

Regional Network Management Council

November 17, 2025

Agenda Item 3b

Clipper® BayPass Pilot Update

Subject:

An update on the Clipper® BayPass Pilot and discussion of a potential proposal for extending the pilot beyond June 30, 2027.

Background:

In November 2021, the Fare Integration Task Force adopted the Fare Policy Vision Statement directing staff to pilot a regional institutional pass product. In August 2022, the first 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. The pilot included a randomized controlled trial that analyzed the impact of Clipper® BayPass among students at three large universities with a combined student population of approximately 100,000.

With Phase 1 concluded, 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 funded Pilot). Under Phase 2 of the Pilot, the region is selling the Clipper® BayPass to interested organizations. MTC currently has contracted with 16 organizations and has 4 pending contracts, as well as a pipeline of interested organizations. Since the launch of Phase 2 in January 2024, over 6 million trips have been taken with the Clipper® BayPass Phase 2 Pilot transit pass at participating organizations.

The Phase 1 program evaluation found that, on average, SF State University, San Jose State University, and UC Berkeley students with access to Clipper® BayPass took 30% more transit trips and made 163% more inter-transit-agency transfers. Initial analysis from Phase 2 shows that individuals eligible for BayPass at these organizations took 35% more transit trips in 2024 than in 2023 and Phase 2 continues to grow with about 8 times more individuals are currently eligible for BayPass than were eligible at the beginning of 2024.

Clipper BayPass Phase 2 Pilot Extension

Clipper® BayPass is growing its customer base, riders, and generating new revenues, and riders report improved experience and increased access to transit. There is a strong interest from operators and participants to continue the pilot and extend the current Clipper® BayPass Participation Agreement, which authorizes the pilot and is signed by MTC and all transit operators that use Clipper®. The current Participation Agreement allows the sale of Clipper® BayPass through summer 2027 and outlines agreements for the sale of an unlimited regional transit pass to up to 80,000 individuals (excluding transitioned Phase 1 participants).

The Clipper® BayPass team would like to confirm agreement to extend the pilot and offer the pass product to partners beyond 2027 through a revised Participation Agreement. Staff will present current Clipper® BayPass performance data, lessons learned and considerations for potential limited adjustments to the Participation Agreement to facilitate ongoing discussions with operators.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Information

Attachments:

- Attachment A: PowerPoint