

LINK21

CONNECT NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Oakland Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities

- August 19, 2024

Exhibit C



Link21: Planning A Better Future

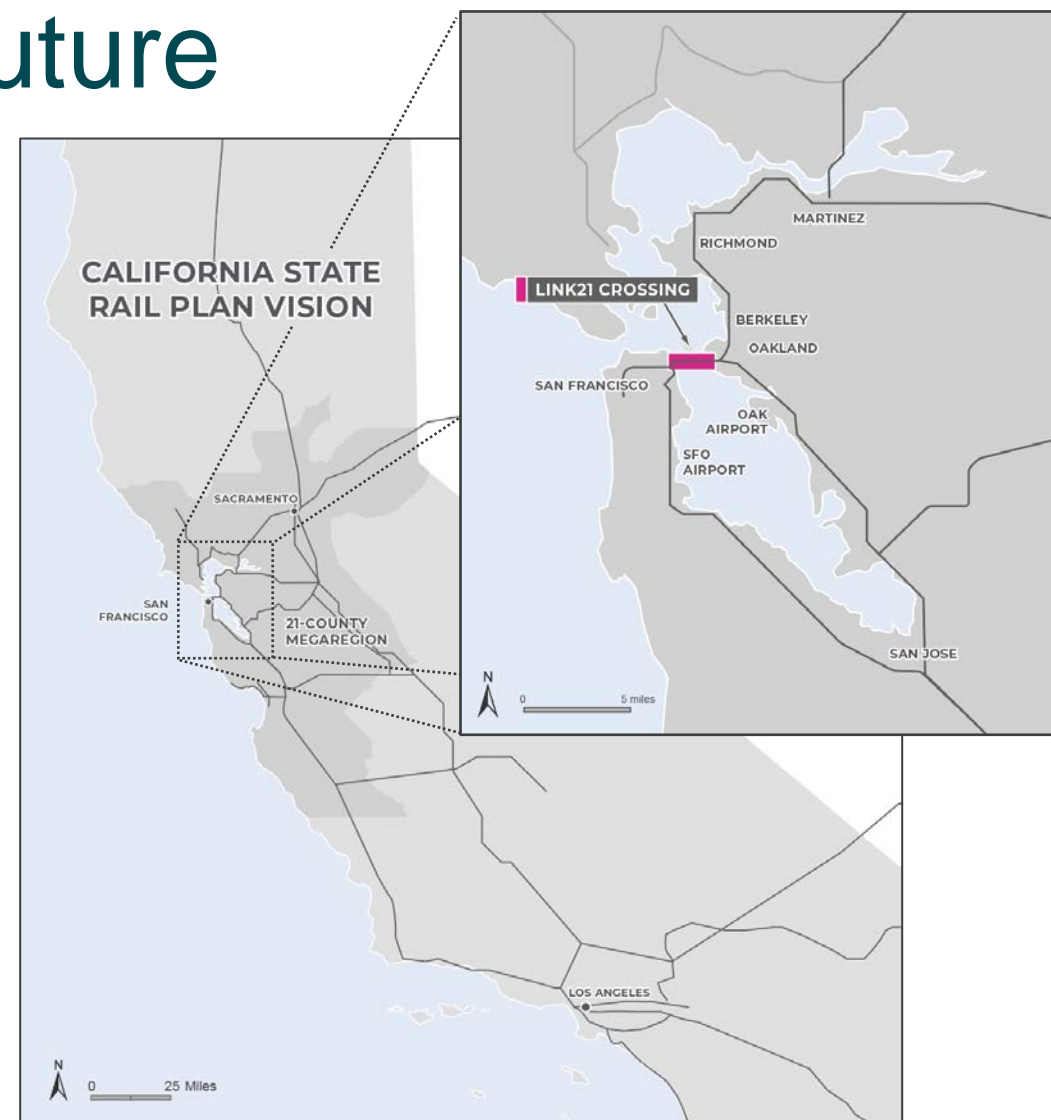
Connecting People & Places

The Vision:

