

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Policy Advisory Council Transit Transformation Action Plan Subcommittee

March 13, 2023

Agenda Item 5

Transit 2050+ Scope and Schedule Update

Subject:

Update on Transit 2050+, including the anticipated work scope and schedule.

Background:

At the December 2022 Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee meeting, MTC Commissioners and ABAG Board members were supportive of staff's proposal for coordinating connected network planning (consistent with Transit Transformation Action Plan Action #18) with the forthcoming Plan Bay Area update, Plan Bay Area 2050+. Transit 2050+ will create a first-of-its-kind regional transit modal plan as part of Plan Bay Area that will comprehensively re-imagine the six transit-related strategies in the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Transportation Element based on a vision for a comprehensive regional transit network. To advance this work, a project management team including MTC/ABAG, large transit operators, and small transit operators has been formed to refine the Transit 2050+ scope and schedule and procure consultant services to assist in the development of Transit 2050+.

Anticipated Transit 2050+ Work Scope and Schedule:

Following is a summary of the significant tasks for Transit 2050+ and the key areas of overlap with other Plan Bay Area 2050+ elements. Staff anticipates that the selected consultant team will be under contract in late spring or early summer. Staff will seek feedback from the Transit Transformation Action Plan (TAP) Subcommittee on the draft deliverables for the Transit 2050+ tasks listed below at the appropriate milestones in the planning process.

**Task 1: Draft Network Definition and Draft Goals and Objectives for Transit 2050+
(Anticipated Schedule: Winter 2023; completed by MTC and transit operators prior to
consultant onboarding)**

This task will define the regional and regionally significant transit network, including hubs and corridors, and identify draft goals and objectives to guide the development of Transit 2050+. The deliverables from this initial task will be further refined through Task 2, Existing Conditions, Needs, Gaps, and Opportunities.

**Task 2: Existing Conditions, Needs, Gaps, and Opportunities
(Anticipated Schedule: Summer and Fall 2023)**

This task seeks to understand how travel needs and demand have evolved over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic and to identify associated needs, gaps, and opportunities with respect to the regional and regionally significant transit network with a focus on providing "Bay Area transit services [that] are equitably planned and integrally managed as a unified, efficient and reliable network," (one of the "Transformational Outcomes" identified in the Transit Transformation Action Plan). This includes understanding the travel patterns and needs of different equity priority populations, including low-income households, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities, people with disabilities or mobility impairments, women and children, and people with limited English proficiency. It will also include an assessment of the relative demand and need for different types of transit services based on changes in travel patterns since the pandemic's start that will likely persist into the future.

The first round of public engagement would occur as part of this task, focusing on the draft network definition, goals and objectives, and findings from the analysis of existing conditions, needs, gaps, and opportunities.

Task 3: Conduct Project Performance Assessment

(Anticipated Schedule: Summer and Fall 2023)

A performance assessment of transportation projects, including legacy (pre-COVID) and new transit projects, is required for Plan Bay Area 2050+. As part of this task, the project team will identify and document any potential modifications to the Plan Bay Area Project Performance Assessment methodology and approach to be used in Transit 2050+. This task will conduct the project-level assessment to generate updated performance data to craft transit network concepts, including cost-effectiveness and equity outcomes associated with service, capital, or transit priority (i.e., projects to help get buses out of traffic) investments.

Task 4: Develop Transit Network Concepts

(Anticipated Schedule: Fall 2023 through Spring 2024)

This task will develop up to three transit network concepts for the regional and regionally significant transit network. The network concepts will define desired service parameters such as travel time, frequency, reliability, and service span (i.e., the time of day and days of the week service is available) in the near and long term. The network concepts will also integrate transit projects, such as service enhancements, capital improvements, or transit priority investments, that would constitute different regional transit network alternatives over the 25-year time horizon and with the anticipated transportation revenue forecast of Plan Bay Area 2050+.

This task will also integrate a baseline network concept that consists of Plan Bay Area 2050 transit strategies and projects against which transit network concepts can be compared and further evaluated. Due to lower anticipated transportation revenue, the baseline will likely need to be modified from what is currently in the adopted Plan Bay Area 2050.

Task 5: Conduct Network Performance Assessment

(Anticipated Schedule: Spring 2024)

The performance assessment for transit network concepts will identify additional benefits and impacts from combining transit projects as part of a comprehensive transit network. It will also identify key differences between network concepts through performance metrics to be shared with technical and public audiences.

Task 6: Recommended Network Concept

(Anticipated Schedule: Spring and Summer 2024)

This task will use the results from both the project and network performance assessments to develop a recommended network concept that identifies both service parameters and projects, including service enhancements and/or capital improvements, in the near and long term over the 25-year time horizon of Plan Bay Area 2050+ and within the Plan's anticipated revenue forecast. It may also identify additional projects that would further advance the goals and objectives of Transit 2050+ if additional revenues over and above the Plan's anticipated transportation revenue forecast become available.

The second round of public engagement would occur as part of this task, focusing on the performance assessment results for network concepts and the draft recommended network concept.

Task 7: Transit 2050+ Integration into Plan Bay Area 2050+ Final Blueprint

(Anticipated Schedule: Summer 2024)

The strategies and projects that comprise the final recommended network concept will be incorporated into the Plan Bay Area 2050+ Final Blueprint. MTC staff will perform modeling for the Final Blueprint starting in late summer and fall of 2024, and the Final Blueprint will be presented to the MTC and ABAG Executive Board for approval in late fall 2024.

Task 8: Transit 2050+ Supplemental Report

(Anticipated Schedule: Fall 2024 through Spring 2025)

Plan Bay Area 2050+ will include several supplemental reports documenting key areas of plan development and more detailed project and performance information. The supplementary report for Transit 2050+ will summarize the approach and methodology used in developing Transit 2050+ and associated projects and additional research on needs and barriers for Transit 2050+ implementation. This may include needs, barriers, and potential solutions or actions related to funding, legislation, or other implementation actions. The Transit 2050+ Supplemental Report may also identify additional projects (service enhancements and/or capital investments) that could be implemented if additional revenues exceed the plan's anticipated transportation revenue

forecast become available. The Transit 2050+ supplemental report will be incorporated into the Draft and Final Plan Bay Area 2050+, which is expected to be adopted in fall 2025.

The third and final round of public engagement will occur as part of this task, focusing on the draft Transit 2050+ Supplemental Report.

Upcoming Meetings and Actions:

Staff anticipates returning to this Subcommittee in May to seek feedback on the draft network definition and draft goals and objectives for Transit 2050+ as described in Task 1.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendation:

Information.

Attachments:

- None