



# Bay Wheels Bikeshare Update



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Regional Network Management Committee  
January 9, 2026

# Bikeshare Programs in the Region

## MTC: Bay Wheels

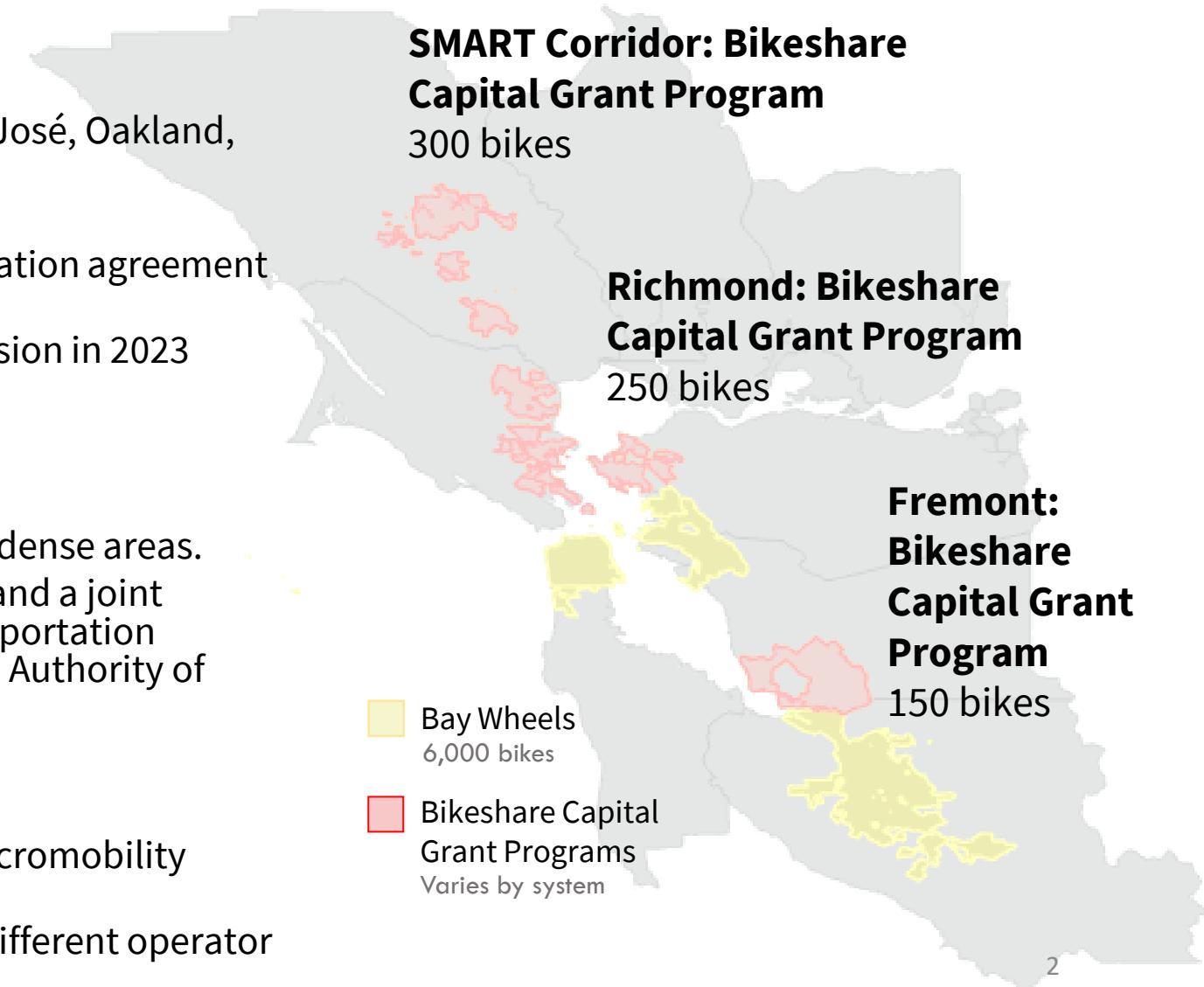
- Launched in 2017 in San Francisco, San José, Oakland, Berkeley, Emeryville
- Lyft bought operator in 2018
- MTC manages Lyft contract and coordination agreement between cities and Lyft
- MTC invested \$16 million in ebike expansion in 2023
- Expanded to Daly City in 2025

## MTC: Bikeshare Capital Grants

- Grant program to pilot bikeshare in less dense areas.
- Grants awarded to Fremont, Richmond and a joint program with the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) and the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM).

