

Bay Area Transit Priority Policy for Roadways

Stakeholder Engagement Summary

This document provides a summary of stakeholder engagement and key feedback received during the development of the Bay Area Transit Priority Policy for Roadways (Policy).

Over the course of developing the Policy, RNM staff presented to over 20 working groups and advisory committees throughout the region, and received nearly 550 individual comments on the Policy memos. For a list of all presentations, see Appendix C-1. The table below outlines all Policy outreach activities.

Period	Activity
Fall 2023 - Fall 2024	Policy kicks off with a workshop attended by various partner agencies including transit agencies, county transportation agencies (CTAs), Caltrans, local jurisdictions, and transit advocacy organizations; Policy Development Working Group (PDWG) convened with subset of workshop attendees. Policy Framework created with feedback from PDWG and other staff working groups, and presented to MTC's RNM bodies in fall 2024.
Winter 2025	RNM staff conduct outreach on the Preliminary Draft Policy Memo at eight regional staff working groups. Approximately 350 comments were received from around 50 agencies.
Spring 2025	RNM staff presented on the Revised Draft Policy Memo at over 20 county transportation agency committees across the region. Approximately 200 comments were received from over 50 agencies.
Summer 2025	RNM staff shared revisions to the Policy made in response to spring feedback in targeted meetings with key stakeholders and finetune policy revisions. Previewed the Policy with the RNM Customer Advisory Group.

Key Feedback from Stakeholder Engagement & Changes to Policy

Through the engagement process, staff heard and responded to feedback, which is broadly generalized below and grouped by the most common agency types that made similar comments.

Concern	Agency Type	Staff Response
Need clear guidance about the transit review process and implementation of the Policy.	Transit Agencies, Local Jurisdictions	Staff have developed a draft “Primer for Public Agency Staff Implementing Bay Area Transit Priority Policy for Roadways” which details: • Which project sponsors are required to complete transit review, or exempt. • Step-by-step process for transit review, including steps required, format and timeline • Eligible exceptions to completing transit review • Phased implementation schedule
Want flexible, context-sensitive transit-supportive design	Local Jurisdictions	The Policy would not dictate roadway modal hierarchy, allocation of space, or specific transit priority treatments.
Unclear what policy would require for interagency coordination and collaboration, and the role of MTC	CTAs, Transit Agencies, Local Jurisdictions	Policy would encourage early and proactive coordination between project stakeholders that would be documented as part of the CS checklist process, resulting in better projects with improved outcomes for transit. In limited circumstances, MTC could convene a meeting of stakeholders upon request, but would not lead decision-making or be a mediator.

Concern	Agency Type	Staff Response
Desire for funding incentives to encourage local jurisdictions to adopt a local transit priority policy or resolution.	Transit Agencies, Advocacy Groups	Staff are considering how funding incentives could be provided to encourage local jurisdictions to adopt local transit priority resolutions or policies, such as awarding bonus points to MTC transit priority discretionary funding applications from jurisdictions that have adopted a resolution or policy. Any funding incentives would be implemented through MTC funding programs, not through the Policy.
Need clear guidance on optional adoption of a local resolution/policy.	CTAs, Local Jurisdictions	Staff will develop guidance on Optional Local Transit Priority Resolution or Policy to detail the minimum requirements for a local resolution or policy to qualify for potential funding incentives, and provide model templates.
Request for technical assistance resources	Local Jurisdictions	MTC plans to facilitate technical assistance to support the implementation of the Policy.

Next Steps

RNM staff have used the feedback received to develop draft Policy text and attachments, which are being taken to the MTC RNM bodies in September and October for comment. RNM staff will use feedback to develop the final Policy text and attachments and present again to the MTC RNM bodies, anticipated late 2025. Policy adoption by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission is anticipated in late 2025 or early 2026.

Appendix C-1. Stakeholder Outreach Meetings

Table 1. Presentations on the Draft Policy Memo – Winter 2025

Stakeholder Group	Date
Bay Area County Transportation Agencies (BACTA) Planning Directors	3/7/25
Caltrans District 4	3/12/25
MTC Active Transportation Working Group (ATWG)	3/20/25
MTC Bay Area Partnership Accessibility Committee (BAPAC)	3/10/25
MTC Local Streets and Roads Programming and Delivery Working Group (LSRPDWG)	3/13/25
MTC Policy Development Working Group (PDWG)	2/27/25
MTC Transit Finance Working Group (TFWG)	3/5/25
MTC Transit Priority Working Group (TPWG)	2/18/25
Transit Steering Group/Caucus	4/3/2025

Table 2. Presentations on the Revised Draft Policy Memo – Spring 2025

County	Body	Date
Alameda	Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee (ACTAC)	5/8/25
Contra Costa	West Contra Costa Transportation Commission (WCCTC)	5/8/25
	East County Transportation Planning Committee (TRANSPLAN)	5/20/25
	Southwest Area Transportation Committee (SWAT)	5/21/25
	Transportation Partnership and Cooperation (TRANSPAC)	5/29/25
Marin	Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) Executive Committee	6/9/25
	TAM Technical Advisory Working Group	7/10/25
Napa	Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTa) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	5/1/25
	NVTa Community Advisory Committee	5/7/25
Santa Clara	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) System Operations & Management Working Group	4/23/25
	VTA Technical Advisory Committee	6/11/25
San Francisco	<i>San Francisco staff could not identify an appropriate committee, but provided feedback at working group meetings and by email.</i>	N/A

County	Body	Date
San Mateo	City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) Congestion Management TAC	5/15/25
	C/CAG Congestion Management & Environmental Quality Committee	5/19/25
Sonoma	Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) TAC	4/24/25
	SCTA Planning Advisory Committee	5/15/25
	Sonoma Countywide Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	5/27/25
Solano	Solano Transportation Authority (STA) TAC	4/30/25
	STA Transit & Rideshare Committee	7/9/25
Regional	MTC Policy Development Working Group	4/14/25
	MTC Transit Priority Working Group	4/15/25
	Bay Area County Transportation Agency Executive Roundtable	5/30/25

Table 3. Additional Outreach – Summer

Stakeholder Group	Date
MTC Transit Priority Working Group	7/1/25
MTC Policy Development Working Group	7/7/25
RNM Customer Advisory Group	7/22/25
Bay Area Partnership Board Meeting	8/29/25
Quarterly Regional Coordination Planning Committee Meeting	9/2/25
Transit Steering Group/Caucus	9/4/25
Small Operator General Manager Meeting	9/9/25