Link21 & its partners will provide faster, more connected, equitable, affordable, & accessible train service for the megaregion

The Program:

- Construct new Transbay rail crossing
- Improve BART & Regional Rail service connections



Finding The Right Solution

The Challenge (Problem Statement):

Megaregional Access

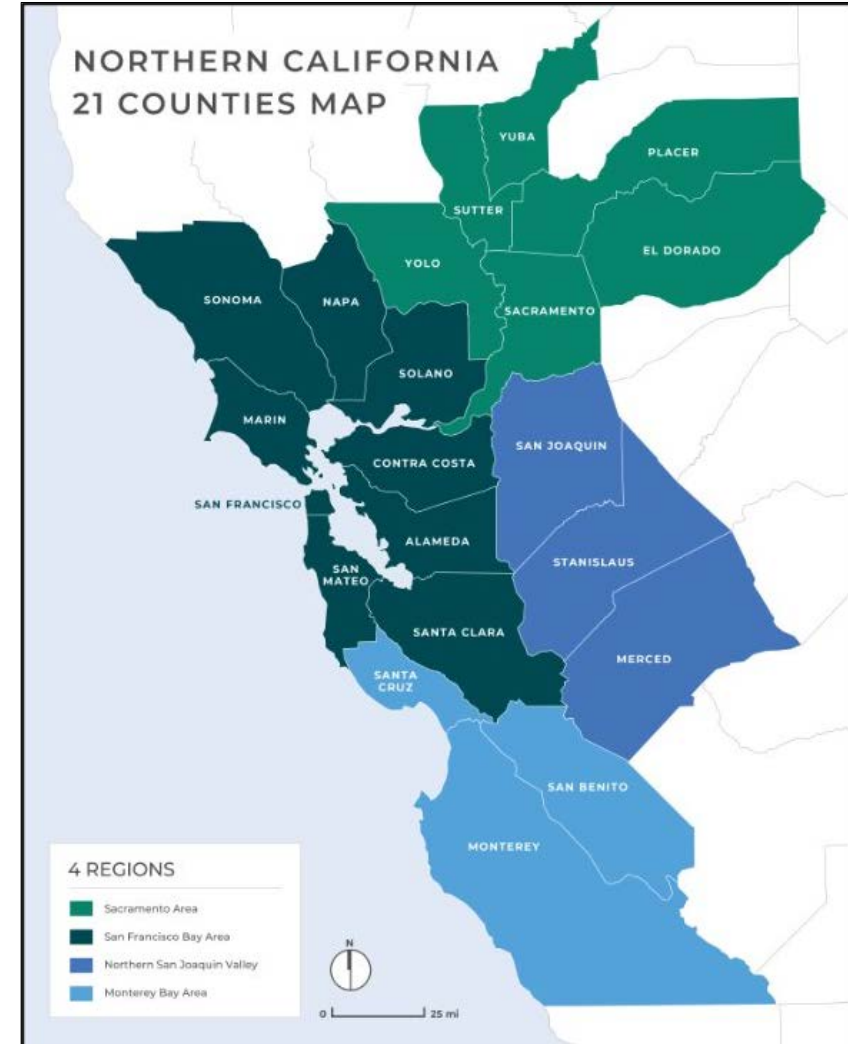
- Insufficient rail access to destinations

