



# SF Bay Trail Roadmap

**Toshi Shepard-Ohta**

Assistant Director, MTC  
Bay Trail Steering Committee

04.26.2024



# Vision of the Bay Trail

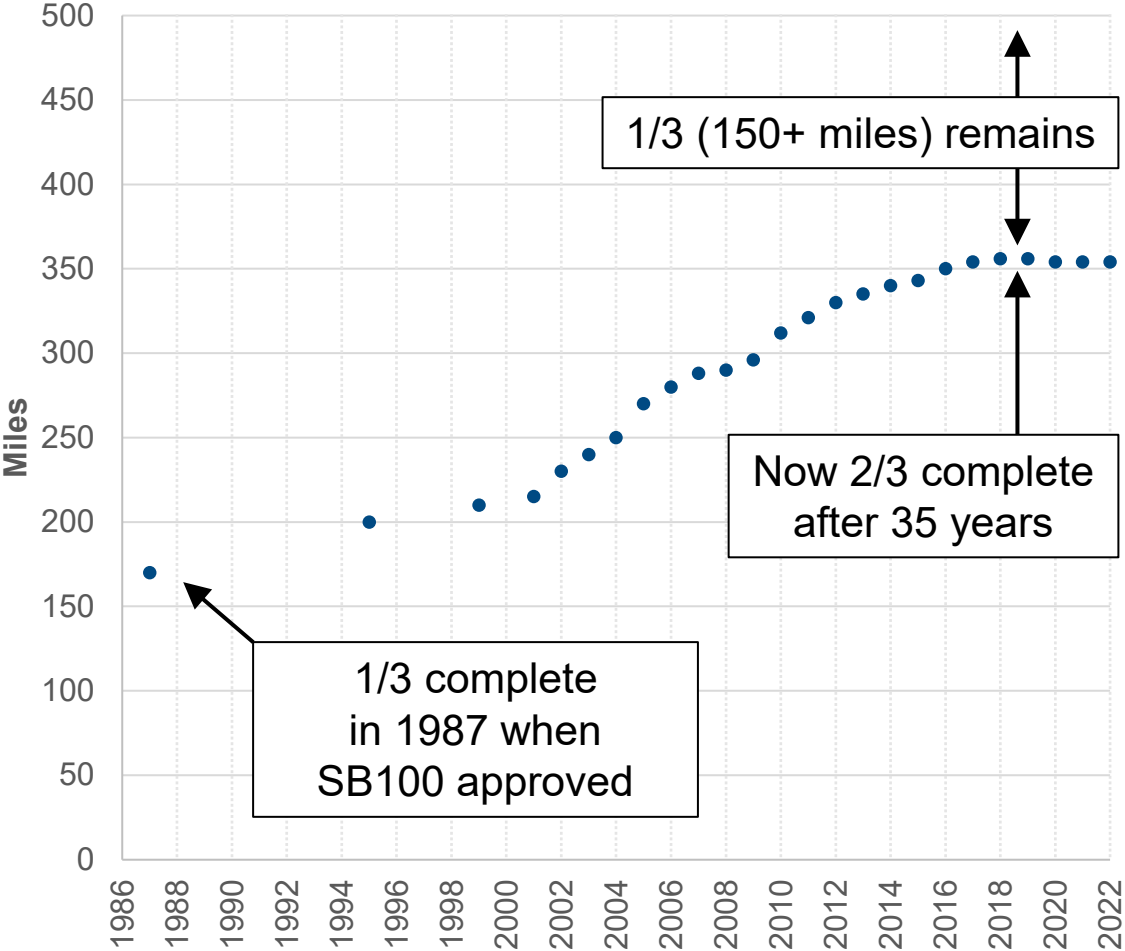
## Goals:

- Focus on **recreation AND active transportation, public health, etc.**
- Complete the spine AND **spur and connector facilities, improve equitable access and usage**
- Emphasis on all ages and abilities and **Equity Priority Communities**
- Class I AND **Class IV protected lanes, quick build, protected intersections**
- **Access, Equity, System Integration**

