

TRAIN TAKEOVER!

A train takeover is a great way to build energy, excitement for a campaign, while engaging with passersby and engaging them in the work. With as few as 5-10 to as many as 20-30 people, this action will be as hyped as you make it.

EXAMPLES:

Redline Takeover for Rekia

VIDEO: <http://bit.ly/2hvKVsq>

Train Takeover for Reparations Campaign:

PHOTOS: <http://bit.ly/2hxakP1>

#ByeAnita Train Takeover with 5th Graders:

AUDIO: <http://bit.ly/2yETgyc>

Train Takeover for Welcoming Cities Ordinance:

Artwork (Right) by Joanna Booth



CHECKLIST:

Before you go, make sure you have everything you need!

- Meeting point & route (CTA station, direction)
- Posters/signs
- Handout/Flyer with more info
- Script (Print copies for everyone coming)
- Chants
- Hashtag
- Whiteboard (optional)
- Roles:
 - Chant-leader(s) / Hype Team
 - Flyer distributors
 - Sign/Whiteboard recruiter
 - Documentation Team:
 - Photographer
 - Live-tweeter(s)
 - Video?
- Bring water bottles & snacks! You will get tired!

INSTRUCTIONS:

Once you've met up at the CTA station where you'll begin, have everyone gather briefly to explain how it will work. Practice reading the script together two-three times to get the pacing. Have a "cue," ideally a chant, to get everyone in rhythm and starting to read the script at the exact same time.

You'll all board the same train-car (often it's easiest to start with the last car, furthest from the conductor), and when everyone is settled, the chant leader will start the cue chant that leads into reading the script.

While your crew is reading, have at least 1 person attempting to take photos and video and post to social media with #NoCopAcademy. Additionally, try to have 1-2 people asking and taking pictures with passengers holding the signs and/or whiteboard with a supportive message. And of course, make sure there is someone assigned to distribute flyers to passengers who appear interested and/or have questions.

When you finish reading, the chant leader should be prepared to lead chants until the train stops and you can switch cars. You want to keep the energy up the whole time! The script should be written to fit within one stop. When it's done and the doors open, everyone gets off the train together and moves forward a train car. In the new car, you start over, with new people.

*If you notice you are getting a lot of negative attention, move to the next car! If the conductor seems upset, just deboard the train, wait for the next one, and start at the back again. If this is your team's first time with a train takeover, you can take a break by exiting the train and gathering to check in while on the platform waiting for another train.

**If things are going rough, just hop off and have a mini check-in on the platform. How are folks feeling? What's working? What do we need to do better? What can we change?

SAMPLE SCRIPT (No Cop Academy)

Chant while boarding:

No Cop Academy! No Cop Academy!
\$95 million for communities - not CPD!

Mic-Check:

We are here - because Rahm Emanuel - wants to spend another \$95 million - on Chicago Police - and we are fed up. - He plans to build - a massive new training compound - for the racist and violent police - at the same time - that he cuts school spending - cuts mental health clinics - cuts affordable housing. - We want schools for kids - not cops!

We want police accountability - not more resources for the police. CPD already gets \$1.5 billion per year - that's \$million per day. Plus the city has spent \$600 million - on misconduct settlements - in the past 5 years. - That's not right! - A fancy new building - will not end racism.

We want real safety in our communities. - That means investing in programs and services - like quality schools - quality healthcare - jobs for teens - childcare for all - living wages. More police will only lead to more of the same. - That's why we say -

Chant:

We know the truth, we got the stats
If the city's so broke, where they get that money at?!

Announce:

We invite you to take a picture with one of our signs, or tell us how you would spend \$95 million in Chicago! Follow and join our campaign on twitter #NoCopAcademy