## Other Programs:

- Many cities in the region have shared micromobility (scooters/bikes) permit programs
- Berkeley initially launched ebikes with different operator



# Bay Wheels History

**2017:**  
System launch as  
Ford GoBike  
(\$0 partnership)



2017  
2018

**2019:**  
Ebikes launch  
in SF and SJ



2019  
2020

**2023:**  
Feb: MTC approves \$16M  
for Bay Wheels ebike  
expansion

Nov: MTC funded ebikes  
launch in SF & SJ  
Prices reduced

**2025:**  
1<sup>st</sup> new city (Daly City)  
1<sup>st</sup> student membership (SJSU)  
1<sup>st</sup> electrified station installed

2023  
2024  
2025  
2026  
2027

**2018:**  
Lyft acquires  
Motivate.  
System rebranded  
as Bay Wheels.

baywheels | lyft

**2020:**  
Ridership dropped  
30% at beginning  
of COVID ; Dropped  
64% in East Bay



**2024:**  
MTC funded ebikes  
launch in East Bay

**July 2027:**  
Contract end  
  
Staff will return in  
February to discuss the  
future of the program

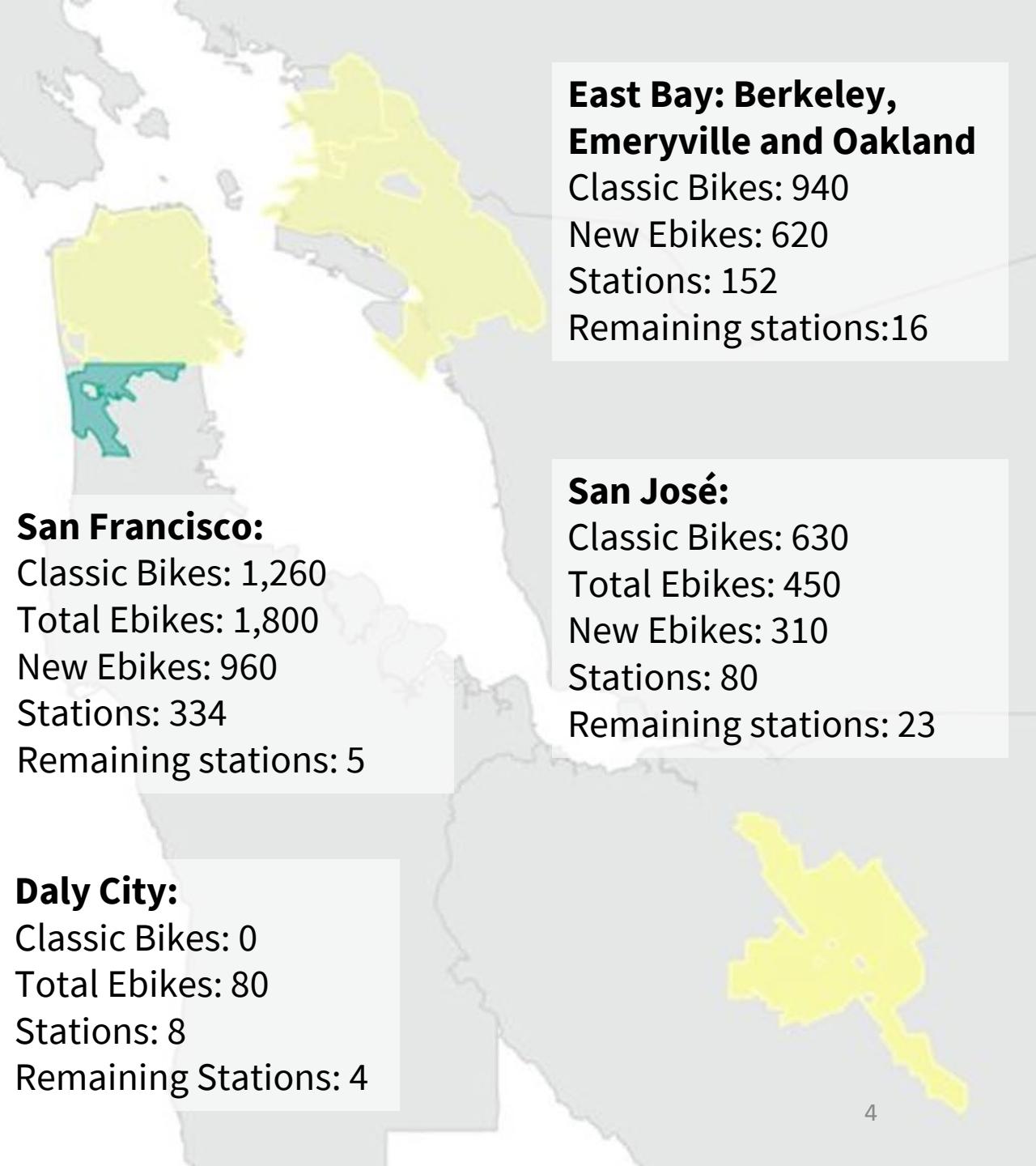
# Bay Wheels Overview

**Sub regions:** System is geographically split into three subregions: SF + Daly City, East Bay and San José

**San Francisco hub:** SF made up 89% of trips in 2025

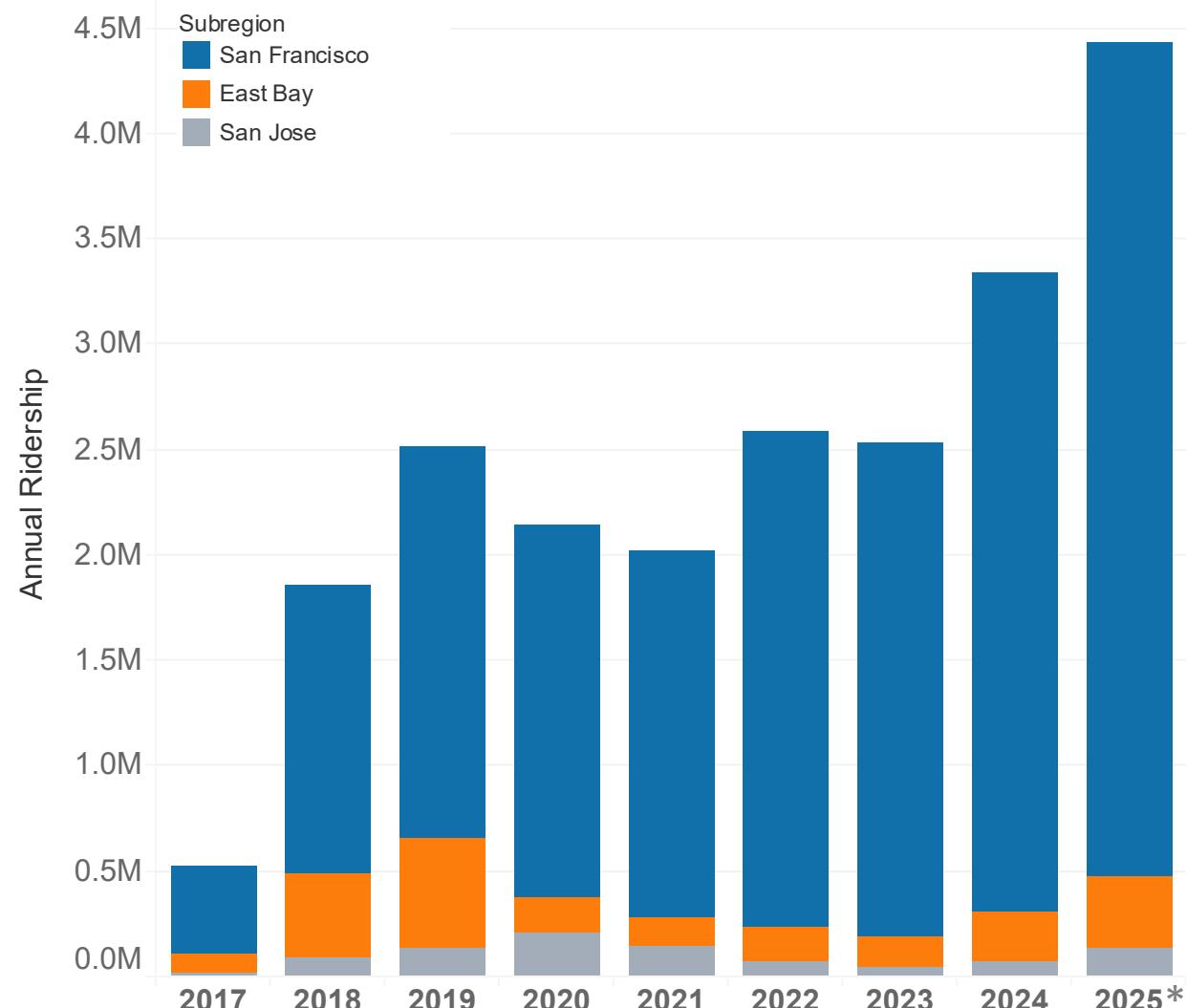
**Contract structure:** Contract is a ten-year zero-dollar contract with two optional five-year extensions.

