

THE HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY'S MORNING CLIPS

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Facing backlash from civil rights advocates and one of its own board members, BART has defended the decision to block cellphone use, with spokesman Jim Allison saying the cell phone disruptions were legal because the agency owns the property and infrastructure.

"I'm just shocked that they didn't think about the implications of this. We really don't have the right to be this type of censor," Lynette Sweet, who serves on BART's board of directors, said previously. "In my opinion, we've let the actions of a few people affect everybody. And that's not fair."

BART officials on Sunday were also working a strategy to try to block plans by protesters to try to disrupt BART service Monday.

"We're making preparations to try to prevent any unsafe conditions on the platform," Allison told the San Jose Mercury News. "I'm not going to discuss any specifics, other than to say we're preparing."

The American Civil Liberties Union has also questioned Thursday's incident. The ACLU has a scheduled meeting with BART's police chief on Monday about other topics and the cellphone issue will added be to the agenda, spokeswoman Rebecca Farmer said.

Hackers Breach BART Website And Obtain Personal Data (LAT)

By Garrett Therolf

[Los Angeles Times \(blog\)](#), August 15, 2011

Officials at the Bay Area Rapid Transit system were attempting to contact more than 2,400 customers Sunday afternoon to inform them that their personal information had been obtained and published by a group of hackers.

The security breach was perpetrated by the hacker-activist group Anonymous, which launched cyber attacks Sunday against BART and the Fullerton Police Department in retaliation for deadly confrontations between police and homeless men.

The attack did not appear to be successful in Fullerton, but officials at the San Francisco-area mass transit authority were forced to shut down MyBART.org, a marketing website designed to encourage riders to use the system for travel to leisure events.

The group posted the names, addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers of thousands of Bay Area residents, but a BART spokesman said the website held no sensitive financial information.

"We are in the process of contacting our customers to offer advice and extend regrets that this has happened," said BART spokesman Jim Allison.

Allison said the FBI was investigating the breach, and experts from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security were advising the agency during the crisis.

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