



Connecting Northern California

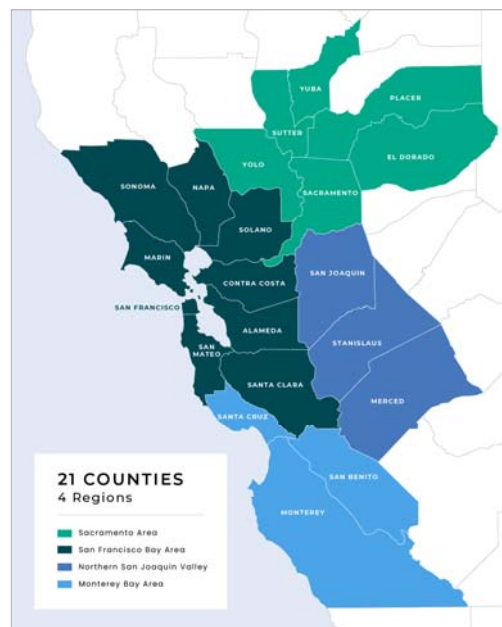
Alameda CTC Multi-Modal Committee
January 11, 2021



The Need for Link21

Future growth and prosperity in the Northern California Megaregion is challenged by a transportation system and transbay corridor unable to meet the needs of the 21-county area.

- High GHG emissions and air pollution
- Increasing congestion
- Unreliable travel times
- Overcrowded trains
- Lack of transbay redundancy





Bay Area Council: New Study*

- California's population and traffic congestion will continue to grow in spite of the pandemic.
- While thousands of employed residents have moved away from the Bay Area, many (30% in 2018) continue to work in the Bay Area.
- In 2018, 187,000 people who live outside the Bay Area commuted daily to the nine counties for work.
- Commutes in the Bay Area and the megaregion have become longer esp. those longer than 50+ minutes.
- The freeway corridors that have fast, frequent rail service have the highest transit share use in the region.

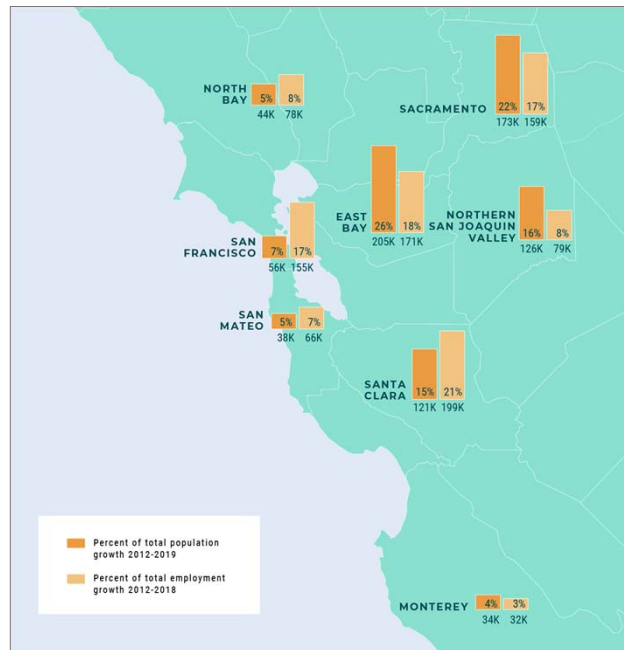


* Bay Area Council Economic Institute, 2021: Making the Megaregional Case for a Second Bay Crossing



Distribution of Population and Employment Growth Across the Northern California Megaregion 2012-2019

Sacramento was the most popular migration destination in July, with more than half of home searches from buyers outside the area. (Source: Redfin, Aug 2020)