**Transitioning to more public investment:** MTC invested \$16 million in the system in 2023, funding ebikes, stations, program pilots, and expansion to Daly City.



# Bay Wheels Ridership Booming From MTC Investment

- **Ebike expansion:** ridership has increased 74% comparing 2025 to 2023 (January-October)
- Ridership differs in each sub-region. SF ridership is more than double 2019, it's now 89% of system ridership.
- East Bay and San José still below 2019 levels.
- Highest ridership at transit hubs and universities.



\*Includes projected ridership for December 2025

# Ebikes Are Very Popular & Well Utilized

Ebikes made **79% of trips in 2025**

Ebikes made at least 3x as many trips per day as “classic” non-electric bikes

New “Cosmo” ebikes are ridden twice as much per day as older model ebikes

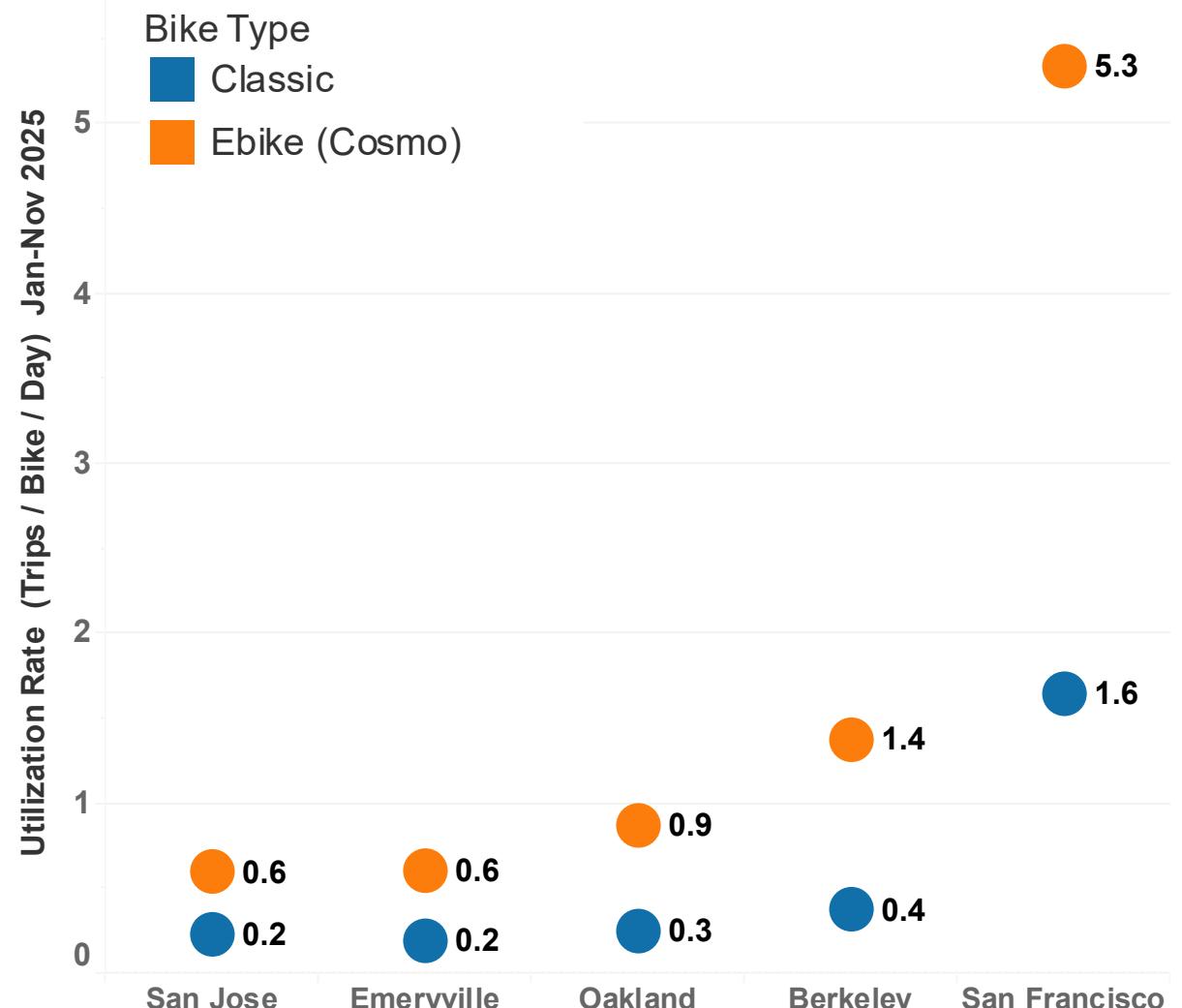
Ebikes and classic bikes in SF are utilized 3-8x more than bikes in other cities



