

Update on Regional Transit Priority Initiatives

Regional Network Management Council
October 28, 2024

Agenda Item 3b Attachment A



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Outline

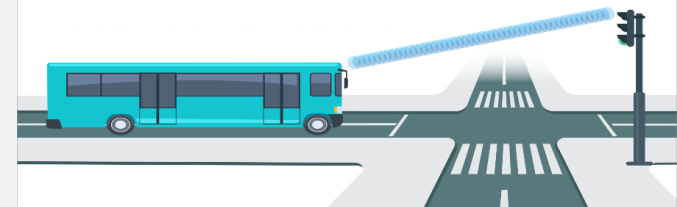
- 1) Transit Priority Overview
- 2) Established Initiatives
 - Transit Performance Initiative
 - Forward Commute Initiatives
- 3) New Effort: Regional Transit Priority Policy

Transit Priority

Policies and roadway infrastructure improvements can help transit riders get where they want to go more quickly.

Benefits:




- Helps transit vehicles avoid traffic congestion and spend less time at red traffic signals
- Reduces travel times for transit customers
- Allows transit to move more predictably, improving transit reliability



Transit Priority lowers operating costs

- Eliminating transit delays reduces travel times for transit customers and improves transit reliability, making transit more attractive to ride
- Shorter travel times also lowers the operating cost for providing service

EXAMPLE: Cost to Provide 15-Minute Bus Frequency, 6 AM – 8 PM, daily

One-way Travel Time	Buses Required	Annual Cost
74 minutes		\$10 million
66 minutes		\$9 million
60 minutes		\$8 million

More efficient service means shorter travel time



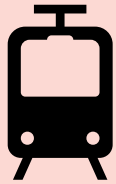
Longer travel time increases operating cost

Based on SFMTA methodology. Assumes operating cost of \$200/hour per vehicle for example purposes only. Actual costs vary.

MTC's Regional Transit Priority Efforts

Established Initiatives

**Transit
Performance
Initiative
(TPI)**



Funding

**Forward
Initiatives**



Project Delivery

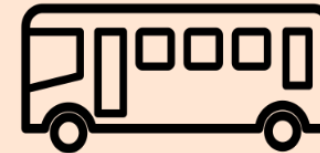
New/Updated Efforts

**Regional
Transit Priority
Policy**



Policy

**Bus Accelerated
Infrastructure
Delivery
(BusAID)**



*Funding
(Quick-build)*

**Innovative
Deployments to
Enhance Arterials
(IDEA)**



*Technical
Assistance*

Transit Performance Initiative (TPI)

Since 2012, **over \$130 million** has been programmed to 48 capital and planning projects, including:

- 38/38R Geary Rapid Project (SFMTA)
- Imola Avenue/SR-29 Express Bus Improvements (NVTA)
- Telegraph Rapid Bus Upgrades (AC Transit)
- Senter Road Bus Boarding Islands (VTA)
- El Camino Real TSP (SamTrans)
- Dublin Blvd TSP & Queue Jumps (LAVTA)