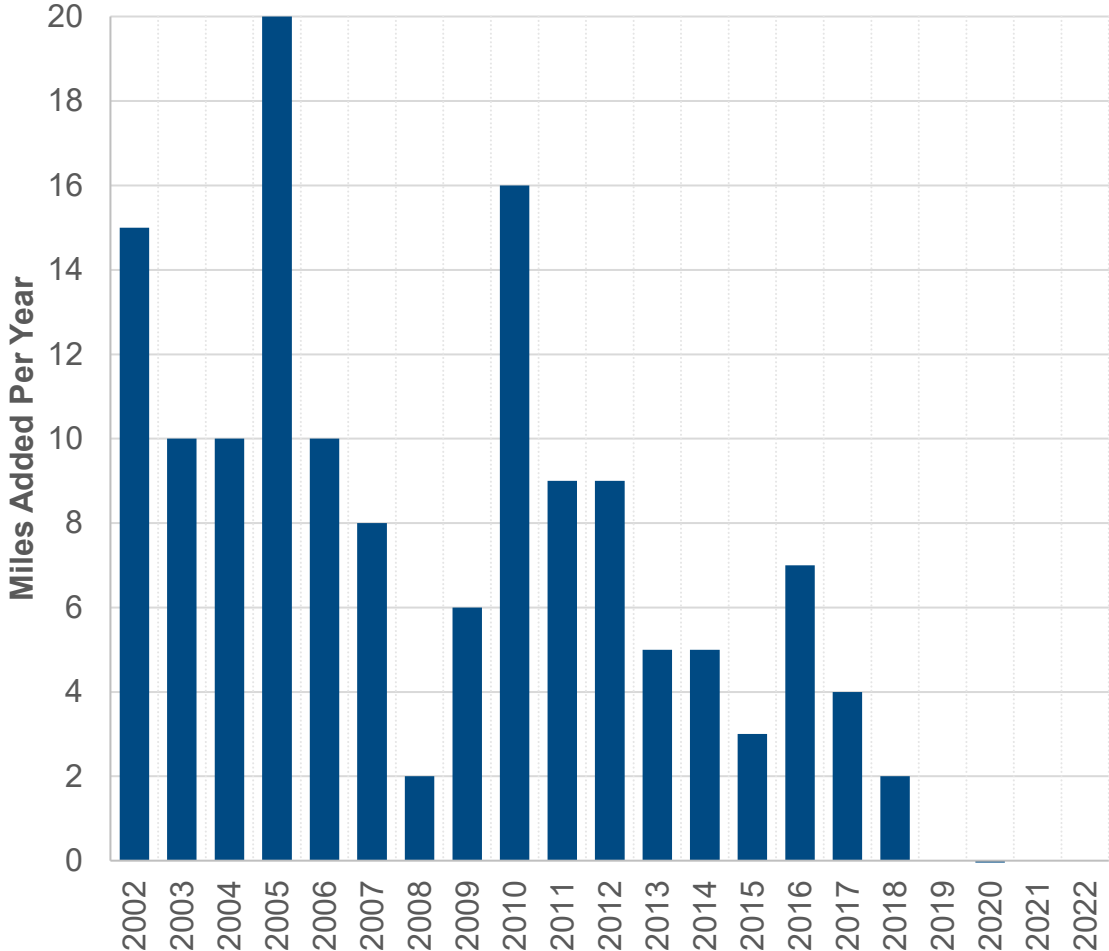


# After 15 Years of Growth the Bay Trail Has Stalled

Bay Trail Mileage 1987 – 2022



Bay Trail Mileage Added Per Year



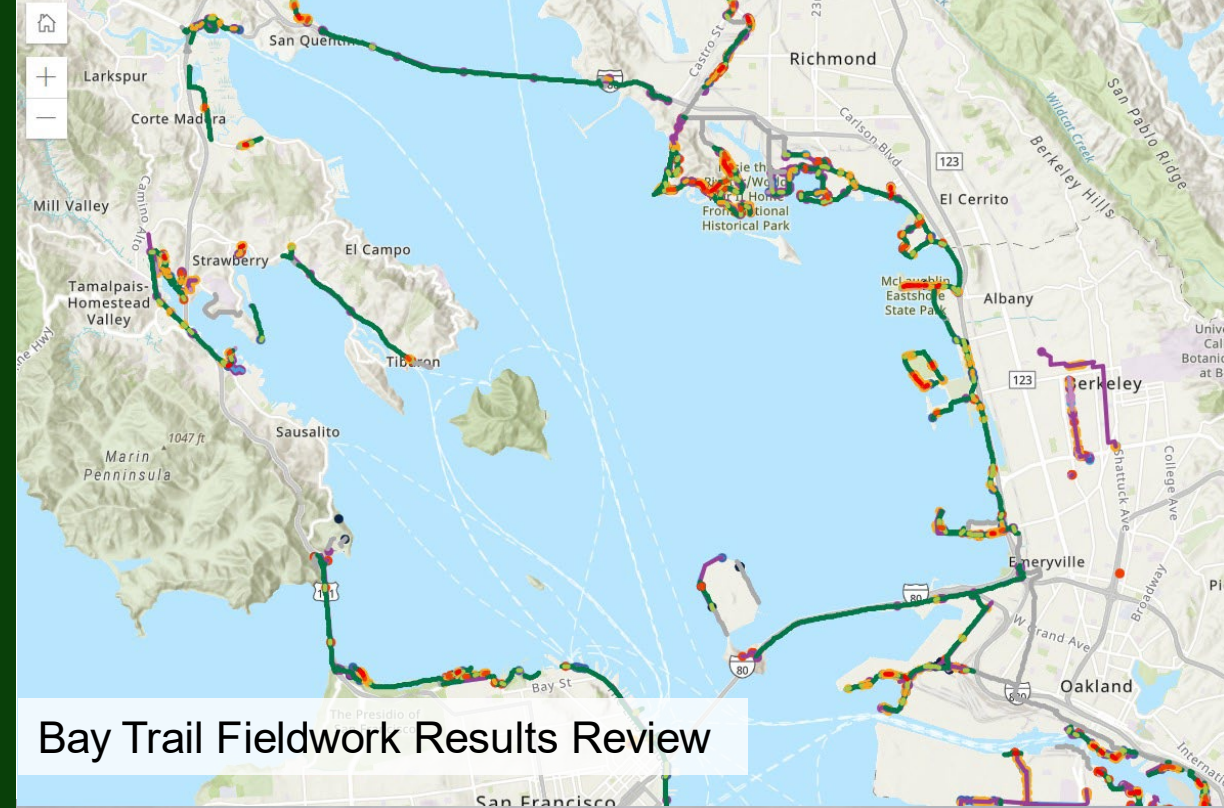
# Gap Closure Implementation Plan: The Bay Trail has 70.6 Miles of Substandard Trails

**37 miles have 1+ deficiency**

**33.6 miles have 1 deficiency**

The most common types of deficiencies are:

- Poor pavement condition on 45.9 miles of trail
- Trail narrows/pinch point on 18.3 miles of trail
- Bollard/obstruction on 16.9 miles of trail
- General maintenance need on 5.3 miles of trail