Equity

- Priority Populations face inequitable access

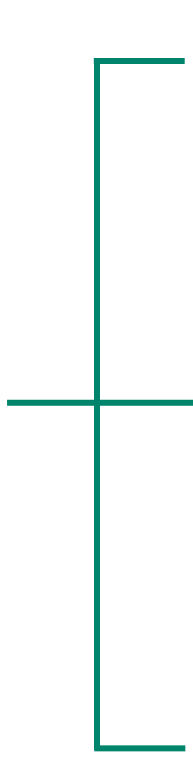
Transbay Capacity

- Transbay rail capacity may be insufficient in future



Link21 Goals & Objectives

**Transform
the Passenger
Experience**



**Promote Equity and
Livability**



**Support Economic Opportunity
and Global Competitiveness**



**Advance Environmental
Stewardship and Protection**



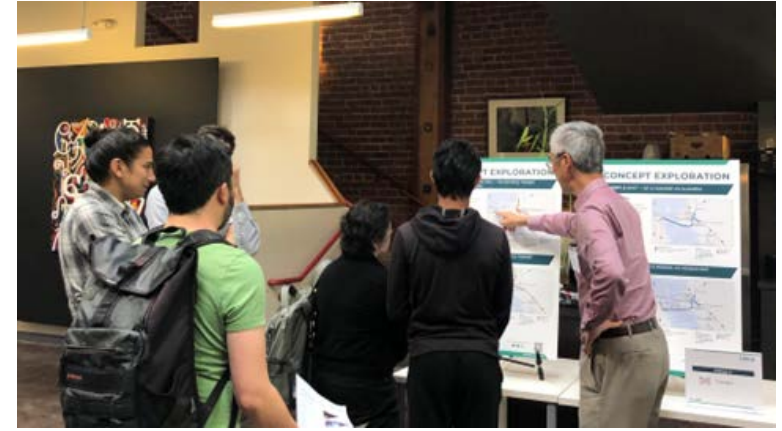
Link21 Commitment to Equity & Engagement

Advancing Equitable Outcomes

- Community Partnerships & Co-Creation
- Targeting Priority Populations
- Equity Advisory Council
- Equity Metrics & Analysis

Program Shaped by Public Input

- Briefings, presentations, large events & meetings
- Community events & in-station outreach
- In-person & digital communications





Equity Advisory Council (EAC)

27 Meetings & Counting

- **Regular Engagement:** Bi-monthly virtual public meetings & technical office hours
- **18 members** from the Megaregion
- **Governed** by Charter & Bylaws
- **Honorarium Pilot & Barrier Mitigation Fund**
- **Topics:** Accessibility, anti-displacement, connecting transit, fares, community benefits, equity metrics



“Think about a connected network as an equity strategy.”

- EAC Member

Accessible Engagement & Information

Digital Accessibility

- Link21 committed to accessibility: Program website/hosted materials site are Section 508 compliant and meet digital accessibility requirements

Engagement & Outreach

- Co-Creation Community Workshops with Resources for Independent Living and Valley Improvement Projects
- Presentation and discussions with Helping Hands East Bay
- In-person community events held in ADA accessible facilities

Planning & Engineering

- Designing a system that is accessible to all





Where Link21 is Headed

Link21 Program Key Milestone

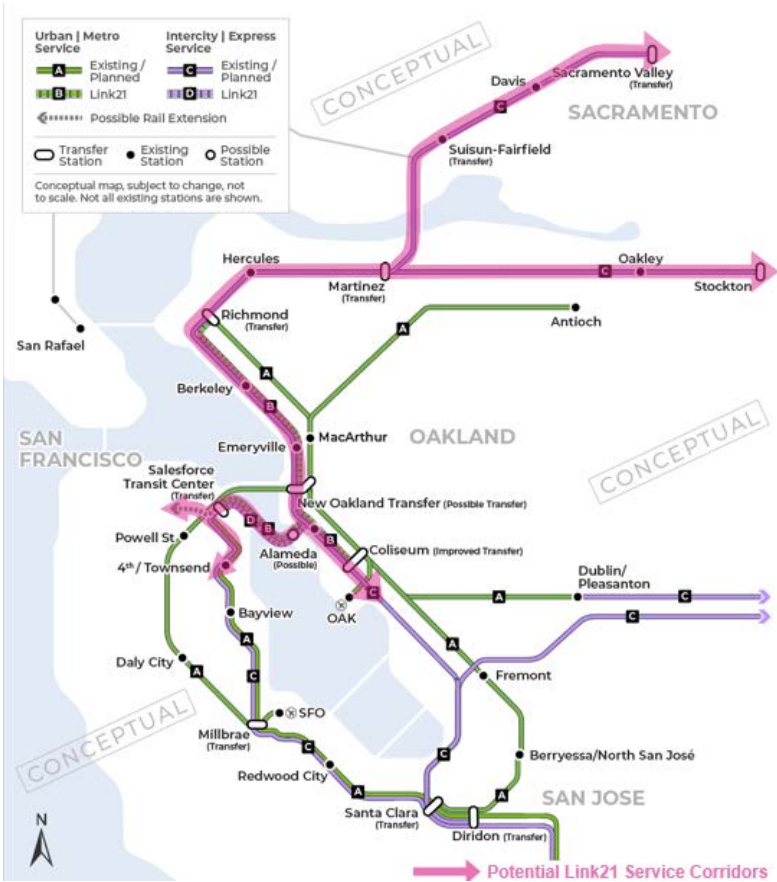
Phase 1 Work Completed:

