

# ALBANY CALIFORNIA



**CITY OF ALBANY**  
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE  
ALBANY, CA 94706  
[www.AlbanyCA.org](http://www.AlbanyCA.org)

June 3, 2024

Board of Directors  
Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District  
1600 Franklin Street  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for combining the 72 and 72R lines

Honorable Directors:

Thank you and AC Transit staff for seeking to realign service to post-pandemic travel patterns and apprising the City of Albany of each step in the process.

The current proposal with regard to the 72 lines is to reduce service on the 72R from every 12 minutes during weekdays and 15 minutes the remainder of the time to every half hour all the time. The 72 and 72M would continue to operate every half hour. The City of Albany asks you to instead adopt the prior recommendation from the District's staff to combine the 72R and 72 into one route with a number of stops intermediate between these two running every 15 minutes.

This proposal risks riders regularly having to wait 20 minutes to a half hour to board a bus along San Pablo Avenue between downtown Oakland and Contra Costa College. The 72R, being faster by design, will overtake the 72 and 72M. With the result buses on these lines will frequently arrive at a stop at nearly the same time. The 72 and 72M, having different length routes experiencing different conditions, are at substantial risk of not maintaining a 15-minute service spacing between them along the portions of their routes that overlap along San Pablo Avenue.

Some riders only have to experience having to wait 20 minutes to a half hour once to abandon the mode. Riders that do not have an alternative will suffer even more due to the increase in their travel time and uncertainty/variation in that time.

Please choose the combined 72R-72 plan recommended by staff to limit reducing ridership and making the life of those that remain more difficult along San Pablo Avenue. The increase in residences that has occurred and is further planned along the street was based in part on its frequent bus service.

Sincerely,

John Miki, Mayor  
City of Albany

Cc: Ryan Lau, External Affairs Representative & Michael Hursh, General Manager