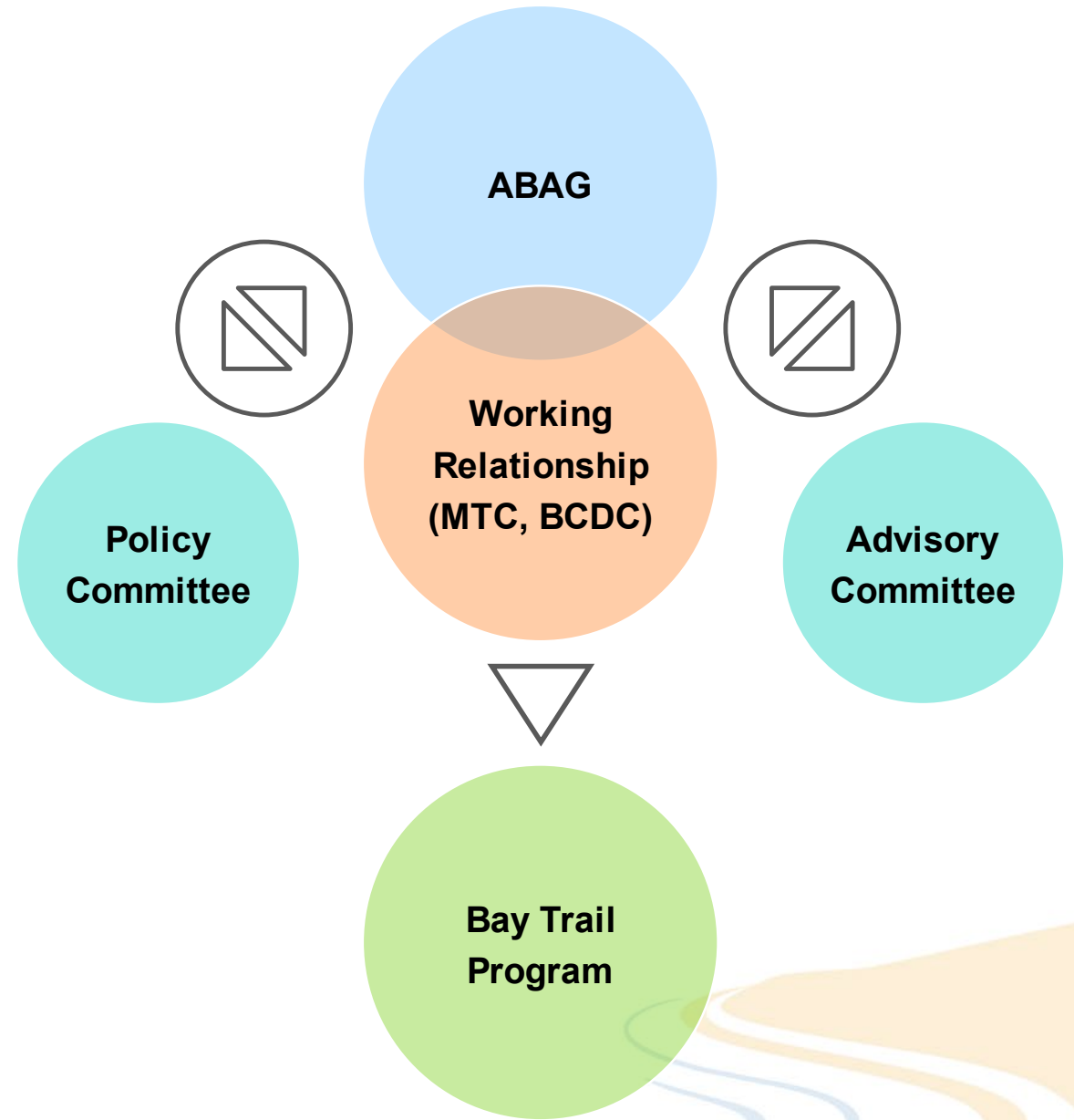
# Recent Bay Trail Nonprofit Challenges

- **Steering Committee resignations** — Treasurer and Co-Chairs resigned; Chair retired in October 2023
- **Lack of quorum** for steering committee meetings
- **Fundraising** is not a priority or carried out
- **Cannot meet the public support percentage** required to maintain its non-profit tax status (diversity and number of smaller donations)
- **2 CFR 200 Incompatibility (Federal \$)** with advocacy, fundraising and lobbying nonprofit functions