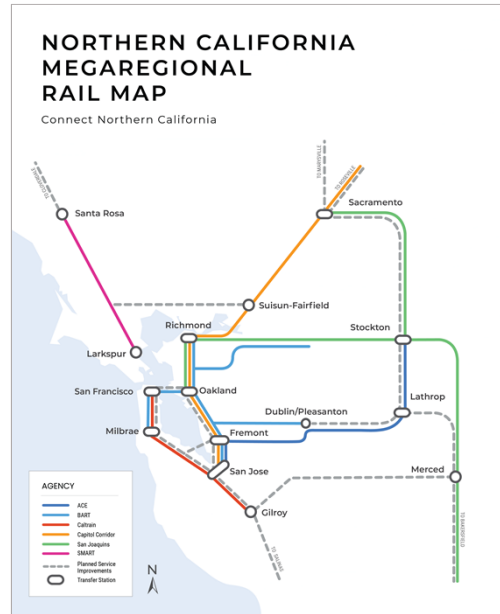


Map Source: Bay Area Council Economic Institute
 Data: California Employment & Development Department Employment by Industry; California Department of Finance

Link21 Program Vision

The **Link21 Program** will transform the passenger rail network in the Northern California Megaregion into a **faster**, more **integrated** system that provides a **safe, efficient, equitable, and affordable** means of travel for all types of trips.

This Program, including a new BART and/or regional rail (including commuter, intercity, and high-speed rail) connection between the East Bay and San Francisco, will make rail transit the **mode of choice** for trips throughout the megaregion.



Above: 2040 Northern California Passenger Rail Network, based on the California State Rail Plan, 2018

Goals and Objectives



TRANSFORM THE PASSENGER EXPERIENCE

- Provide better service
- Improve reliability and system performance
- Build ridership and mode share



ENHANCE COMMUNITY AND LIVABILITY

- Connect people and places
- Improve safety, health and air quality
- Advance equity



SUPPORT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

- Improve access to opportunity and employment
- Connect major economic, research and education centers
- Enable transit-supportive land use

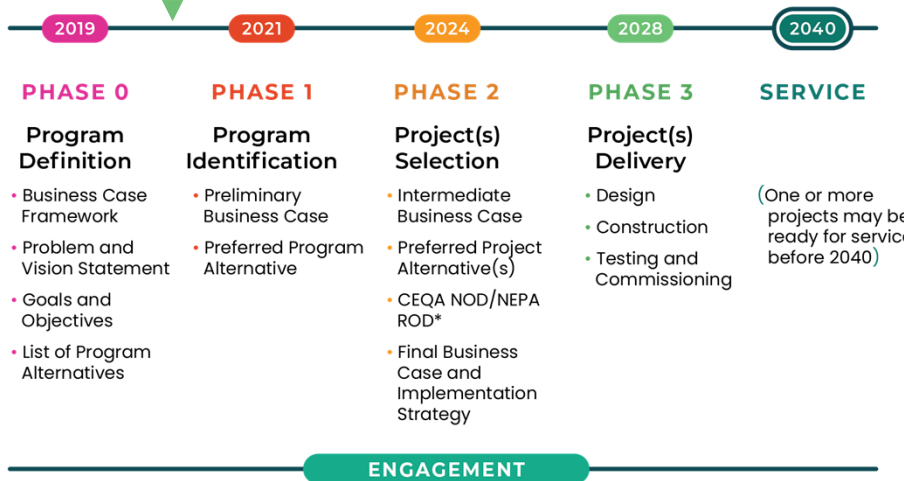


ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND PROTECTION

- Increase climate change resilience
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Conserve resources

Program Timeline

WE ARE HERE



*CEQA NOD = California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Determination/NEPA ROD = National Environmental Policy Act Record of Decision



Advancing with a Four-Part Business Case



STRATEGIC CASE

What are the Megaregion benefits?

- Passenger Experience
- Community, Livability, and Equity
- Economic Growth and Competitiveness
- Environmental Stewardship



ECONOMIC CASE

What are the economic costs and benefits?

- Benefit/Cost Analysis
- Business and Employment
- Jobs and Housing



FINANCIAL CASE

What is the financial viability?

