Transit Saves 2023 Methodology

Transit Saves You Stress

A single ten-car BART train can carry more than 1,500 people (our capacity standards allow for over 200 people per car). In traffic, cars are spaced around 20 feet apart on average (a compact car is around 15 feet long, with 5 feet between cars). If everyone on the train is in their own car, the equivalent of one train at 75% capacity is equal to more than 5.6 miles of traffic.

Transit Saves You Money

The distance between West Oakland Station and Embarcadero Station is approximately 9.4 miles. Based on information from the Alternative Fuel Data Center of the Department of Energy, the average vehicle gets around 24.2 MPG. With a rounded (and admittedly low!) gas price of \$4.40 (per AAA), driving from West Oakland to Embarcadero would cost approximately \$1.07 per mile. The current Bay Bridge toll is \$7, and we estimated the cost for parking by analyzing the prices of parking garages near Embarcadero Station for an approximately two-hour long visit. By comparison, taking BART from West Oakland to Embarcadero has a full-price fare of \$3.55 with Clipper, which we calculated using our Trip Planner tool.

Transit Saves the Planet

To calculate this data, we compared the greenhouse gas emissions per miles traveled for BART operations to the greenhouse gas emissions per miles traveled for an average single-occupancy auto trip. BART uses 100% greenhouse-gas free energy for all our trains, and much of our energy comes from renewable sources, including wind and solar.

Transit Saves the Neighborhood

Methodology: To capture this data, we used GIS tools from Esri, which extract business data from a comprehensive list of businesses licensed from Data Axle. This list contains data for over 13 million U.S. businesses, including the number of employees as of 2022. We calculated the number of restaurants and bars by mapping one mile of walking distance from the center point of each of our stations and totaling the number of listed businesses and workers employed. Learn more about BART's Role in the Region by reading this 2016 report.