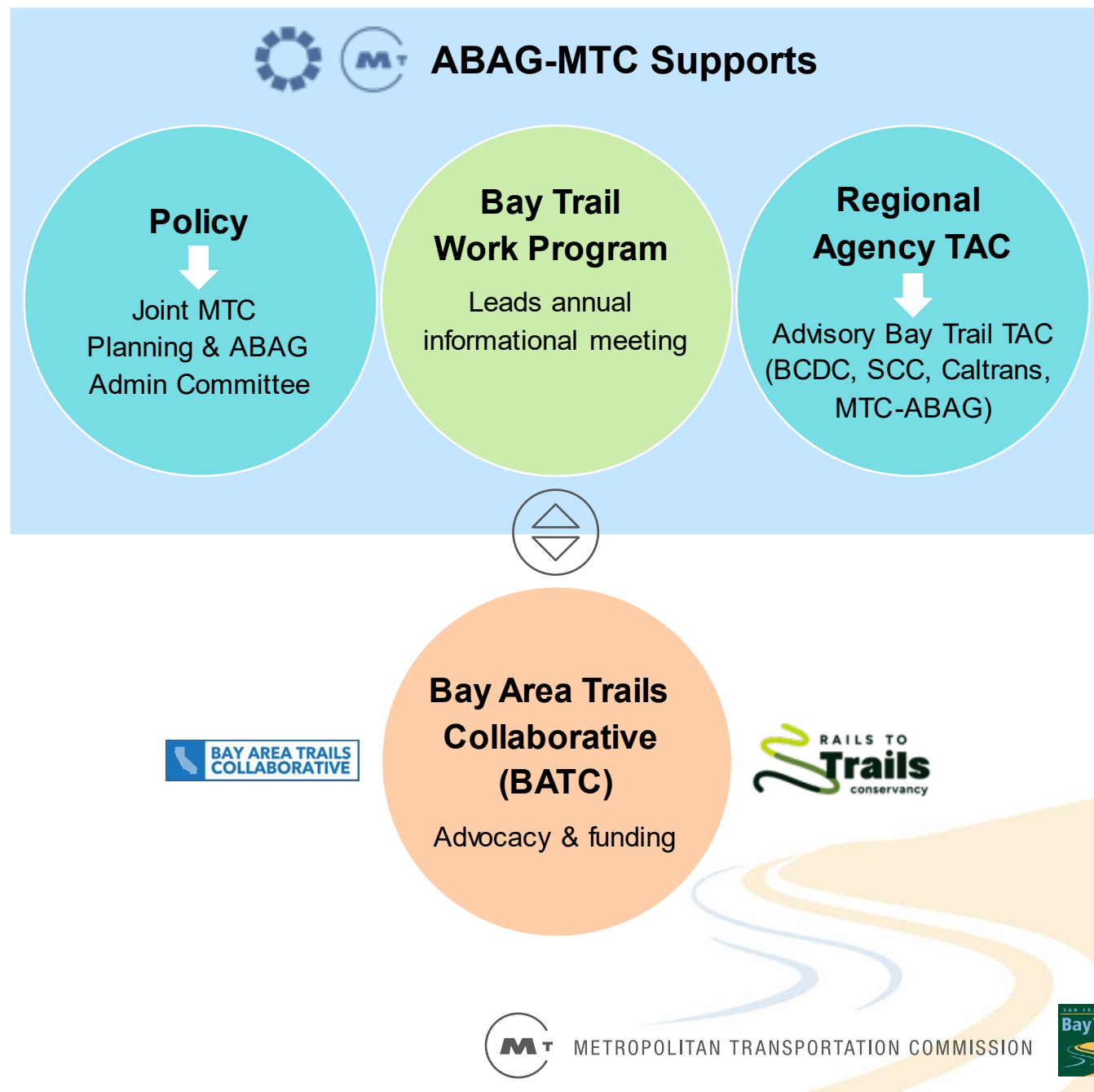
# Senate Bill 100: Bay Trail Organizational Intent

- Created concept of continuous hiking/biking trail around the bay
- Directed ABAG to complete Bay Trail plan in 2 years
- Develop relationships w/agencies affected by Bay Trail
- Establish policy committee
- Establish advisory committee of env & rec orgs
- Funding not included
- Nonprofit not mentioned
















# New Structure

- **Policy** moves to Joint MTC Planning & ABAG Admin Committee
- **Regional Agency TAC**  
Bay Trail quarterly TAC comprised of MTC, BCDC, SCC & Caltrans focuses on alignment changes
- **Advocates** move to annual Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Working Group public meeting and/or Bay Area Trails Collaborative (BATC) for advocacy
- **Annual Information Meeting** includes all orgs & is led by MTC



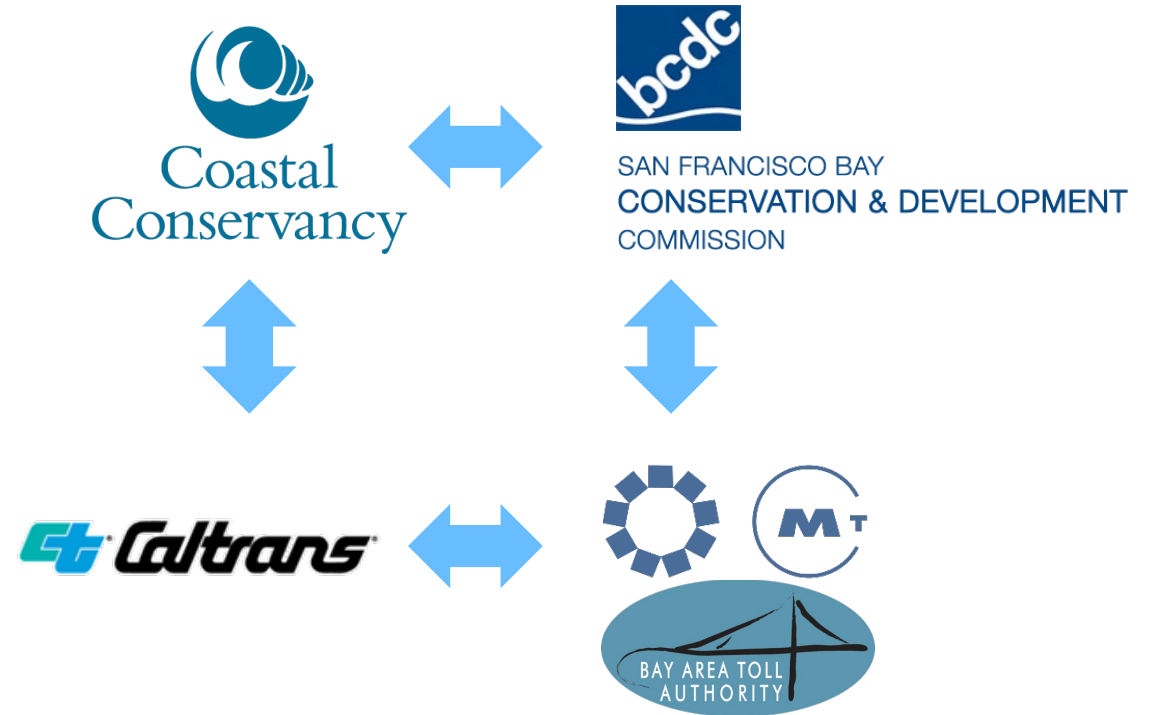
# Bay Trail Functions & “Road Map”

