



## PREPARING BAY AREA TRANSIT FOR A POST-PANDEMIC FUTURE

Programming & Allocations Committee

May 13, 2020

**CARES Act –**  
*Follow up to April Commission Action*

## COMMISSION IN APRIL 2020

- Programmed \$780 million of \$1.3 billion in federal CARES Act funding
- Directed staff to finalize Principle #5 to guide distribution of remaining \$520 million
- Directed inventory of transit agencies' work to protect health of passengers and operators
- Directed establishment of Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force



## PROPOSED CARES ACT PRINCIPLE 5

*“Future distribution(s) — beyond the initial phase — will be subject to a comprehensive COVID-19 recovery strategy that considers any recommended regional adjustments to ensure network connectivity, financial sustainability and transportation system equity.”*

### **Proposed Related Actions:**

- Development of recovery strategy by each operator, including:
  - Right-sizing
  - Financial sustainability
  - Equity and lifeline service needs of transit-dependent riders

Further actions to be guided and developed by Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force

## SAFETY SURVEY PURPOSE & METHODOLOGY

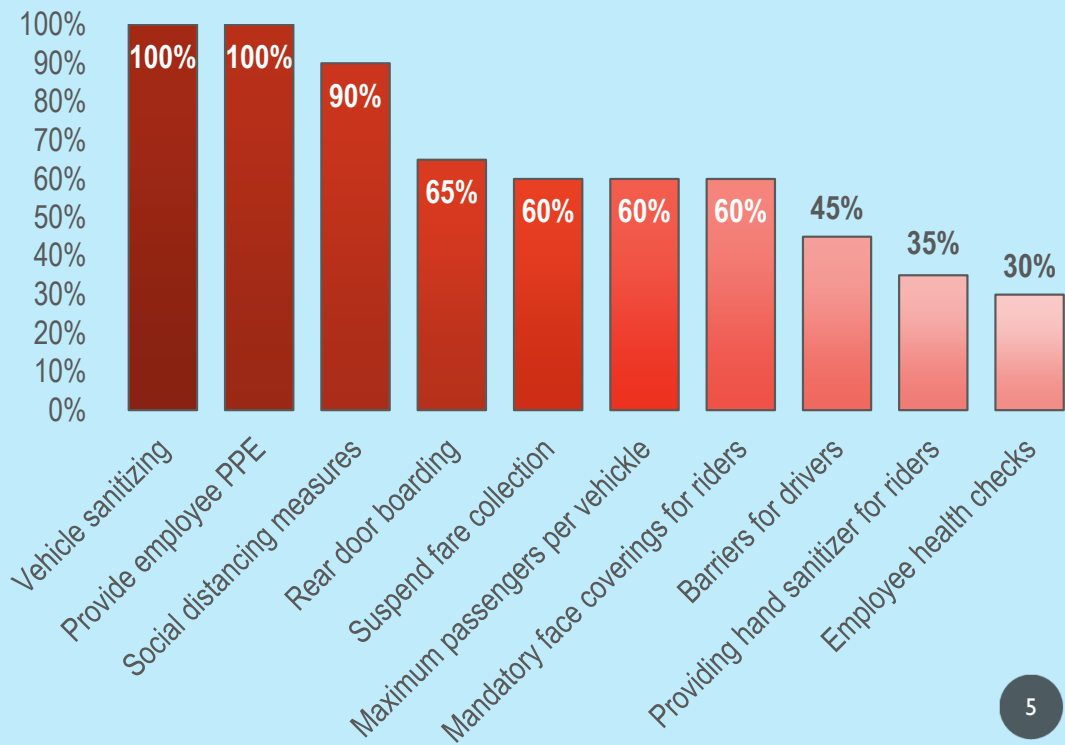
- Staff conducted a survey of safety protocols at Bay Area transit agencies.
- Collected information on safety guidelines, regional coordination, procurement and distribution of PPE, and plans for future safety procedures.
- Over 90 percent of the 23 regional transit agencies completed the survey.



## PPE AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Primary PPE transit agencies distribute to drivers and frontline staff are face coverings (surgical or N95), gloves, and hand sanitizer. Some also provide plastic face shields, coveralls, or eye protection.
- In addition to enhancing short-term improvements to safety measures such as driver barriers, passenger load limits, and line-queue pavement markings at transit centers, agencies also are identifying long-term safety improvements.

**COVID-19 Safety Protocols of Operators**  
(% of respondents)



## COVID 19 SAFETY COORDINATION

- Transit agencies have been coordinating their pandemic response with County EOCs and County Health Departments, and with the CDC, CalOSHA, and APTA.
- MTC on March 16 began to support regional coordination of the transportation system through a virtual EOC. Guidance, best practices, and information-sharing related to safety are a regular part of the meeting.
- MTC to conduct follow-up safety surveys as needed. These will help inform Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force of ongoing changes in safety practices.

## BLUE RIBBON TRANSIT RECOVERY TASK FORCE FOCUS — 3 PRIORITIES

- Determine next CARES Act distribution formula
- Assess transit agencies' recovery strategies
- Recommendations for repositioning transit for the future through institutional and operational changes



## BLUE RIBBON TRANSIT RECOVERY TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP as of May 12<sup>th</sup>

### Task Force Chair — Jim Spering

- **Other MTC Representatives**
  - Scott Haggerty
  - Alfredo Pedroza
  - Dave Cortese
  - Nick Josefowitz
  - Gina Papan
  - David Rabbitt
  - Amy Worth
  - Therese W. McMillan
- **State of California Representatives**
  - Sen. Jim Beall (or designee)
  - Assembly member David Chiu (or designee)
  - CalSTA Secretary David S. Kim (or designee)
- **Transit Agency Representatives**
  - Michael Hursh, AC Transit
  - Robert Powers, BART
  - Rick Ramacier, CCCTA
  - Denis Mulligan, GGBHTD
  - Michael Tree, LAVTA
  - Nancy Whelan, Marin Transit
  - Jim Hartnett, SamTrans/Caltrain
  - Jeffrey Tumlin, SFMTA
  - Nuria Fernandez, VTA
- **County Transportation Agencies Representative**
  - Daryl Halls, BACTA Chair
- **Stakeholders**
  - Bay Area Council
  - Disability Advocate/Independent Resource Center of Contra Costa & Solano Counties
  - Labor representative
  - MTC Policy Advisory Council
  - Seamless Bay Area
  - Silicon Valley Leadership Group
  - Transform
  - Urban Habitat



BLUE RIBBON TRANSIT  
RECOVERY TASK FORCE

First Meeting:  
Friday, May 29, 2020  
1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

*“Every transit agency in the Bay Area is going to face serious challenges in the years ahead. We all have to coordinate action to make sure every dollar is invested most effectively. The current crisis gives us a chance to really focus on shared priorities for navigating the post-pandemic world.”*

— Task Force Chair, Jim Spering

Thank You.