- ✓ Concept Development & Analysis
- ✓ Service Planning
- ✓ Options Evaluation
- ✓ Engagement & Outreach

Next Steps:

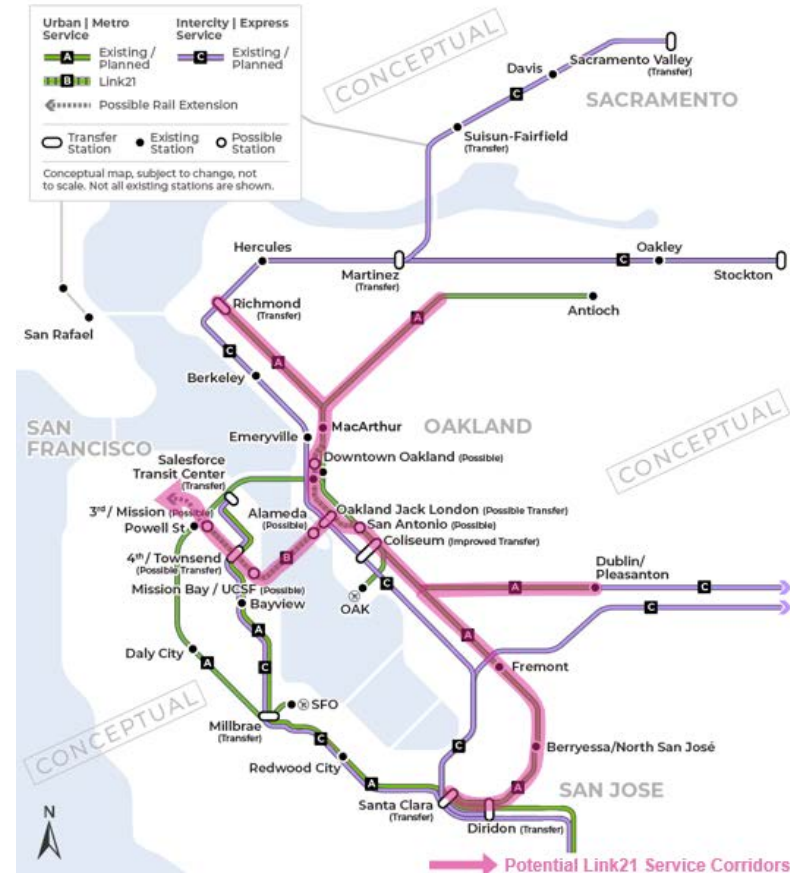
- Identify Train Technology in the train crossing
 - Standard-gauge (Regional Rail)
 - Broad-gauge (BART)
- Further planning to define project (alignment, station locations, etc.)
- Stakeholder and public engagement