Current Bay Trail Project Actions	Lead Organization(s)	Potential Future Forum	Frequency
1. Trail Alignment Changes	    SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Coastal Conservancy	Create MTC / BCDC / SCC / Caltrans regional agency TAC w additional revolving members	Quarterly or ad hoc as necessary
2. Informational Updates	 	General meeting for all interested parties	1x/year
3. Policy Decisions	 	Joint MTC Planning-ABAG Admin Committee	As needed
4. Advocacy, Outreach & Support (e.g. “Friends of the Bay Trail”)	 	BATC (“Friends of the Bay Trail”), a collaboration under Rails-to-Trails 501(c)3	2x per year
5. MTC Planning Studies	 	Project TAC / Working Groups (e.g. Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan, SFO Gap Study)	Ad hoc
6. Nonprofit Decisions		Nonprofit Board needs to identify new fiscal agent	TBD



# 1. Trail Alignment Changes

- SCC, BCDC & MTC & Caltrans
- Meets 4x per year
- Includes key regulatory agency and key funders
- Discuss and build majority consensus for changes to the Bay Trail alignment
- Similar to current “administrative modifications”
- ROW owner brings forward proposed changes
- Ex-officio revolving agencies as appropriate



# 2. Bay Trail Program Informational Updates

- 1x per year

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- General public, resource agencies + bicycle orgs

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- Meets SB 100 requirement of *“convening environmental and ecological protection of the bay and groups representing bicycling and other relevant recreational activities”*



SAN FRANCISCO BAY  
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION



METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



# 3. Policy Committee

- Moves to Joint MTC Planning & ABAG Admin Committee

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- As needed

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- Meets SB 100 requirement to include “members of appropriate environmental organizations, to oversee development and implementation of the trail” [BCDC]

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- No prospective policy actions for Bay Trail

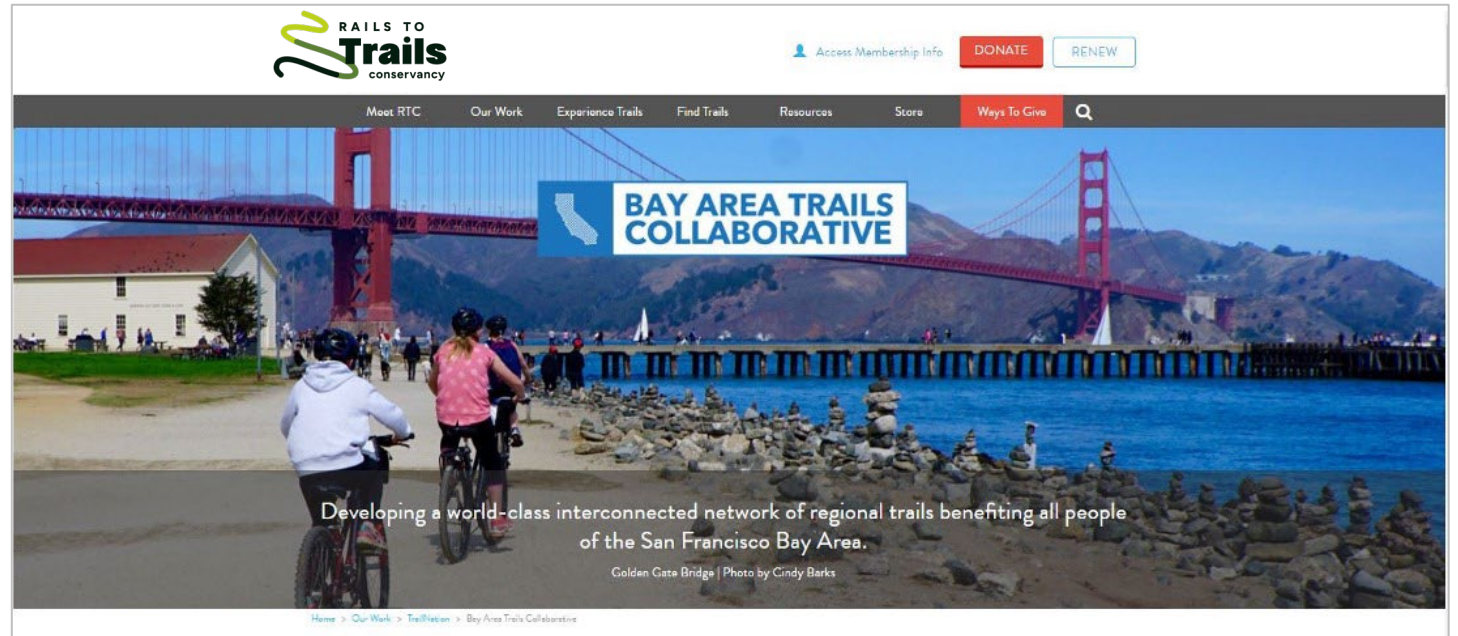
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- Committee oversees the Active Transportation Network

Members	ABAG Administrative Committee
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Belia Ramos, Chair; ABAG Executive Board President; Supervisor, Napa County</li><li>■ Jesse Arreguin, Vice Chair; ABAG Executive Board Vice President; Mayor, City of Berkeley</li><li>■ Pat Eklund, Councilmember, City of Novato</li><li>■ Otto Lee, Supervisor, County of Santa Clara</li><li>■ David Rabbitt, Supervisor, Sonoma County; ABAG Executive Board Immediate Past President</li><li>■ Carlos Romero, Councilmember, City of East Palo Alto</li><li>■ Cindy Silva, Mayor, City of Walnut Creek</li><li>■ Vacant (3)</li><li>■ Belia Ramos, Chair; ABAG Executive Board President; Supervisor, Napa County</li><li>■ Jesse Arreguin, Vice Chair; ABAG Executive Board Vice President; Mayor, City of Berkeley</li><li>■ Pat Eklund, Councilmember, City of Novato</li><li>■ Otto Lee, Supervisor, County of Santa Clara</li><li>■ David Rabbitt, Supervisor, Sonoma County; ABAG Executive Board Immediate Past President</li><li>■ Carlos Romero, Councilmember, City of East Palo Alto</li><li>■ Cindy Silva, Mayor, City of Walnut Creek</li><li>■ Vacant (3)</li></ul>