- Revenue Generation
- Cost Effectiveness
- Funding Opportunities
- Financing Options



DELIVERABILITY & OPERATIONS CASE

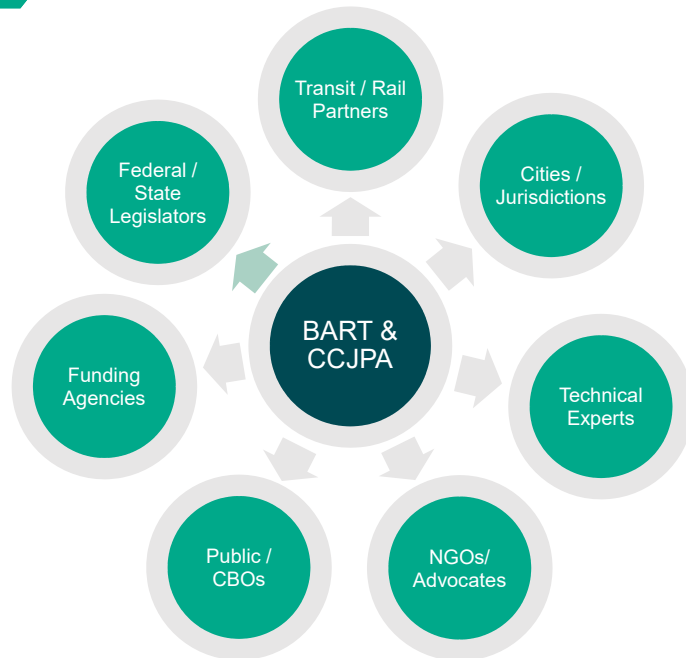
What is required to deliver and operate the project?

- Governance
- Project Risks
- Construction and Operations
- Network Functionality



Link21 Program Partnership

- BART and CCJPA have partnered to advance the Link21 Program through close collaboration with stakeholders.
- Future partners will include an Equity Council and regulatory Technical Advisory Committees.



9

Equity Vision Statement

The Link21 Program commits to:

- Develop and implement a process that advances equity through all aspects of the Program
- Build respectful and interactive community partnerships through accessible community engagement
- Value the experience and input of individuals from priority populations
- Ensure that disadvantaged and small businesses are integrated throughout the Program's lifecycle



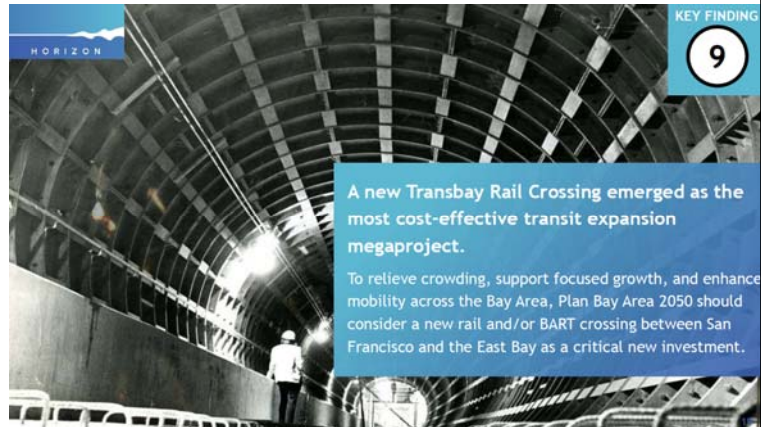
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Link21 is Essential to Meet Megaregional Goals

Link21 (as NTRC) is the top ranked transit project in MTC's Plan Bay Area 2050 for regional GHG reduction/climate goals

- Potential to reduce VMT by 1.2 – 4.8 million/day in 2050
- The NTRC is currently in the 2nd phase (2035+) of PBA 2050
- Look to be included in next iteration of other RTPs



KEY FINDING

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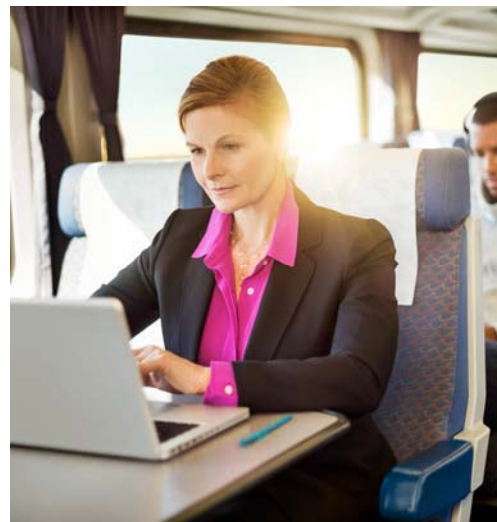
A new Transbay Rail Crossing emerged as the most cost-effective transit expansion megaproject.