Classic



Ebike (Cosmo)



# Bikeshare is Part of the Regional Transit Network

## Bay Wheels 7th largest transit operator

Bay Wheels has provided 21 million trips with moderate capital funding support

Provides first and last mile connection to regional transit. Many of the highest ridership stations are next to regional transit hubs:

- SF: 6 of top 10 stations adjacent to BART, Caltrain, or Ferry
- East Bay: 6 of top 10 stations adjacent to BART
- San José: Diridon #4

### October 2025 Ridership

Rank	Operator	Total Ridership (Source: NTD)
1	SFMTA	15,647,147
2	BART	6,112,717
3	AC Transit	3,836,597
4	VTA	2,772,554
5	Caltrain	1,314,942
6	SamTrans	1,074,406
	Bay Wheels	485,213
7	Marin Transit	293,344
8	GGBHTD	284,088
9	County Connection	273,889
10	SF Bay Ferry	263,700

# Deployment of MTC Funding

In February 2023, MTC approved \$16 million to Lyft for expanding ebikes to all cities, station expansion and electrification, and new programming.

	<b>Completed Deployment</b>	<b>Future deployment</b>
<b>Ebike Deployment</b>	Completed systemwide 2024	
<b>Station Expansion</b>	Stations installed in Emeryville, Oakland, and San Francisco in 2025	Berkeley and San José deployment expected in Q1 2026
<b>System Expansion</b>	Daly City Phase 1 Completed \$1.25 million (50%) remaining	Phase 2 Daly City expected Q1 2026 More contiguous cities interested
<b>Electrified Stations</b>	First electrified station installed in the Presidio	Working with Lyft and PG&E Expected in 2026
<b>Student Memberships</b>	Launched at San José State University and University of California San Francisco	In discussion with additional universities

# Equity Focused Programs

- **Bikeshare for All**
  - Bay Wheels low-income program
  - \$5 first year, \$5/month after
  - Low and capped ebike fees
  - Over 1.4M rides since 2017
- **Adaptive Bikeshare**
  - MTC supported programming for people with disabilities in partnership with Bay Area Outreach & Recreation Program (BORP)



Photo Credit: Ford GoBike



Cycles of Change



RICH CITY RIDES



SCRAPER BIKES



SF BIKES



BIKE EAST BAY



SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE COALITION



SILICON VALLEY BICYCLE COALITION



TransForm  
Our communities. Our transportation. Our future.



