led by trained staff or volunteers.
- Multilingual Materials in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese Community outreach through events like Juneteenth and 3rd of July.

“We’re not just serving the community. We’re part of it.”

AC Transit leads the state in zero-emission vehicles, with over 25 years of hydrogen fuel cell buses in operation. The only byproduct? Water vapor.

They also fund infrastructure improvements like:

- Traffic signal upgrades for smoother flow
- Safe, accessible bus stops
- New tech to reduce congestion for all road users

When BART service is interrupted, AC Transit provides immediate bus bridges to keep commuters moving. “We have real-time coordination with BART and city partners—we step in when needed most.” “When BART goes down, we step in,” says Lau. “We’re prepared to support large-scale mobilization when needed.” AC Buses are the key partners in early-morning service for hospitality and healthcare workers.

In August 2025, AC Transit will roll out a major system-wide realignment to improve:

- Reliability
- Frequency
- Coverage

Whether it’s helping a senior regain independence or connecting workers across counties, AC Transit Bus Service is more than public transportation—it’s public empowerment. Look for outreach through social media, city council meetings, bus ads, and more. The goal: make public transit even more useful and intuitive for riders.

Why Ride?



# Our Fleet



AC Transit's fleet consists of 626 buses, serving 1.5 million residents in the East Bay area. They are the largest public bus-only system in California and the third largest in the United States. AC Transit operates a variety of bus types, including both diesel and electric models, and is actively working towards a zero-emission fleet.

- ◆ Short walks + quick rides = better health
- ◆ Better for the planet
- ◆ Costs less than driving
- ◆ Friendly for youth & seniors
- ◆ Great for fun outings with friends or family

**Question: Did Ryan say that in most places a bus stop is every "FEW BLOCKS"? I think it was implied in this statement: That you should walk three blocks to the bus stop instead of walking to your garage and getting your car. Or maybe this statement: Somebody can only have to walk two blocks before a bus station shows up.**

AC Transit is built for everyone—and ready for your next ride. Want updates on route changes, free passes, or special services?

Visit [actransit.org](http://actransit.org)

Feedback or suggestions? [actransit.org/feedback](http://actransit.org/feedback)

Seniors: Ask about Travel Training

Students: Inquire at your school about free transit passes



For more information, contact:

Ryan Lau

AC Transit

Legislative Affairs and Community Relations

Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District

1600 Franklin Street | Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: 510-891-4843 | Cell: 510-504-1204 | Fax: 510-891-4874

Email: [rlau@actransit.org](mailto:rlau@actransit.org) | [www.actransit.org](http://www.actransit.org)

# Where we travel



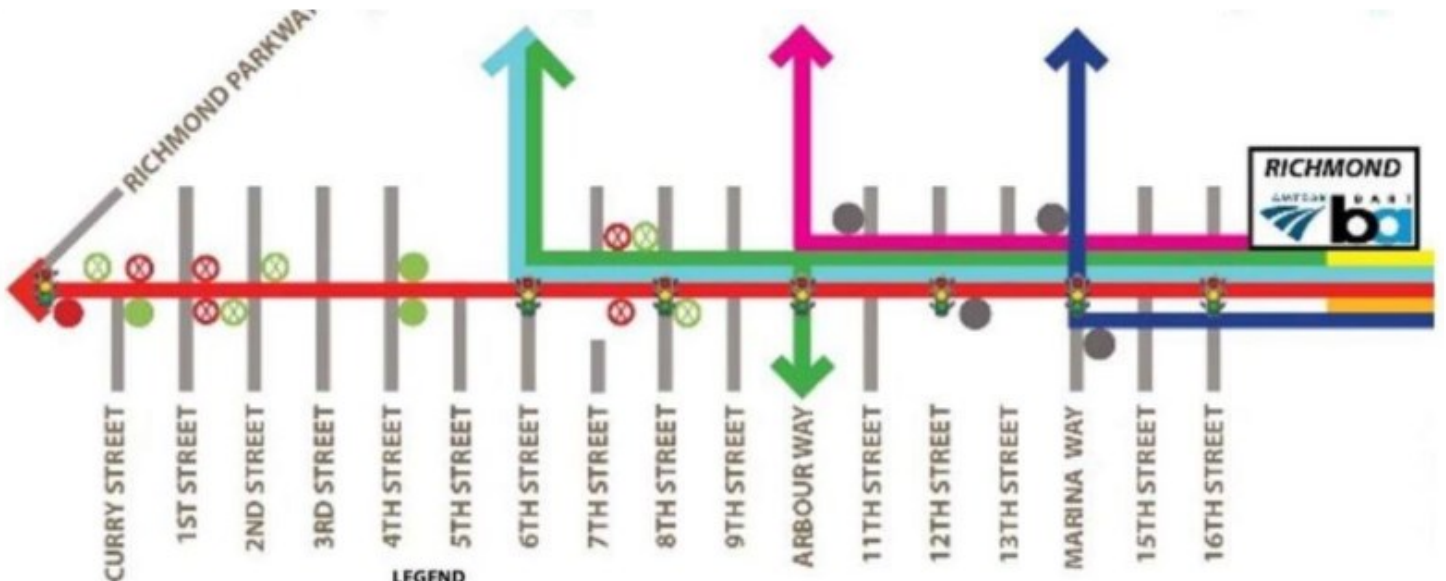
We connect with all of the major transit systems like BART, Amtrak and the ferry.  
 We travel from El Sobrante to Milpitas, through San Francisco and over to Palo Alto.