## 4A. Advocacy Role: BATC

- Not required by SB 100
- BATC takes on Bay Trail “advocacy & lobbying” role
- Runs Bay Trail Subcommittee
- **“Friends of Bay Trail”**
- Meetings **2x/year** Advocates & “friends” attend
- Maintains listserv
- Continue writing support letters



## 4B. Advocacy Role: BATC

### Why BATC?

- Collaborative supported by Rails-to-Trails (RTC)
- Mix of partners & advocates
- Most geographic overlap with Bay Trail
- Well aligned with project priorities
- Transportation + Recreation focus
- Build off RTC best practices



# 4C. BATC: Power of Partnerships



## Transportation Agencies

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- MTC, SMART, OakDOT, Solano Transportation Authority, WCCTAC

## Recreation/Open Space Agencies

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- Santa Clara County Parks, San Jose Parks & Rec, EBRPD, Hayward Area Rec & Park District, Mid-Pen Regional Open Space, POST, San Mateo County Parks

## Public Health Agencies

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- Solano County Public Health

## Non-profits

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- Bay Area Ridge Trail, Marin County Bike Coalition, Bike East Bay, Napa Vine Trail, Friends of Stevens Creek, SVBC

## Private Sector

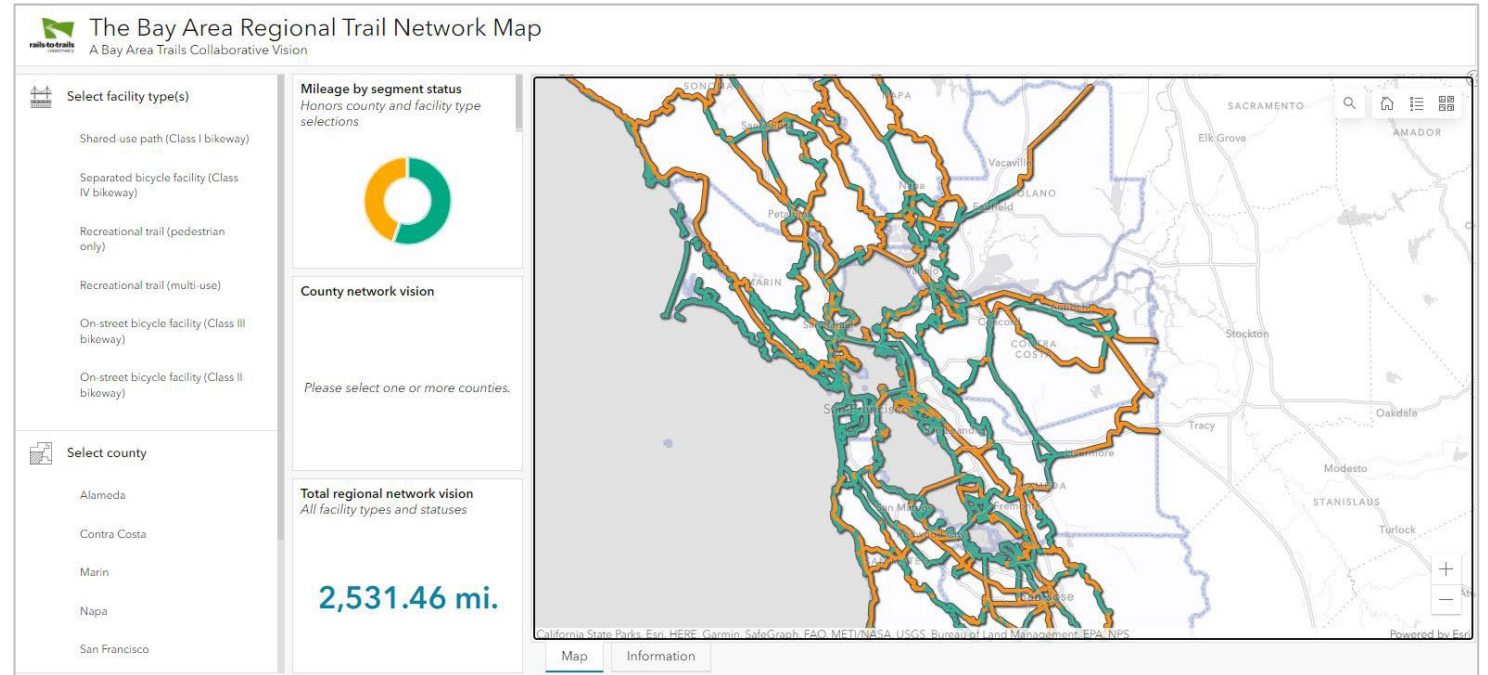
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- Alta Planning, Placeworks, Toole Design, WRT



# 4D. MTC Agreement with BATC

1. Provides resources to run Bay Trail Subcommittee “**Friends of the Bay Trail**” 2x per year
2. Consultant resources to maintain BATC GIS map
3. Meets with **Rails-to-Trails** staff 2x/year to discuss trails legislative agenda



