# Regional Zero-Emission Transit Transition Strategy Update

Bay Area Regional Collaborative September 15, 2023



#### **Current Zero Emission Transition Context**

California Air Resources Board (CARB) Innovative Clean Transit rule requires transit agencies to transition to 100% zero-emission bus fleets by 2040

- Purchase requirements underway for large operators
- Operators have submitted Rollout Plans to CARB
- Majority of operators have initial ZEB deployments

CARB Commercial Harbor Craft Regulation requires lower-emission ferry fleets



TROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

### Regional Zero-Emission Transit Transition Strategy

Strategy is underway with consultant team, in partnership with transit operators and BARC, to develop a regional zero-emission vehicles and infrastructure transition strategy, focused on identifying challenges and opportunities at the regional and local levels.

### Zero Emission Transit Transition Strategy Principles

- a. Transition in **partnership** (operators, CTAs, MTC, State, Federal)
- **b. Accelerate** transition elements to focus facility investments on ZEB ready infrastructure
- c. Support a **dynamic bus system** serving local routes, key trunk corridors, and express lane network
- d. Evaluate and **manage risk** throughout transition



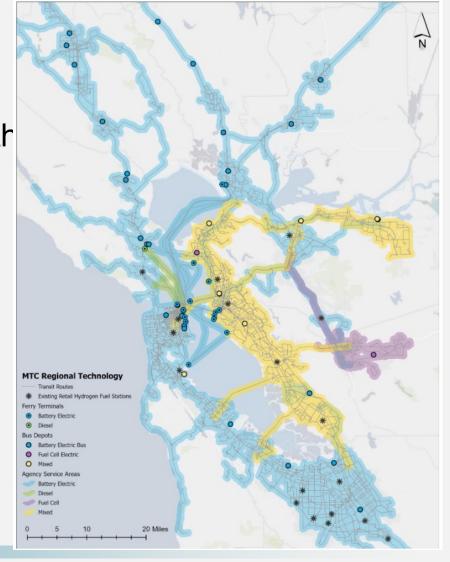
# **Current Status of ZEB Deployment**

- Approximately 450 ZEBs currently deployed across 12 agencies – over 10% of the region's bus fleet
  - 278 electric trolleys (SFMTA)
  - 130 Battery Electric Buses
  - 40 Fuel Cell Electric Buses
- Chargers and hydrogen fueling mostly at bus depot
- Limited numbers of on-route chargers



# Summarization of Current Agency Plans

- Significant numbers of both Battery Electric and Fuel Cell buses
- Some agencies are committed to one or both technologies, others still assessing future fleet mix
- Primary focus on depot-based charging and fueling, with strategic on-route charging
- Overall cost being refined, but in the high billions of dollars
  - Vehicle cost inflation
  - Complex facilities projects



#### Significant Identified Risks

- Schedule risk for compliance
  - Timeline of facility infrastructure upgrades delayed
  - Timeline of utility capacity upgrades delayed, or insufficient grid power on required timeframe
- Budgetary risk
  - Funding levels are insufficient at current cost projections (gap in the billions of dollars)
  - Capital and operating costs may grow beyond current projections



# **Collaboration Opportunities**

- Workforce training
- Knowledge sharing
- Vehicle purchases
- Hydrogen procurement
- Interagency coordination for shared on-route chargers



# Funding Opportunities and Challenges

- FTA formula funds (Transit Capital Priorities program) typically funds majority of replacement vehicles, but rapid cost escalation causing strain
- Vehicles are the highest cost, with significant needs also for facilities and charging/fueling infrastructure
- Recent performance in FTA discretionary bus funding was strong, with nearly 7% of national funding (\$110M)
- Will need to leverage existing state and federal transit discretionary sources, access energy and emissions-focused sources, and realize new funding opportunities to meet the gap

# **Ongoing/Upcoming Tasks**

- Refinement of cost estimate and development of funding strategy
- Analysis of technological approaches and compatibility
- Feasibility of shared infrastructure
- Analysis of considerations related to interoperability and emergency preparedness
- Interactive map of existing and planned zero emission transit facilities, hubs, and charging/fueling locations
- Analysis of regional opportunities and challenges