# AC Transit Bus Stops Along Macdonald Avenue



**LEGEND**

<b>Bus Stop Changes</b>	<b>Additional Improvements</b>	<b>Bus Lines</b>
⊗ Relocated & Improved Bus Stop	🚦 Traffic Signal Improvement	70
○ Relocated Bus Stop		71
⊗ Bus Stop Removed for Nearby Relocation		72M
● Bus Stop Removed		74
● Improved Bus Stop		76
● Existing Unchanged Bus Stop		376
		800

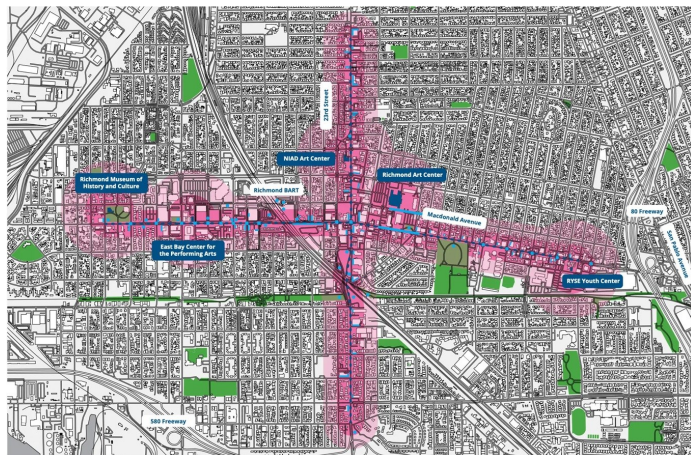


**LEGEND**

<b>Bus Stop Changes</b>	<b>Additional Improvements</b>	<b>Bus Lines</b>
⊗ Relocated & Improved Bus Stop	🚦 Traffic Signal Improvement	70
○ Relocated Bus Stop		71
⊗ Bus Stop Removed for Nearby Relocation		72M
● Bus Stop Removed		74
● Improved Bus Stop		76
● Existing Unchanged Bus Stop		376
		800



# Richmond Renaissance: The Making of a Hub for the Arts



B.K. Williams shared information about the progress and future of the Arts Corridor.



## Tidbit:



### Helpful Banking Tip:

If you are a current business owner, now is the perfect time to ask yourself have you completed a fiscal year review of your payroll processing? This crucial step can uncover inefficiencies, outdated practices, or costly errors that may be quietly affecting your bottom line. Scheduling an annual appointment with your local banker ensures you're taking full advantage of the tools and services available to streamline payroll operations. From automating payments to reviewing tax compliance and cash flow timing, a banker can help you identify ways to save time, reduce costs, and minimize stress—allowing you to focus more on growing your business and less on administrative headaches. Don't wait until year-end surprises force your hand—make it a habit to review your payroll process every year with a trusted financial partner.

Contact: Ruben Olagues  
AVP Branch Manager  
Mechanics Bank Mira Vista Branch  
4100 Macdonald Avenue  
Richmond, CA 94804  
510-262-7420  
[ruben\\_olagues@mechanicsbank.com](mailto:ruben_olagues@mechanicsbank.com)



Mexican business has moved from the lot next to the bicycle shop to the El Garage space on the corner of 15th and Macdonald.



# 2025 MUSIC ON MAIN! THE MAIN!



AT



DOWNTOWN RICHMOND FOOD COURT

**THURSDAY  
JULY 24TH  
5PM - 7:30PM**

**15th & Macdonald Ave  
FREE! Community Event**



**ANDRE THIERRY**

GRAMMY-NOMINATED  
ACCORDIAN SOUL & ZYDECO



*Join us for  
good music - good fun  
and community!*

# What's Coming!

July: Coffee with a Cop

July & August : Music on the Main

September: Spirit and Soul

December: Downtown Holiday Festival

## Contact Us



For information regarding  
available spaces to rent!

510-236-4049



BOOKSTORE & GIFTS

260 Broadway, Richmond, CA 94804  
multiculturalbookstore@gmail.com  
www.multiculturalbookstore.com

# CONTACT US

**Richmond Main Street Initiative, Inc.**

**Address: 1600 Nevin Plaza, Richmond, Ca 94801**

**Phone: (510) 236-4049**

**Email: [director@richmondmainstreet.org](mailto:director@richmondmainstreet.org)**

**Follow us: Facebook, Instagram**

**[Learn More & Contact Us](#)**



*Copyright (C) \*ICURREN2025T\_YEAR1\* Richmond Main Street Initiative. All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website. Office address: 1600 Nevin Plaza Richmond,  
Ca 94801

Our mailing address is:

Richmond Main Street Initiative P.O Box 1414 Richmond, CA 94802 USA