



BART STATION ACCESS POLICY

Adopted June 9, 2016

VISION

For more than 40 years, the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) has been a steward of major public investment to connect people and places. The BART Station Access Policy is designed to support the broader livability goals of the Bay Area, reinforce sustainable communities, and enable riders to get to and from stations safely, comfortably, affordably, and cost-effectively.

GOALS

A. Safer, Healthier, Greener. Advance the region's safety, public health, and greenhouse gas (GHG) and pollution-reduction goals.

1. Ensure safe access for all users of the BART system, including users with disabilities.
2. Promote and invest in active transportation access modes to improve public health.
3. Prioritize the most sustainable access modes, with a focus on the lowest greenhouse gas and pollutant emissions per trip.
4. Reduce the access mode share of the automobile by enhancing multi-modal access to and from BART stations in partnership with communities and access providers.
5. Develop station-level designs that are consistent with the Station Design Access Hierarchy (Figure 1).

B. More Riders. Invest in station access to connect more riders cost-effectively, especially where and when BART has available capacity.

1. As ridership grows, invest in and manage access resources so as not to exacerbate peak period – peak direction crowding, including by ensuring users can find parking spaces at all times of day.
2. Develop access solutions that promote reverse-peak and off-peak ridership to optimize use of the BART system.

C. More Productive and Efficient. Manage access investments, programs, and current assets to achieve goals at the least cost.

1. Consider life-cycle costs, including capital and operating budget implications, using best asset management practices.
2. Factor land value in decision-making, prioritizing access that generates the most riders with the least space.
3. Consider the Station Access Investment Framework (Figure 2) in identifying contextual access investments at each station, and seek to move stations from their existing to their aspirational types.

D. Better Experience. Be a better neighbor, and strive for an excellent customer experience, including on the first and last mile of the trip to and from BART stations.

1. Expand station access choices for all riders.

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2. Promote Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) on and off of BART property as a powerful access tool, putting more riders within walking distance of stations, connecting communities.
3. Collaborate with local jurisdictions to improve station access and create more sustainable communities, including by promoting access improvements off BART property.
4. Ensure high quality design for access improvements, with careful consideration of the local context and the quality of the environment accessing BART.

E. Equitable Services. Invest in access choices for all riders, particularly those with the fewest choices.

1. Ensure that disadvantaged communities share in the benefits of BART accessibility.
2. Strive to be a partner to reduce the cost of living (i.e., transportation and housing) in the Bay Area for low-income communities by increasing access and housing options (i.e. TOD), providing greater access to opportunity.
3. Use Universal Design principles to improve safety and ensure access is available for everyone at all times.

F. Innovation and Partnerships. Be an innovation leader, and establish durable partnerships with municipalities, access providers, and technology companies.

1. Involve BART riders in station access decision-making.
2. Develop partnerships with municipalities, transit operators, developers, technology providers, corporate shuttle providers, Transportation Network Companies, bike share operators, advocacy groups and other entities to best meet access goals.
3. Continue to research and pilot emerging technologies and new forms of access services to keep up with the rapidly-changing transportation ecosystem.
4. Remain technology- and operator-agnostic; make long-term investments in the access technologies and services that best meet the needs of BART riders.
5. Prioritize projects that leverage other fund sources and local matches both to further build partnerships and to capture more value from BART investments.

STRATEGIES

Plan, Innovate and Partner

1. Plan for systemwide access mode shift to reduce drive alone rates.
2. Partner with interested stakeholders to improve access to the BART system.
3. Plan all BART facilities to be accessible to all users, including users with disabilities.

Invest and Implement

1. Invest in the pedestrian and bicycle assets with a focus on BART property, and partner to advance projects off BART property, including partnering on local initiatives, such as Vision Zero, Safe Routes to School, and Safe Routes to Transit.