# Bikeshare Capital Grants



## Fremont:

- MTC provided \$659,000
- Launched July 2019; ceased operations 2022



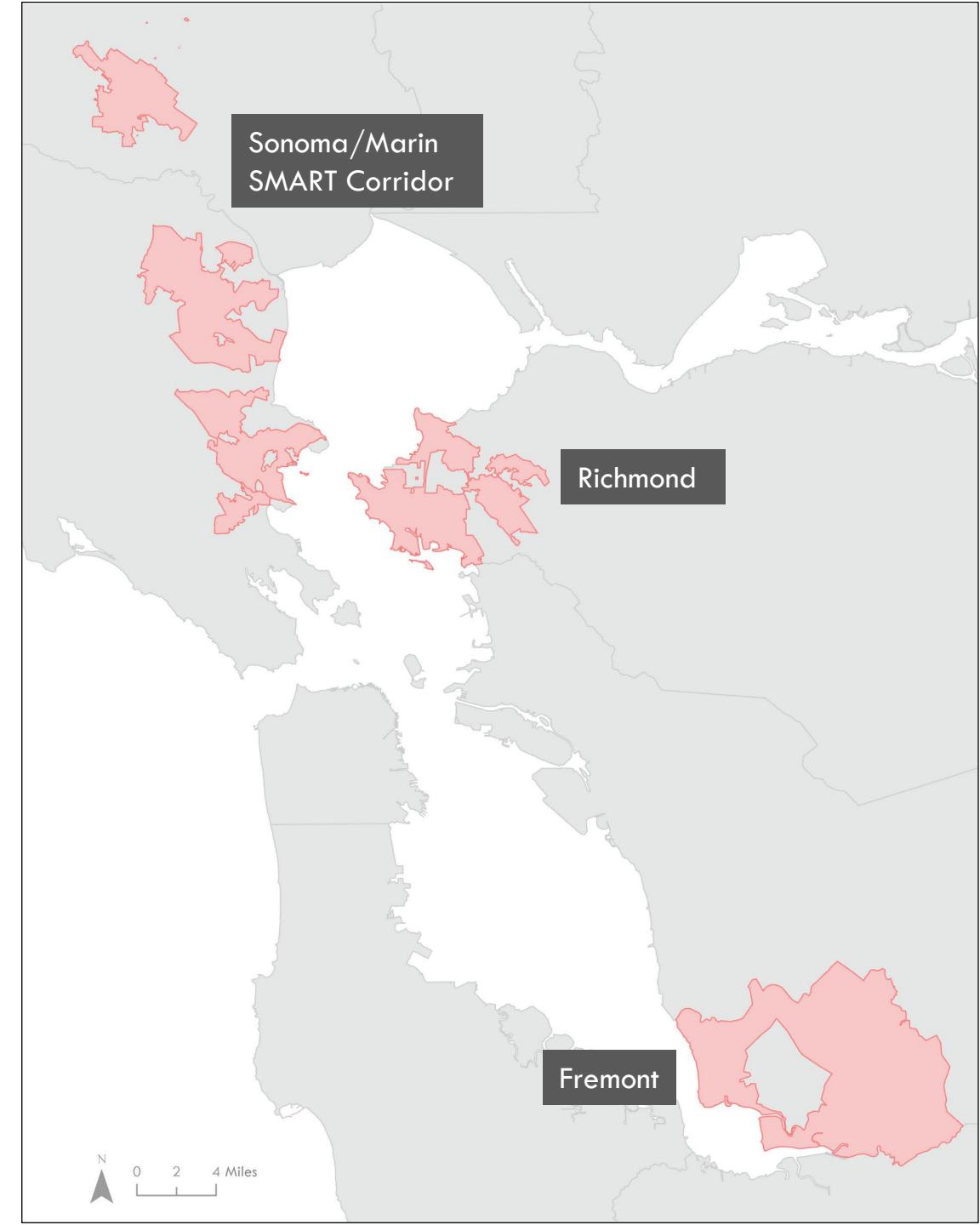
## Richmond:

- MTC provided \$1.024 million
- Launched June 2021; ceased operations in 2022; temporarily restarted with funding from City of Richmond; City determining program future December 2025



## Marin TAM/Sonoma SCTA SMART Corridor

- MTC provided \$826,000
- Launched November 2024



# Thank you

## Questions:

Toshi Shepard-Ohta

Assistant Director – Active Transportation  
& New Mobility

Email: [tshepard-ohta@bayareametro.gov](mailto:tshepard-ohta@bayareametro.gov)