To relieve crowding, support focused growth, and enhance mobility across the Bay Area, Plan Bay Area 2050 should consider a new rail and/or BART crossing between San Francisco and the East Bay as a critical new investment.



Major infrastructure investments (such as Link21) have major returns

- **Near-term:** design, construction, supply chain jobs and economic activity
- **Long-term:** economic development, sustained growth and efficiency
- APTA research indicates that the total economic impact of a transportation project is 5 times what is invested.
- A Link21 project would have an impact of \$145 billion and 377,000 jobs



Sources:

- American Public Transportation Association (2020), Economic Impact of Public Transportation Investment - 2020 Update
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) (2020), Plan Bay Area 2050 Blueprint

Public Support for Long-Term Planning

Even during the Pandemic, respondents prefer to move forward with long-term transportation plans



79% Even as we deal with the impact of the coronavirus, **we still need to develop plans** to help fix our region's long-term challenges with traffic and transportation

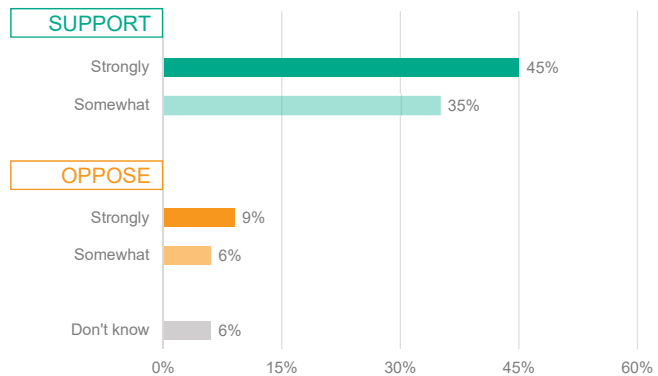
18% **Now is the wrong time** to spend time and money on planning long-range improvements to our transportation system; we need to focus primarily on the impacts of the coronavirus

3% Don't know



The Public Sees Integrated Rail as the Solution

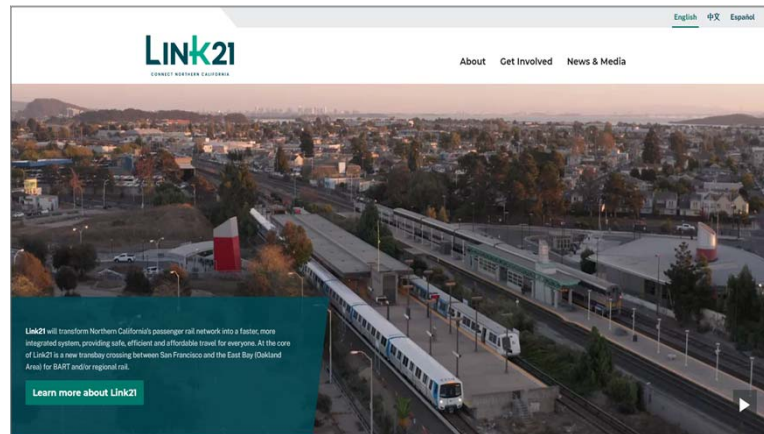
This project will develop an integrated rail system that will make many direct trips throughout northern California possible by rail (including the greater Bay Area, the Monterey Bay area, the Sacramento area, and parts of the Central Valley) , in part by providing another transbay rail crossing in order to increase rail service.



80% of Megaregion voters and 84% of Bay Area voters polled support the New Transbay Rail Crossing Program

Upcoming Activities

- Launch of Link21 website and survey
- Goals and Objectives survey launch with website
- Virtual workshops for the public and equity communities beginning in Spring 2021



Questions/ Comments





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