Agenda Item 3 Presentation



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UPDATE ON BLUE RIBBON TRANSIT RECOVERY TASK FORCE

Therese W. McMillan MTC Executive Director

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW





Polling results of Bay Area residents



Update on Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force's Network Management Discussion



Transformation Action Plan and Next Steps

Public Opinion Survey & Focus Groups Conducted

Randomized Poll by EMC Research

Random survey of Bay Area residents across nine-counties, April 15 – 21, 2021

BLUE RIBBON

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- 1,000 total interviews, margin of error <u>+</u>3.1 percentage points
- Mixed-mode methodology: phone (landlines and cell phones), text and email invites to on-line option
- English, Chinese, Spanish, and Vietnamese

Community Focus Groups

- Five transit rider focus groups that included 23 participants
- One in Spanish, one in Cantonese, two in English, one with persons with disabilities

Focus Groups and Poll Findings: Transit is Valued



Most Bay Area residents (87%) believe public transit is important to the Bay Area.

Everyone – both riders and nonriders – values a reliable, frequent and safe transit for the Bay Area.





Focus Groups and Poll Findings: What We Had Was Not Good Enough

Bay Area residents, both transit riders and not, were not satisfied with public transit prior to the pandemic, and **they demand better and encourage that now is the time to act**.

Reliability, frequency, ease of use, and personal safety on board are all viewed as inadequate.



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Poll Finds Strong Support Across Bay Area for Seamless Legislation



	Support	Don't know/Refused	Oppose
Overall		89%	8%
Alameda County (21%)		89%	7%
Contra Costa County (15%)		87%	10%
Marin/Sonoma County (10%)		90%	8%
Napa/Solano County (8%)		86%	11%
San Francisco County (11%)		90%	7%
San Mateo County (10%)		93%	5%
Santa Clara County (25%)		88%	7%
Current weekly riders (15%)		89%	8%
Post-pandemic weekly riders		92%	6%
Post-pandemic infrequent.		94%	5%
Non-riders (24%)		78%	14%

Community Focus Group Findings



- Participants enthusiastic about a more integrated transit system
- Fare integration, especially a standardized pass, among most compelling features
- Better connections between operators seen as enabling easier travel as well as improving access from outlying areas to key regional systems
- Centralized real-time transit information another popular feature, especially on systems where wait times (headways) are long
- Most wanted improvements beyond restored service levels, even though many had been impacted by service reductions
- A better functioning transit system seen as critical for everyone in the Bay Area, not just transit riders
- Some concern that improvements might focus on gaining new riders at expense of transit dependent, but most felt better integration would benefit everyone

Poll: Specific Findings

Everyone wants the same things:

- 92% find real-time information on wait times and vehicle locations important
- 91% 93% find better transit for dependent populations important
- 91% find more direct service, fewer transfers, and shorter wait times important
- 88% find a regional network that can set fares, align routes and schedules, and standardize information important





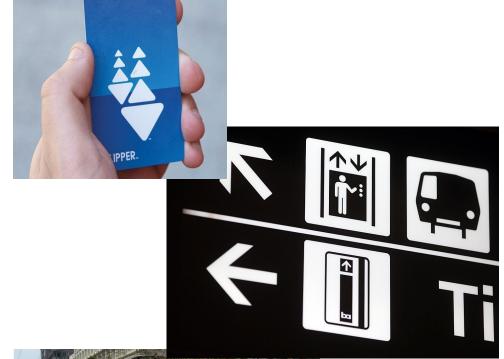


Poll: Specific Findings



Everyone wants the same things:

- 92% find easy to use and uniform maps and signage important
- 90% find a single mobile app for planning, schedules, and information important
- 89% find a single set of fares, passes, discounts, and transfer policies important
- 80% find dedicated travel lanes along key transit routes for buses and carpools important





NETWORK MANAGEMENT ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



- The Task Force has worked over the last four months in refining a priority list of items for a consultant to evaluate as priority roles and responsibilities to be evaluated by a consultant.
- In April, MTC hired a consultant team led by Via Architecture to conduct an initial evaluation between May and July.
- They will be evaluating the roles and responsibilities adopted by the Task Force against potential Network Management models and evaluation criteria.
- An Ad Hoc workshop will be held on June 16 to discuss criteria for evaluation and possible network management alternatives
- Findings will be completed by the final Task Force meeting on July 26.
- A business case will commence in the fall to further explore and evaluate Task Force recommendations relative to cost, schedule and authority to implement.