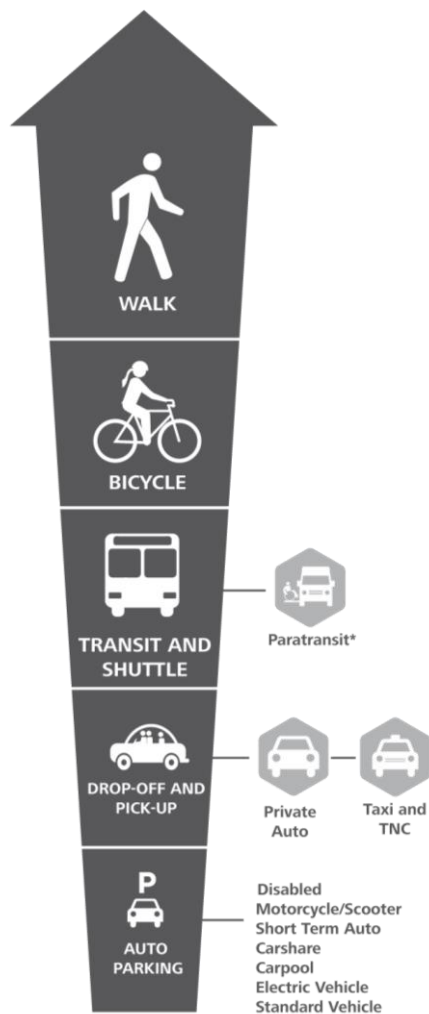
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2. Invest in transit connections, including investments that improve passenger experience in transit transfers (shelters, real-time information); seek to reduce barriers to transit connections; and partner with local transit service providers on last mile improvements.
3. Prioritize station access investments that support ridership growth where and when the system has capacity.
4. Improve management of existing parking resources, and invest in or partner on strategic parking resources; including shared parking, on-street parking, programs to maximize existing parking assets, and locating new parking resources only where other approaches are not sufficient, consistent with the station typology investment matrix.

Manage and Assess

1. Manage resources we have.
2. Regularly collect and analyze station access data, and consider emerging data sources.
3. Develop a 4-year work plan to identify projects BART staff will advance in the near-term.
4. Revisit the Station Access Policy every ten years.

FIGURE 1: STATION ACCESS DESIGN HIERARCHY



*All Stations must be paratransit accessible

Note: All stations must always remain readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities

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FIGURE 2: STATION ACCESS INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

STATION TYPE	PRIMARY INVESTMENTS	SECONDARY INVESTMENTS	ACCOMMODATED	NOT ENCOURAGED
URBAN	  Walk Bicycle	 Transit and Shuttle	  Taxi and TNC Drop-Off and Pick-Up	 Auto Parking*
URBAN WITH PARKING	  Walk Bicycle	 Transit and Shuttle	  Taxi and TNC Drop-Off and Pick-Up	 Auto Parking*
BALANCED INTERMODAL	  Walk Bicycle	  Transit and Shuttle Drop-Off and Pick-Up	  Taxi and TNC Auto Parking*	
INTERMODAL/AUTO RELIANT	 Walk	   Bicycle Drop-Off and Pick-Up Transit and Shuttle	  Taxi and TNC Auto Parking*	
AUTO DEPENDENT	 Walk	    Bicycle Drop-Off and Pick-Up Auto Parking* Transit and Shuttle	 Taxi and TNC	

Primary Investment:
BART will prioritize investments of funds and staff time on and off of BART property, consistent with access goals; priority projects best achieve policy goals, focus on safety and sustainability.

Secondary Investment:
BART will invest funds and staff time on and off of BART property, consistent with policy goals; secondary investments balance policy goals.

Accommodated:
BART will maintain and manage existing assets, and partner with other access providers as needed.

Not Encouraged:
BART will not invest in construction of parking expansion.

Note: TNC is for Transportation Network Company (shared use mobility)

*Parking Management is a secondary investment at all stations with parking.

*Parking replacement for transit-oriented development to be determined by BART's Transit-Oriented Development Policy.