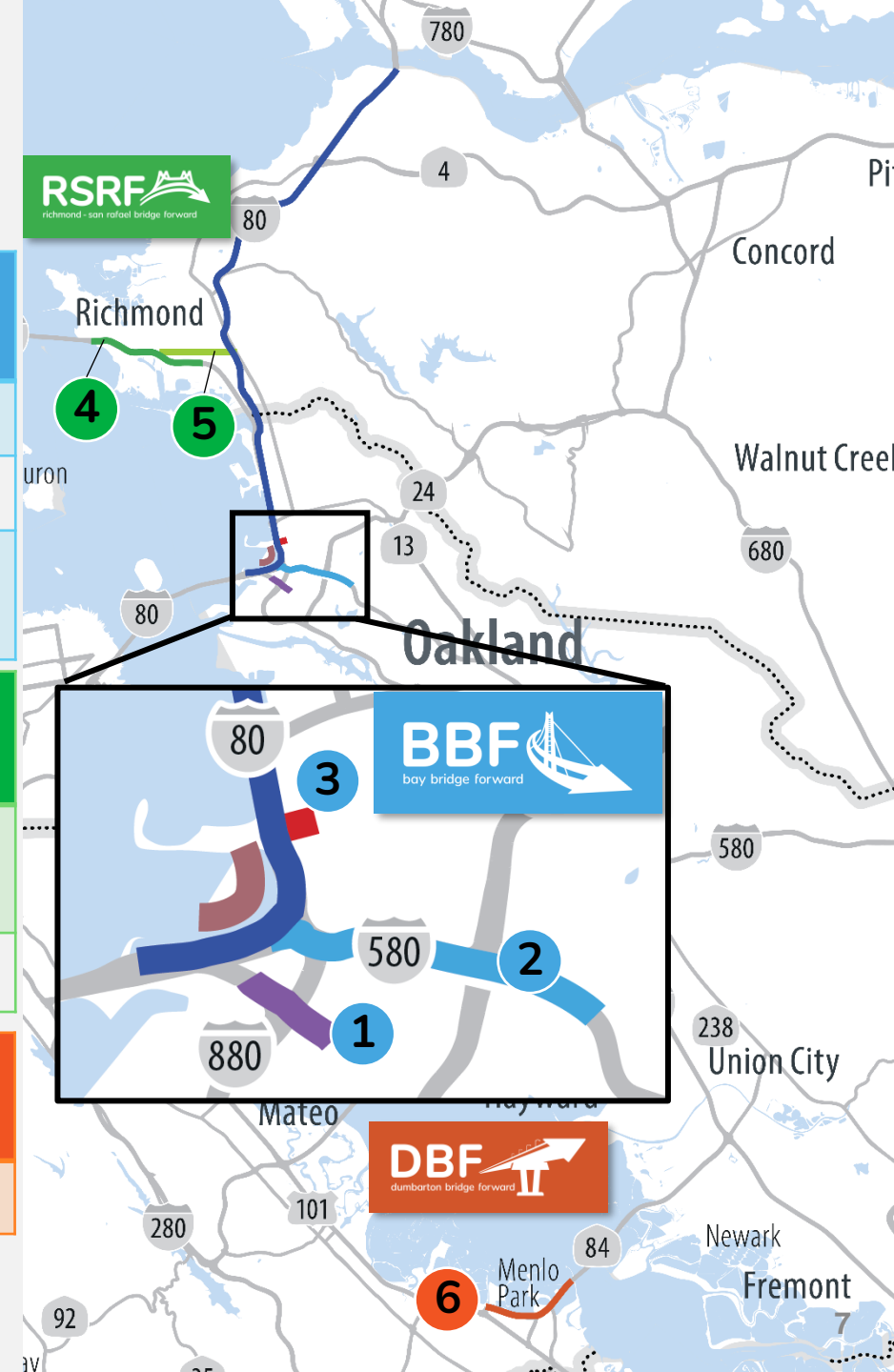


Forward Initiatives Starting Construction in 2025

#	Bay Bridge Forward	Phase	Opening Year*
1	West Grand Bus/HOV Lane Extension	Final Design	2026
2	I-580 Westbound HOV Lane Extension	Final Design	2025/2026
3	I-80 Powell Street Interchange Transit Improvements	Final Design	2026

#	Richmond-San Rafael Forward	Phase	Opening Year*
4	Open Road Tolling / I-580 Westbound HOV Lane Extension	Final Design	2026
5	Cutting Boulevard Transit Priority	Planning	2026

