Let’s Build a FASTER Bay Area Together

Watch our Video
The Bay Area is in a transportation crisis

- Congestion is up
- Greenhouse gas emissions are up
- Transit ridership is down
- Inequality is deepening

*Congestion up 80%, Transit down 11% since 2001, Emissions up 3% since 2010*
We can do better

3 groups came together to see if the Bay Area had an appetite to solve our transportation crisis
Comprehensive outreach campaign

- 9 Focus Groups
- 2 Region-wide Polls
- Online Survey
- 300+ Stakeholder Meetings
- Town Halls Across Region

Regular meetings with:
- Equity & Transit Advocacy Orgs
- County Transportation Agencies
- Environmental Groups
- Labor Groups
- Affordable Housing Groups
- Voices for Public Transportation
What we heard

People:

- Know the Bay Area is in a transportation crisis
- Know that transforming transit is the solution
- Willing to pay for transformational change
- Want outcomes—fast, reliable, affordable, and integrated transit
- Show little enthusiasm for specific projects, especially megaprojects
The public wants meaningful reform

Pair big Bay Area transit tax with tough decisions... There is no doubt about the need for a radical new approach to transportation."

San Francisco Chronicle

The last thing we need is yet another ballot measure with a grab bag of projects. What’s needed is a holistic approach that integrates the Bay Area’s 26 bus, train and ferry agencies and nine congestion management agencies."

The Mercury News
1% Sales Tax increase to transform transit polls at 67% support

Yes: 67%

No: 29%

(Undecided): 4%

2075 interviews
Seattle and Los Angeles have passed regional transit measures in 2016 of a similar scale.
The FASTER Vision: a Regional Transit Network that’s faster than driving alone
FASTER Transit is...

High quality service:

- transit comes every 15 minutes in most places
- transit is out of traffic—that means faster transit and fewer cars sitting in traffic
- transit serves the entire region
Delivering FASTER

A $100bn investment in a Regional Transit Network (FASTER Transit)

Fundamental changes to how we deliver transit service in the Bay Area
FASTER will upgrade existing transit lines and develop new transit lines.
FASTER may include...

A 9-County Rapid Bus Network running on a completed Express Lane Network
Equitable

The most equitable transportation revenue measure in Bay Area history

- Shield low income families from the sales tax increase with a **Sales Tax Fairness Credit**
- Exploring a mandate requiring the region’s employers to invest in sustainable commutes for millions of workers
- Provide **massively discounted transit fares** to students and low-income riders on a permanent basis
all communities receive their share of FASTER’s transformative benefits:

- Each commute shed will receive billions of dollars in guaranteed investment.
- Each transit operator will receive guaranteed investments (including money for staff) to support local transit service and connecting communities to FASTER.
- Each county will receive guaranteed investments to support safe walking, biking, and micromobility use, as well as funding for school buses and paratransit.
Transforming how we do Transit

Supercharge project delivery reducing cost and delays

- Streamline Process
- Transit Construction Center of Excellence

Enable transit work as one regional network:

- Seamless customer experience across transit operators
- Regional network planned at the regional scale
Outcomes first, projects second

We will only write into the measure FASTER Network projects that are sufficiently defined and can be delivered in a short enough time that we can *project with confidence that they will be transformative*—meeting objective performance metrics—and good value for money.

We will also put guardrails in the measure so that these projects would need to be re-evaluated for funding if they no longer deliver transformative outcomes or are good value for money.
All projects funded for the FASTER Network will:

- deliver transit that is competitive with driving alone
- deliver transformative outcomes, based on objective performance metrics
- be a good value for money
Draft Expenditure Plan

1. FASTER Transit Network Build Out & Operations

2. Connect to the FASTER Transit Network

3. Make Network Affordable & Seamless

+ 4. Employer-Funded Sustainable Commute Subsidies
1: FASTER Transit Network Build Out & Operations

Upgrade existing service to FASTER standards

Expand and operate new FASTER lines, including:
- a new 9-county Rapid Bus Network running on a completed Express Lane Network

FASTER will serve the entire Bay Area, with guaranteed investments in each commute shed
2: Connect to the FASTER Transit Network

- **Local Transit**: Service connecting communities to FASTER Transit Network
- **Active Transportation**: Complete, connected bike & pedestrian networks, connecting communities to FASTER Transit Network, as well as jobs, schools and parks
- **Regional Transportation Innovation**: Investments in emerging transportation technologies to increase access to the FASTER network
- **Local Street Safety and Sustainability**: Funding for local street repaving, building electric vehicle charging stations, school buses, and paratransit
- **Carpools and Vanpools**: Provide incentives and fund existing programs to encourage commuters to join carpools or vanpools.
3: Make Network Affordable & Seamless

- Sales Tax Fairness Credit
- Means-based & student fares
- Funding integrated fares & seamless customer experience
- Funding construction & operations workforce development
- Funding a Project Delivery & Operations Excellence Center
- Funding and empowering service planning & coordination to ensure the FASTER Network operates as a single, seamless system
- Community Benefit and Displacement Prevention Fund
A mandate requiring the region’s large employers to invest billions of dollars in the sustainable commutes of millions of their workers.
Potential Min. Standards for FASTER Network Investments

- Rapid = frequencies of 15 minutes or less in most places
  = competitive with or better than solo driving (during peak)

- Reliable = Out of traffic (or prioritized over it)

- Networked = synched scheduling and short wait times; shared hub stations; uniform fare system, FASTER branded wayfinding

- Sustainable = congestion reducing (decrease vehicle miles traveled), sea level rise-ready

- Fully Funded = Funding for project construction & operations identified 4 years after first FASTER funding commitment, and before project construction funds released

- Efficiently Delivered = Project adopts best-practices for project delivery / operations excellence
Potential Prioritization Framework for FASTER Network Investments

- Cost effectiveness
- Increases speed, reliability, and frequency of transit
- Seamless connection to the FASTER network
- Reduces vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions
- Connections for disadvantaged communities
- Connections to communities with greater current and planned population densities, employment densities, and transit
- Reduces or mitigates impacts on the natural environment
This FASTER Transit Network would attract hundreds of thousands more riders onto transit, and significantly reduce congestion for drivers.
Next steps

Outreach continues
- Local Elected Leaders
- Regional Stakeholders
- State Legislators
- Riders

Technical Advisory Group
- MTC, Caltrans, County Transportation Agencies, Transit Agencies *(meeting every 2 weeks)*

Regular Updates to MTC Commission, Transit Agency Boards, County Transportation Agency Boards

Synching up with Plan Bay Area 2050

Initial legislative structure, SB 278 (Beall), in development
Join Us

Learn more and take our survey at www.FASTERBayArea.org

Contact us at Info@FASTERBayArea.org