NETWORK MANAGEMENT: NEAR-TERM PRIORITY ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES FOR EVALUATION OUTCOMES

BLUE RIBBON Ä . **TRANSIT RECOVERY TASK FORCE**

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Coordinated, equitable fares and simpler payment options that attract more riders	Fare Integration Policy	Legend
Reliable, integrated, customer-focused transit network with coordinated routes, service, schedules, and long-term planning	Bus Transit PriorityConnected Network PlanningStation Hub Design ReviewData Collection and Coordination	Near-term priority to be considered in Network Management Alternative
Customer Information that attracts more riders due to convenience, uniformity, and real-time accuracy	Capital Project Prioritization Branding, Mapping and Wayfinding Marketing / Public Information Technology and Mobile Standards (Real Time Info)	analysis
Equitably distributed community transit services that are efficiently and cost effectively administered to maximize customer benefits	Accessible Services (including Paratransit) Centralized Program Eligibility Verification	May be evaluated by consultant but not a near–term network management priority
Transit Network Management reforms resulting in efficient, customer-focused policies and operation	Bus Network Management ReformRail Network Management ReformMega-project Delivery and Oversight	
Increased cost-effectiveness and public transit funding at all levels of government	Funding Advocacy	11

NETWORK MANAGEMENT: EVALUATION PROCESS & TIMELINE



 By APRIL 2021 MTC Staff Solicit proposals Select Network Management evaluation consultant 	 MTC, Operator State Finalize roles responsibilitie Develop evalumethodology business case Perform prelincomparison of the second secon	 MAY - JULY 2021 MTC, Operator Staff, Consultant, BRTF Finalize roles & responsibilities Develop evaluation criteria & methodology for future business case Perform preliminary comparison of alternatives Identify next steps 		 JULY 2021 - SPRING 2022 MTC, Consultant, Operator Staff, New Transit Advisory Body Implement Action Plan's year- one Network Management priorities Proceed with the Network Management business case
BLUE RIBBON TRANSIT RECOVERY T		ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION GROUP		
Define Network Management Evaluation Scope of Work	Define Roles & Responsibilities	Identify & Co NM Alternati	-	re Identify Preferred Network Management Framework
March/April 2021	May 2021	June/July 2	2021	Spring 2022

TRANSFORMATION ACTION PLAN PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

Fare Coordination and Integration Study

- 1. Receive specific fare recommendations from the Fare Coordination and Integration Study (FCIS) and Fare Integration Task Force
- 2. Endorse and support early areas of focus/action as defined by the FCIS and the Fare Integration Task Force
- 3. Support the designation of an advisory body to guide the implementation of the FCIS recommendations
- 4. Review and determine the authority necessary to ensure timely implementation



TRANSFORMATION ACTION PLAN PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

Regional Transit Mapping and Wayfinding

- 1. Support development of regional mapping and wayfinding standards based on business case recommendation
- 2. Support development of regional mapping data and systems
- 3. Support pursuing subregional pilots and phased regional roll-out

salesforce transit center

. Routes & Stops



TRANSFORMATION ACTION PLAN PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

Bus Transit Priority

- **1.** Freeway and State Highway Projects:
 - Support approvals and capital funding requests for Bay Bridge Forward: I-580 WB HOV Lane Extension (\$7M)
 - Support the advancement of Regional Forward projects on Bay Bridge, Richmond-San Rafael, and Dumbarton Bridges, and add remaining bridges into the queue

2. Arterials and Local Streets:

 Forge partnerships with cities/counties to address challenges and opportunities with transit priority projects on major arterial corridors



IMPLEMENTATION – A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

TRANSIT RECOVERY

PROJECT (Years 1-5)

Fare Coordination and Integration Study

Est. Near Term Need: Implementation / Unknown fare impacts

Mapping and Wayfinding

Est. Near Term Implementation: \$25M system design & 3 pilots

Bus Transit Priority

Est. Initial Near Term Capital Need: \$30M capital delivery

CONCEPTUAL PLANNING

MTC and transit partners

MTC in collaboration with agencies

Varies: CTAs, Transit Agencies, and MTC have initiated projects

EARLY PROJECTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

FULL IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

Near-Term Next Steps ...

- Collaborate with operators on early projects and demonstrations; based on scope of projects.
- Implementation and capital costs to be shared.
 Possibly through reprioritization of existing funds, securing new funding/ sources.
- Jointly fund improved Regional Standards, Data, and Systems, operated at a regional level.
- Pursue enactment of AB 629 to accelerate recommendations emerging from Task Force.



www.mtc.ca.gov/mtc.ca.gov/blue-ribbon-transit-recovery-task-force