

# Update on Regional Transit Priority Initiatives

**Regional Network Management Committee**

November 8, 2024



**METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION**

# Outline

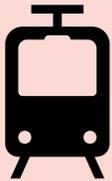
- 1) Transit Priority Overview
- 2) Regional Transit Priority Policy
- 3) Caltrans Bay Area Transit Plan

# MTC's Regional Transit Priority Efforts

## *Established Initiatives*

**Transit  
Performance  
Initiative**

(TPI)



*Funding*

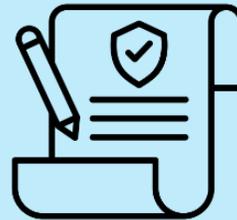
**Forward  
Initiatives**



*Project Delivery*

## *New/Updated Efforts*

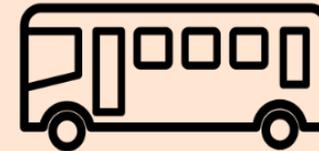
**Regional  
Transit Priority  
Policy**



*Policy*

**Bus Accelerated  
Infrastructure  
Delivery**

(BusAID)



*Funding  
(Quick-build)*

**Innovative  
Deployments to  
Enhance Arterials**

(IDEA)



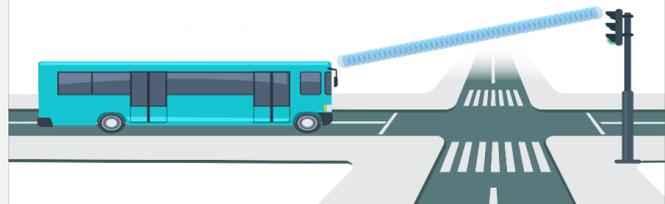
*Technical  
Assistance*

# Transit Priority

**Policies and 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	
<i>More efficient service means shorter travel time</i>	74 minutes		\$10 million	<i>Longer travel time increases operating cost</i>
	66 minutes		\$9 million	
	60 minutes		\$8 million	

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

# Regional Transit Priority Policy on Roadways



Photo credit: Jeremy Menzies/SFMTA

## 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

# 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				

CALTRANS BAY AREA



# TRANSIT PLAN



# District 4 Modal Plans

A ROADMAP FOR SUCCESS

- Caltrans District 4 Bike Plan, 2018

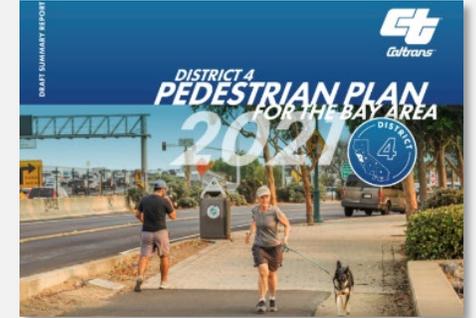
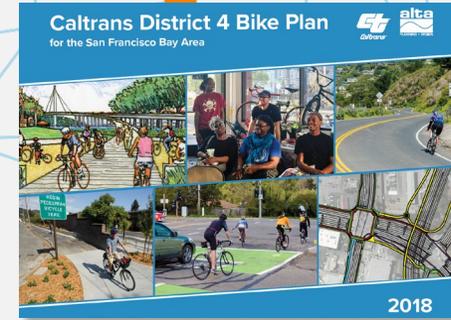
<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4-popular-links/d4-bike-plan>

- Caltrans District 4 Pedestrian Plan, 2021

<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4-programs/d4-transplanning-local-assistance/d4-office-of-transit-and-active-transportation/d4-pedestrian-plan-info>

