

Regional Network Management Council

June 23, 2025

Agenda Item 3a

Update on Caltrans Director's Policy for Public Transit

Subject:

Informational update on Caltrans Director's Policy for Public Transit.

Background:

MTC coordinates regularly with partner agencies like Caltrans to align towards a common vision and more effectively plan and deliver transit priority projects in the Bay Area. One such effort MTC and transit agencies are participating in is the Caltrans Director's Policy for Public Transit (Director's Policy). This coordination has been critical as Caltrans's Director's Policy is the statewide complement to the Bay Area Transit Priority Policy for Roadways, which MTC is currently developing. The Director's Policy will inform transit-related processes along the State Highway System (investments, asset management, encroachment processes, coordination), and the Bay Area Transit Priority Policy for Roadways will encourage coordination between transit operators and roadway owners (Caltrans and local jurisdictions) as well as inform regional transit priority investments.

The Director's Policy stems from SB 960, which commits Caltrans to playing "a pivotal role in improving public transit by advancing transit priority corridors to speed up transit vehicles stuck in traffic and make transit more convenient and attractive for current and future transit users."

The Director's Policy is focused on three key pillars:

- **Planning** – develop, update, and implement plans to support transit priority infrastructure on the State Highway System.
- **Projects** – collaborate with external partners and integrate transit-supportive infrastructure where feasible.
- **Data and Technology** – establish versatile targets for transit service levels, facilities, infrastructure, technology, and data.

The Director's Policy will be issued in support of Director's Policy 37 on Complete Streets, which recognizes and elevates the importance of walking, biking, transit, and passenger rail as integral parts of California's transportation network. It will also build upon the recommendations of the SB 125 Transit Transformation Task Force, which will meet through late 2025.

The Director's Policy is expected to be finalized by January 2026.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Information only.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Presentation