

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission**  
**Regional Network Management Committee**

**May 9, 2025**

**Agenda Item 3a**

**Transit Fare Integration Initiatives Update and a Partnership Agreement – Clipper BayPass Pilot Program: University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) (\$14,880,600)**

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**Subject:**

Review of ongoing transit fare integration initiatives and approval of a Partnership Agreement with the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) as part of the Clipper BayPass Pilot Program at a minimum contract amount of \$14,880,600.

**Background:**

In November 2021, the Fare Integration Task Force (FITF), consisting of transit agency general managers, county transportation authority executive directors, and the MTC Executive Director, adopted the Fare Policy Vision Statement, which endorsed different transit fare integration initiatives to increase ridership and connectivity across the region. Today, these ongoing initiatives are delivering rider-friendly fare products and programs and encouraging more people to use transit. Throughout implementing these initiatives, staff have engaged with the Regional Network Customer Advisory Group (CAG) and the FITF (due to the success of the FITF, this task force has now been sunset) and most recently to the Regional Network Management (RNM) Council. There remains interest and excitement as well as some questions on how to move beyond the pilot phases.

One of these initiatives is the Clipper® BayPass pilot program, which provides unlimited rides on all bus, rail and ferry services in the Bay Area. In August 2022, the first, MTC-funded phase, of the Clipper® BayPass pilot was launched to pilot an unlimited-use product at four higher education institutions – the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley), San Francisco State University (SFSU), San Jose State University (SJSU), and Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) – and at 12 MidPen affordable housing properties. Preliminary program evaluation analyses indicate that individuals with Clipper® BayPass take about 30% more transit trips than their peers with access to just a single-agency transit pass.

The Clipper® BayPass team is currently working to transition Phase 1 Pilot institutions (educational institutions and affordable housing) into self-funded Clipper® BayPass organizational customers (i.e. no longer receiving Clipper® BayPass for free under the Phase 1 MTC-funded Pilot) and the Phase 2 Pilot, which launched in January 2024 and is selling the Clipper® BayPass to interested organizations. MTC currently has contracted with eleven organizations and has five pending contracts, as well as a pipeline of interested organizations. As of March 2025, over two million trips were taken with the Clipper BayPass Phase 2 Pilot transit pass at participating organizations. Phase 2 of the Clipper® BayPass Pilot Clipper® BayPass Pilot will continue to assess the impact of a regional unlimited pass on transit ridership and customer experience, as well as the financial and operational feasibility of such a program. Beyond the Clipper® BayPass initiative, a new regional fare pilot policy known as the Free/Discounted Interagency Transfer Pilot is launching as a part of the Next Generation Clipper® system. The pilot will offer a \$2.85 transfer discount whenever a customer transfers between agencies. This \$11 million/year, MTC-funded policy is expected to grow ridership by up to 27,000 riders per day.

**Contract Actions:**

In April 2025, UC Berkeley students voted on a student referendum (with 90.1% in favor) to purchase Clipper® BayPass for the entire on-campus student body for a duration of two years. This action seeks approval of a Partnership Agreement with the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) as part of the Clipper® BayPass Pilot Program at a minimum contract amount of \$14,880,600. This partnership agreement is being brought before the RNM Committee as its proposed value exceeds the delegated limit of up to \$5 million per Clipper BayPass partnership agreement that the RNM Committee has authorized the MTC Executive Director to approve.

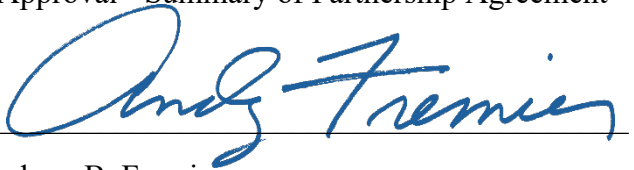
Under the proposed partnership agreement, UC Berkeley will be purchasing the Clipper® BayPass from MTC for its on-campus student body. MTC will provide UC Berkeley (or its designee) with access to the Clipper® Institutional Pass Portal, which will allow UC Berkeley (or its designee) to add the Clipper® BayPass onto Clipper cards for eligible students. These students will be able to access unlimited use of the region's transit services on Clipper®.

**Recommendations:**

Staff recommends that the Regional Network Management Committee authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and enter into a partnership agreement with UC Berkeley at a minimum contract amount of \$14,880,600.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Request for Committee Approval - Summary of Partnership Agreement
- Presentation

  
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Andrew B. Fremier

**Request for Committee Approval**

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**Summary of Proposed Partnership Agreement**

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|---------------------------|---|
| Work Item No.:            | 1621  |
| Partner:                  | University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley)<br>Berkeley, California  |
| Work Project Title:       | Clipper BayPass Pilot – Phase 2   |
| Purpose of Project:       | To pilot the sale of a regional institutional pass product with employers/institutions in the region  |
| Brief Scope of Work:      | MTC will provide UC Berkeley (or designee) with the ability to activate Clipper BayPass passes on student Clipper Cards, which will enable unlimited travel on the region’s transit services on the Clipper system.   |
| Minimum Agreement Amount: | \$14,880,600  |
| Funding Source:           | N/A   |
| Fiscal Impact:            | A minimum of \$14,880,600 will be collected from UC Berkeley under this Partnership Agreement. Revenues collected will be used to reimburse transit operators for trips taken with the Clipper BayPass. Any revenues collected in excess of the cost of trips taken will be directed to offset Pilot costs up to \$1,000,000. |

Motion by Committee: That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a Partnership Agreement with UC Berkeley for a minimum agreement amount of \$14,880,600 for the term of August 13, 2025 through August 25, 2027, as part of the Clipper BayPass Pilot program described above and in the Regional Network Management Committee Summary Sheet dated May 9, 2025.

Regional Network  
Management Committee:

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Alicia John-Baptiste, Chair

Approved: May 9, 2025