- Caltrans Bay Area Transit Plan, 2024/25

<https://caltransbayareatransitplan.org/>



San Pablo Avenue, Albany

CALTRANS BAY AREA



# TRANSIT PLAN



# Major Tasks

Public & Stakeholder Engagement

Transit Inventory & Existing Conditions

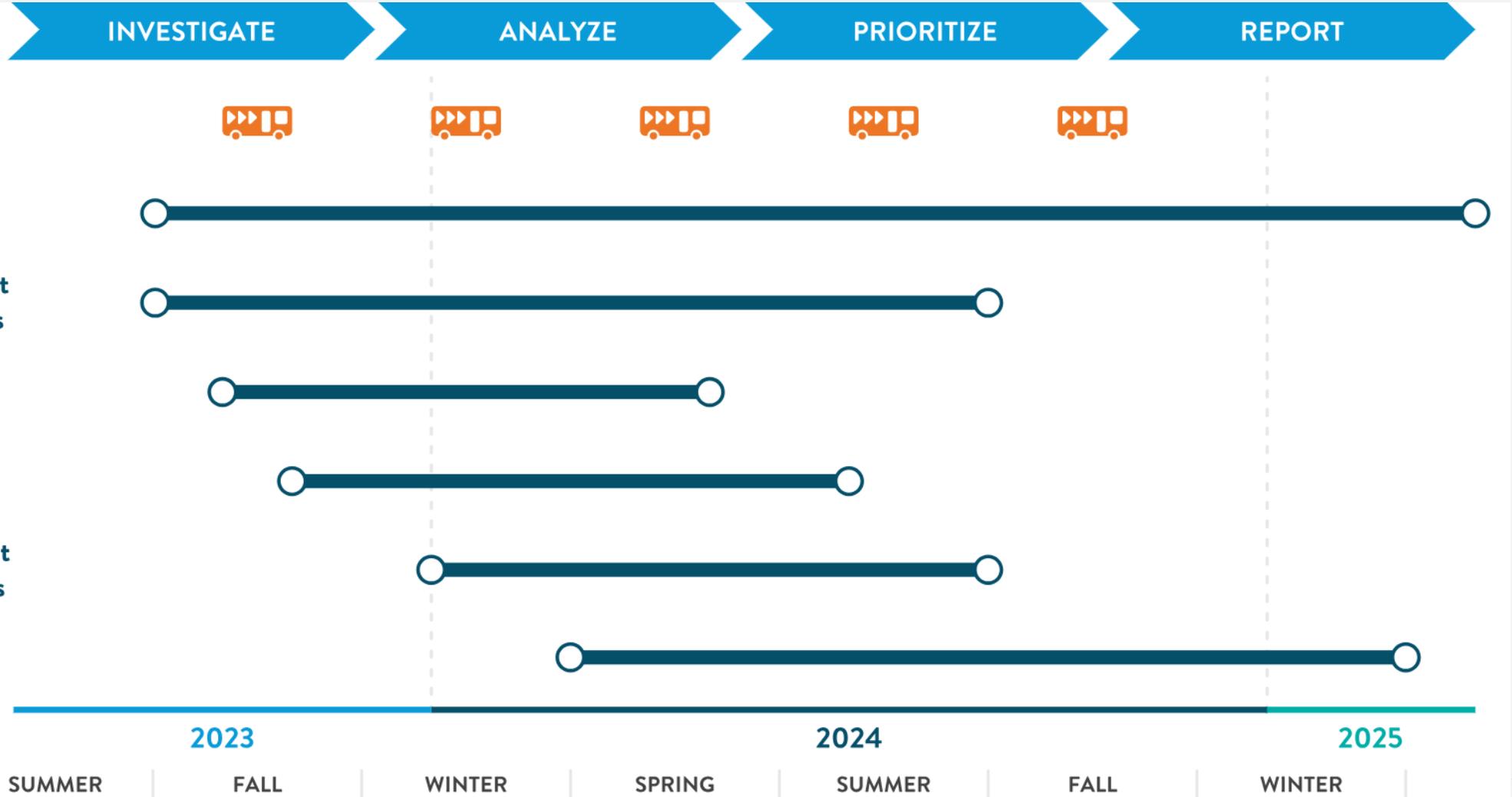
Goals, Objectives & Performance Measures

Identify & Prioritize Transit Needs

Transit Best Practices Toolkit

Transit Plan Final Report & Map

# Timeline



Meeting

2023

2024

2025

SUMMER

FALL

WINTER

SPRING

SUMMER

FALL

WINTER

# Thank you

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