

Update on No-Cost/Reduced-Cost Interagency Transfer Pilot Fare Integration Task Force October 23, 2023 Agenda Item 4a



No-Cost & Reduced Cost Interagency Transfer Policy Pilot



"When you make a trip that requires transferring between transit agencies, pay the full fare on just the first agency you use.

Any transfer to another agency within two hours of the first boarding is discounted up to a limit of \$2.50* per transfer".

*When making an inter-agency transfer, customers using Clipper receive a discount equivalent to the single-ride Clipper fare for amounts up to the region's highest local transit fare (currently \$2.50). This amount may change based on anticipated local agency fare adjustments.



- Launching in 2024 with Next Generation Clipper
- Significant opportunity to promote ridership growth (+27,000 riders per day)
- Major benefits to low-income riders, who make the majority of trips involving interagency transfers



Path to Launch for Customers





- 18-24 month pilot + policy framework endorsed by Fare Integration Task Force in March 2023
- Cost of increased transfer discount to be reimbursed by MTC with \$22 million in Transit Transformation Action Plan funds, per the adopted policy framework
 - Project team is working on a MOU, for operator and MTC approval, to formalize the policy framework
 - Questions about impacts to paratransit fares
 - Fare Programs Staff Working Group is reviewing MOU
 - Expect Task Force to consider the MOU this winter
 - Transit agency approval of MOU in the Spring of 2024

Summer 2024: Launch for customers as a part of Next Generation Clipper[®]





Major Opportunities in 2024

- Next Generation Clipper[®] + fare integration are transformative improvements for transit riders
- Project team and Clipper[®] staff see an opportunity to spotlight the major policy change the *No-Cost* & *Reduced Cost Interagency Transfer Policy Pilot* will offer riders in marketing and customer information
- "Now ride AC Transit for FREE when you transfer to or from BART or the SF Bay Ferry"
- "Need to take SamTrans *and* VTA to get where you're going? Now you'll only pay one fare to ride for two hours on both agencies"





Next Steps

Project team will <u>return to the Task Force</u> with an update and possible request for endorsement on the MOU for the *No-Cost* & *Reduced Cost Interagency Transfer Policy Pilot* this winter

Pilot is only funded for 18-24 months, so evaluating ridership growth potential and identifying necessary funding to support this user benefit will likely be a key topic of discussion in 2024



