## Express Lanes START<sup>SM</sup>: Pilot Extension on I-880

BAIFA Network and Operations Committee

July 12, 2024





### MTC means-based equity initiatives Today



Transit Fare Discount Pilot



**Equity Action Plan** 



Express Lanes
Toll Discount Pilot



#### Pilot scope

EXPRESS LANES

- Toll discount of 50% or more in the I-880 Express Lanes for 18 months
- Same eligibility requirements as Clipper® START<sup>SM</sup>:
  - Proof of identification and income
  - Income at or below 200% Federal poverty level
- Toll discount applied to Fas Trak® account
- 1,931 enrollees as of March 31, 2024





#### Pilot goals

- Improve I-880 express lanes access for low-income drivers,
- Provide these drivers with a good experience, and
- Understand the effect on express lane operations.



#### Pilot evaluation topics





# Cross-cutting challenges for MTC means-based programs

- Different programs in different phases:
  - Clipper START Pilot 4 years operating
  - Express Lanes START Pilot 1 year operating
  - Bay Area Toll Payment Plan 1 year operating
  - Highway 37 earliest operation est. 2027
- Undertaking internal technical analysis of strategy options:
  - Reach more eligible residents
  - Expand access to more residents



#### Recommendation and next steps

- Extend pilot to March 31, 2026 to allow time to:
  - Prepare 12-month pilot evaluation (underway)
  - Present 12-month pilot evaluation results and preliminary recommendations to BAIFA (fall 2024)
  - Complete internal means-based projects technical analysis (fall 2024)
  - Engage stakeholders (fall 2024/winter 2025)
  - Recommend pilot future to BAIFA (winter 2025)
  - Implement pilot future (timeline to be determined)
- Amend budget with Polytechnic to add \$700,000 for enhanced outreach and communications