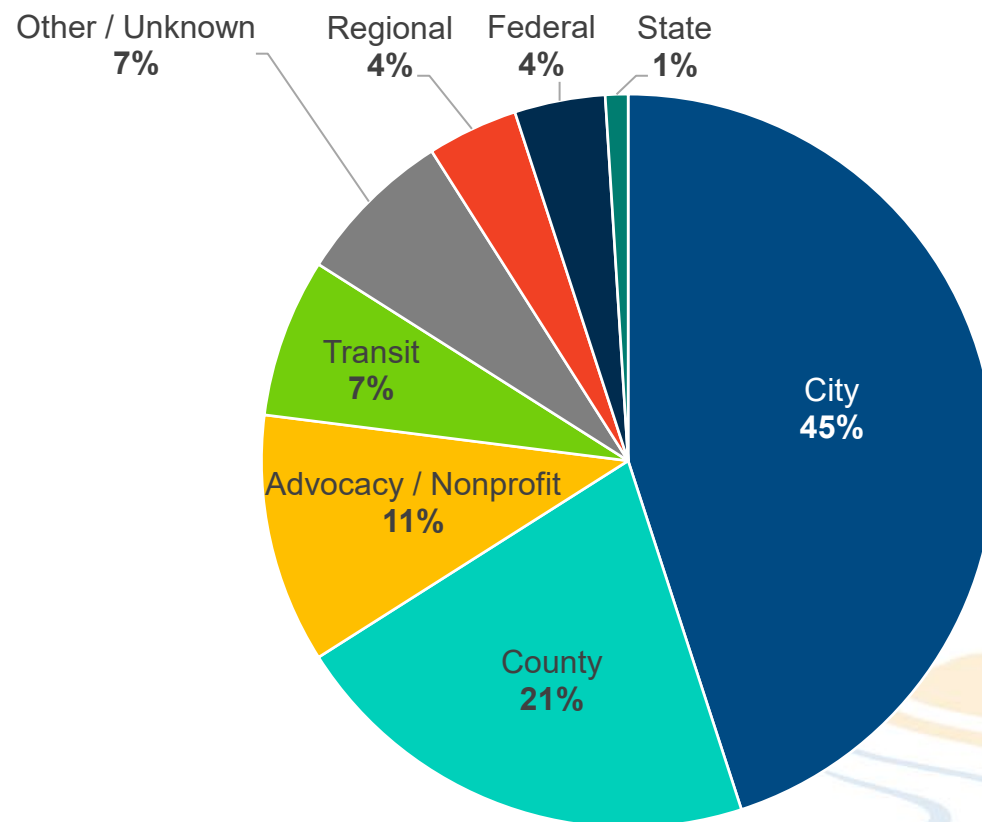
## 5. MTC Studies

- Continue recent Working Groups and TACs for major Bay Trail projects/ planning work (e.g. BTGCIP, Equity Strategy + SFO Gap)
- Staff participation
- Includes major + delivery partners, **cities, counties, CMAs, Federal resource agencies**

# 98 participants

## 9 Bay Area Counties represented

Gap Closure Working Group Meeting #1 Participant Organizations (% involvement)

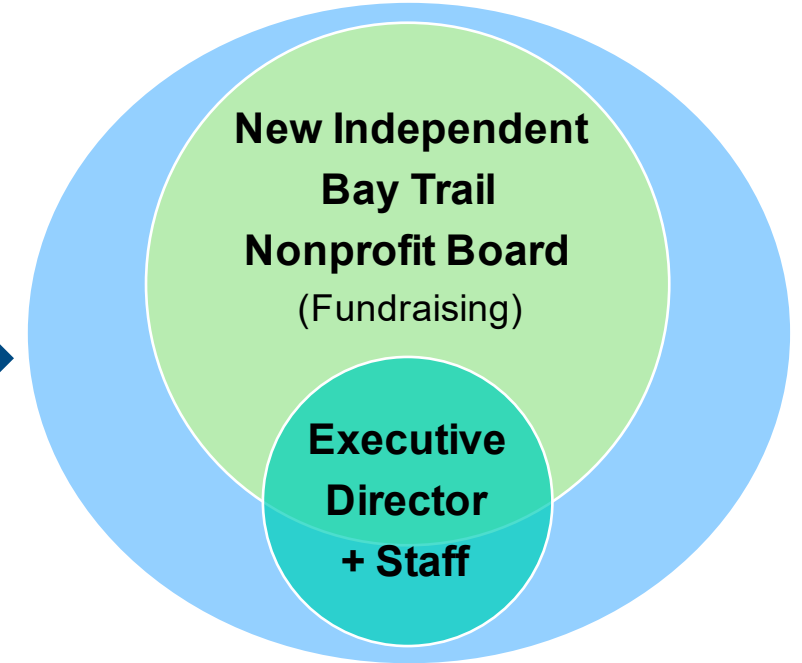




# 6A. Nonprofit Decisions, Expenditures & Donations



**Option A: Stand Up Existing Nonprofit Independently**



**Option B: Identify Nonprofit Fiscal Agent or donation recipient**



**Join RTC  
"Friends of the Bay Trail" Committee**



# 6B. Nonprofit Universe working on the Bay Trail

## Regional Parks



## County Parks



## City Parks



## Regional Advocates



## Bike Coalitions



## Area Advocates



## Land Trusts



# 6C. Nonprofit Decisions: Potrero Group



**Cleveland Justis, MBA, Ph.D.**

**Principal Director**

UC Davis,  
Executive Leadership Program

**Daniel Student, MBA**

**Managing Director, Consulting**

Strategy, Board Development,  
and Teams Facilitator



METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



# 1127 Previous Bay Trail Work Program



FY  
22-23

## Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project  
Gap Analysis Study



2% BATA TT  
Draft Complete  
\$250K

## SFO Gap Closure Study

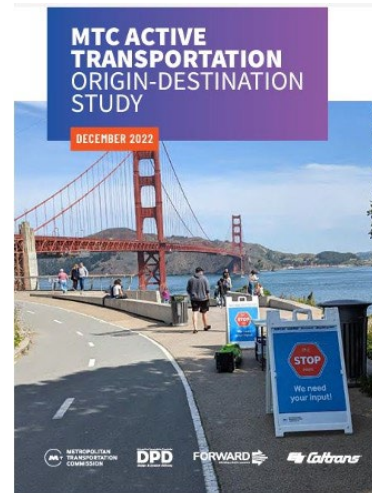
Tuesday, September 5, 2023 Update  
Bay Trail SFO Gap Study

The Bay Trail SFO Gap Study will identify potential Bay Trail alignments to close the three-mile Bay Trail gap around San Francisco International Airport.