#	Dumbarton Forward	Phase	Opening Year*
6	Part-Time Bus Only Lane	Final Design	2026



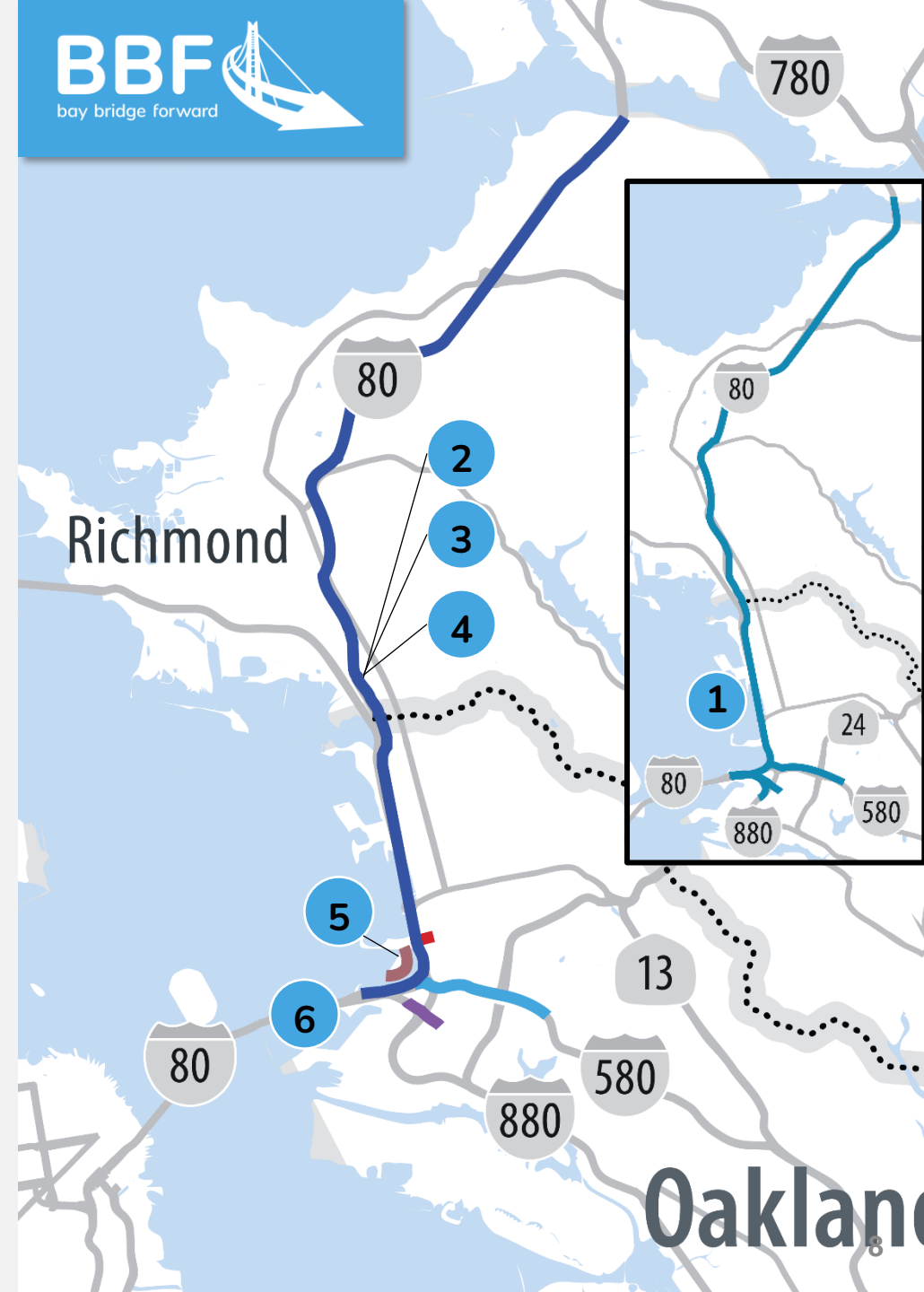
*subject to approvals

Bay Bridge Forward Initiatives in Planning



#	Bay Bridge Forward	Phase	Opening Year*
1	I-80, Bay Bridge, & Carquinez Bridge HOV Hours	Planning	2027
2	I-80 HOV Lane Access Restrictions	Planning	2028
3	I-80 Localized Transit Priority	Planning	2028
4	I-80 Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Study	Planning	TBD
5	I-80 Westbound Bus/HOV Lane	Planning	TBD
6	Smart Transbay Transit	Planning	2026/2027

*subject to approvals



Regional Transit Priority Policy on Roadways

Goal:

Develop policy to support and promote faster, more reliable transit that moves more people in the Bay Area

Fills a policy gap:

Existing policies (e.g., Complete Streets Policy) do not fully address or explicitly promote transit priority

Establish common vision and goals:

A policy can serve as a foundation for guiding and aligning agencies toward roadway improvements that benefit transit

Collaborative: Technical Working Groups

Includes transit agencies, county transportation agencies, cities, Caltrans, and advocacy groups



Photo credit: Jeremy Menzies/SFMTA

Regional Transit Priority Policy – Work Underway

- Policy elements being considered:
 - Common vision, goals, outcomes, metrics
 - Outline where transit priority projects should be implemented (could include criteria to develop a transit priority network)
 - Approaches for facilitating implementation, funding, and prioritization of projects
- Data Analysis - Regional Transit Assessment:
 - Existing Conditions, Needs, and Gaps: evaluate current transit service, speed and reliability
 - Can inform/result in development of a transit priority network



December 2023 Transit Priority Policy Kickoff Workshop.

Coordination between Transit & Complete Streets Policies

- Focus on “**Complete Street Networks**”
 - These policies do *not* seek “complete streets”, since cannot accommodate all modes on the same street in all situations.
 - **Active Transportation Network** and **Transit Priority Network** may overlap in some areas and not in others
- Design decisions remain under local control
 - Policies encourage **thoughtful planning and implementation by considering roadway context**



<https://gettingaroundsac.blog/tag/j-st/>

Proposed Schedule

	Summer 2024	Fall 2024	Winter 2025	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Fall 2025	Winter 2026	Spring 2026
Regional Transit Priority Policy	Policy Framework		Draft Policy	Final Policy				
Regional Transit Assessment			Regional Transit Assessment					
Complete Streets Update				Update Complete Streets Policy & Checklist				