Comparison: Standard-gauge vs. Broad-gauge



Standard-gauge
Regional Rail

OR



Broad-gauge
BART



Oakland Considerations

- A new **central transportation hub** for the Megaregion
- Improved **access to jobs** and destinations for Oaklanders
- Alignment with **Oakland plans**
- Improved **safety, health, and air quality** for Oaklanders
- Substantial investment to **advance equity**
- Potential new alignment and stations will be assessed in **future phases**



Targeted Engagement in Oakland – Partial List

Link21 Equity Advisory Council (EAC)

- Bi-monthly meetings (includes four Oakland representatives)

Staff Briefings & Presentations

- Monthly meetings with OakDOT, Planning & Building Department, and Port of Oakland
- Jurisdictional Working Group (includes Oakland representatives)

Community & Link21 Events (examples)

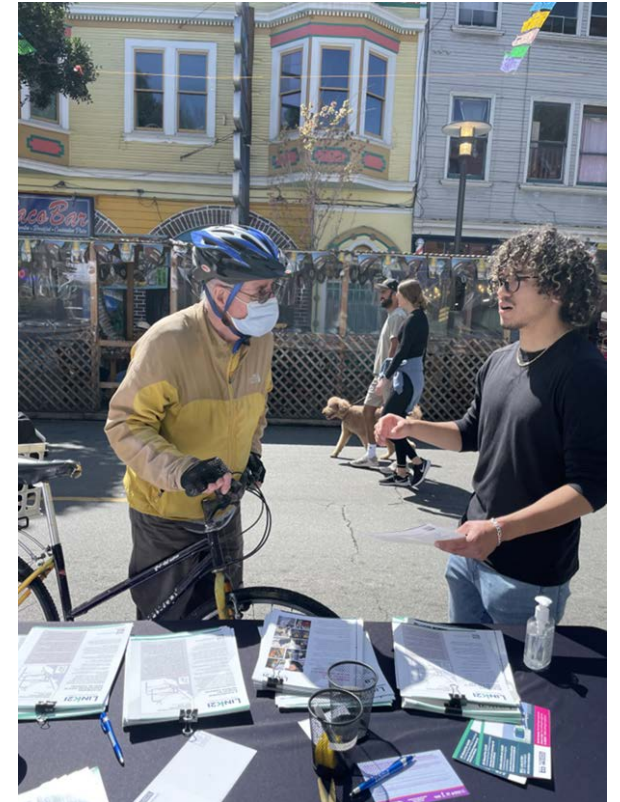
- Events – Rose Foundation New Voices Rising
- Open Houses – Jack London Improvement District



Targeted Engagement in Oakland

Community-Based Organizations and Leaders

- Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN)
- Black Arts Movement Business District
- Black Cultural Zone
- Causa Justa: Just Cause (CJJC)
- Center for Employment Opportunities (CEC)
- Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs (CROP)
- Ella Baker Center
- East Bay Asian Youth Center



Targeted Engagement in Oakland – Continued

Community-Based Organizations and Leaders

- East Oakland Youth Development Center
- Friends of San Antonio Park
- Jack London Business Improvement District
- Longfellow Community Associations
- Oakland Asian Cultural Center
- Oakland Chinatown Chamber
- Prescott Neighborhood Council



Targeted Engagement in Oakland – Continued

Community-Based Organizations and Leaders

- Rose Foundation
- St. Columba Catholic Church
- Trybe
- Unity Council
- We Lead Ours (WELO)
- West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project
- West Oakland Neighbors



What We've Heard – Highlights from Oakland

Rider Experience

- Increased frequencies & longer hours
- Improved reliability, access & safety on trains
- Fare affordability

Program Funding & Management

- BART fiscal cliff & funding

Infrastructure & Network Integration

- Interest in underground tracks/West Oakland access
- Enthusiasm for Oakland Jack London BART Station
- Interest in San Antonio BART or Capitol Corridor Station



Next Steps: Identifying a Project For Link21

Planning Focus Areas



Identify Crossing Train Technology



Project Definition & Refinement



Funding Strategy



Governance & Key Stakeholder Coordination



Ongoing Public Engagement & Equity



Thank you