Nonprofit funded  
Underway  
\$160K

## Active Transportation OD Study



AOM Funded  
Completed  
\$200K

## Bay Trail Equity Strategy: Phase II (CBO relationship building)



2%+ 5% BATA TT  
Completed  
\$126k

## Bay Trail Organization Change Management



2% BATA TT  
Underway  
\$25k



# 1127 Bay Trail Work Program: FY 23–24



**Initiate  
FY  
23–24+**

## Bay Trail Strategic Plan

San Francisco Bay Trail Project Strategic Plan  
2019 - 2023

**Mission**  
The San Francisco Bay Trail Project advocates for the implementation of a continuous recreation and transportation path around San Francisco Bay by coordinating the efforts of government agencies and other partners, providing technical assistance, seeking and administering funding and promoting the trail's benefits through education and outreach.

**Vision**  
San Francisco Bay is ringed by a continuous recreational corridor made up of hundreds of miles of safe, pleasant and attractive trails that serve a wide range of users. This network, known as the Bay Trail, almost always runs along the shoreline and typically travels on separated paths. The Bay Trail is used extensively for recreation, as a commute route, and as a setting for learning about nature. It crosses the region's toll bridges and reinforces transit use by passing near many public transportation facilities. Along its route, it provides many points of historic, natural, cultural and recreational interest. The Bay Trail has expanded the public's access to the shoreline, increased appreciation for the bay, fostered local economic development and waterfront planning, and reinforced the Bay Area's sense of regionalism. The Bay Trail is acknowledged as a uniquely valuable resource, and enjoys the unwavering support of government agencies and the public.

To accomplish these goals, the Bay Trail Board and staff will execute the following Strategic Plan Objectives:

**OBAG 3 Underway  
\$200k**

## Bay Trail Equity Strategy Phase III

Tuesday, September 5, 2023 Update

### Bay Trail SFO Gap Study

The Bay Trail SFO Gap Study will identify potential Bay Trail alignments to close the three-mile Bay Trail gap around San Francisco International Airport.



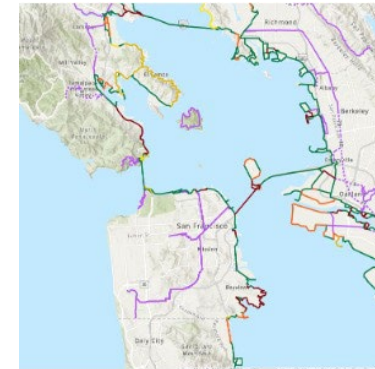
**OBAG 3  
\$350k**

## Bay Trail Technical Assistance (joint w RPP + FPP)



**OBAG 3 Underway  
\$280k**

## Regional Trails GIS Maintenance



**2%5% BATA TT  
\$200k**

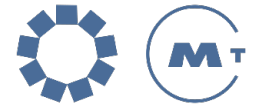
## Bay Trail Design Guidelines & Toolkit 2.0



**OBAG3 Underway  
\$250k**

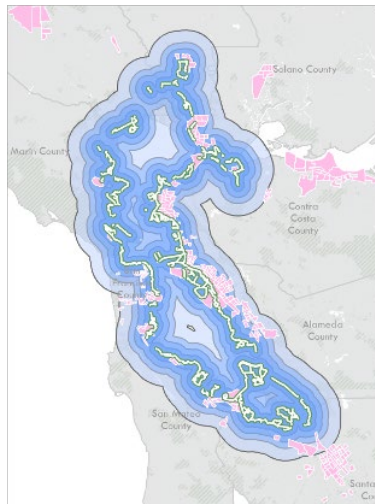


# 1127 Bay Trail Work Program: FY 24–25



Initiate  
FY  
24–25+

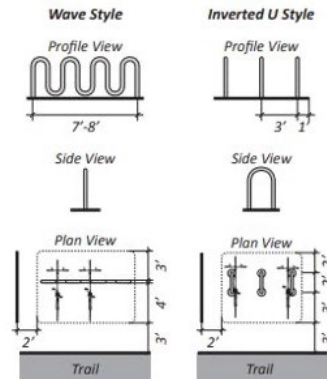
## Bay Trail Data Strategy



OBAG 3  
\$200k

## Bay Trail Needs Assessment (O&M)

FIGURE 5-23: BIKE PARKING DESIGN



OBAG 3  
\$500k

## Bay Trail Sea Level Rise & Adaptation



TBD

## Dumbarton Forward Bay Trail RM3



RM3

## RSR Forward Bay Trail RM3



RM3



# MTC/Bay Trail Next Steps

**March-April**

**BT Steering Committee & Board:**  
Informational item on Bay Trail SB 100 functional obligations moving forward.



**May-June**

**BT Board:**  
Work with Potrero Group to determine a new path forward and/or identify a new fiscal agent (e.g. RTC) and/or distribute funds to other nonprofits



**July-August**

**MTC & BATC:**  
Establish BATC “Friends of the Bay Trail” listserv and subcommittee



**Fall 2024**

**ABAG Exec Board:**  
MTC/ABAG to dissolve nonprofit staffing agreement, reclaim SB100 responsibilities and assign them to Joint MTC Planning & ABAG Admin



**BATC:**  
First “Friends of Bay Trail” Subcommittee meeting



**Spring 2025**

**MTC:**  
Annual Informational update open to all



**MTC:**  
First SCC/BCDC/Caltrans TAC for trail alignment changes

