BART Green Factsheet

A Journey Together

With carbon dioxide emissions rising worldwide, we should all do our part to help the environment. The task of maintaining a sustainable environment may seem challenging, but one way we can decrease our carbon footprint in an affordable and easy way is by riding BART. In 2016 BART riders displaced about 360,000 metric tons of CO2e by choosing BART instead of driving their cars. That is the equivalent of one person driving a car round trip from SF to LA everyday for 3,000 years.

BART trains are 100% electric, with over 97% of that power coming from zero and low-carbon sources including solar and hydro energy. BART is increasing its use of low-carbon, zero-carbon and renewable energy sources, with the goal of transitioning to 100% carbon-free by 2035 and 100% renewable energy by 2045. BART is one of the USA's cleanest transit systems, emitting fewer pounds of CO2e per passenger mile than any other transit system in its class.*

BART Riders Get the Equivalent of 224 Miles Per Gallon

A typical car gets about 21 miles per gallon. On average, BART is 10 times more efficient than a standard vehicle driven alone (on a passenger-miles per gallon basis of comparison). During the peak commute period, BART is 20 times more efficient.

Energy Regeneration

BART trains convert their kinetic energy of motion into electrical energy as the trains brake. Some of the energy regenerated during the process is returned to the power distribution system where it is then used by other trains.

BART Green Energy Quick Facts

2016 Average number of weekday trips.....433,394

Average trip length ..... 14.7 miles

Gallons of gas saved by avoiding driving (round trip)..... 1.4 gallons

CO2e avoided in one average round trip.....27.0 lbs CO2e

For More Information

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An Even More Energy Efficient Future

BART's new trains will offer a variety of sustainable features that reduce energy use and pollution:

- Lightweight aluminum exterior reduces energy use and the aluminum can be recycled when the trains cars are eventually retired.
- White roofs reflect heat and reduce the load on the interior cooling system.
- LED lighting reduces energy use.
- Seats are 74% recyclable by weight.
- Space is dedicated for bikes.

* See Appendix 1 Public Transportation's Role in Responding to Climate Change, Updated 2010 (page 11) https://www.transit.dot.gov/sites/fta.dot.gov/files/docs/PublicTransportationsRoleInResponding ToClimateChange2010.pdf

Biking to BART

The 2012 BART Bicycle Plan set a goal of increasing bicycle access to BART to 10% by 2020. BART is well on the way to achieving that goal, with 6.4% of weekday BART riders arriving at their station by bicycle as of 2015.

- **The Bike Program Capital Plan 3rd edition focuses on increasing parking capacity and updates to BART stations to improve the ease of bicycling to/from BART, such as stairway channels at BART stations.**
- **Currently BART provides parking for over 7,000 bikes at racks, lockers and stations.**

Bay Area Bike Share

BART is partnering with Bay Area Bike Share to expand from 700 to 7,000 bikes. The bikes will help link people from Muni and BART to jobs and schools throughout the Bay Area. Roll out starts in early 2017. Bike shares will be found at the following stations:

- **16th St Mission**
- **24th St Mission**
- **12th St/Oakland City Center**
- **19th St/Oakland**
- **MacArthur**
- **Ashby**
- **Downtown Berkeley**
- **Lake Merritt**

Newly Adopted Sustainability Policy

BART's Board adopted a revised Sustainability Policy in April 2017. The Policy outlines the District's committment to advancing regional sustainability by providing safe, affordable, equitable, and environmentally-friendly transit to move people to jobs, recreation and services. In support of the Policy the District is preparing a Sustainability Action Plan -- a 10-year plan highlighting sustainability actions to be taken throughout the District.

Access Improvements

Photo credit: Flickr, Bay Area Bike Share

In 2016 BART adopted a Station Access Policy. The 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. It will help guide access related investments with the goal of encouraging a shift of riders' access to the station to greener and healthier modes of transportation. The goal set by the Policy is to reduce the number of drive and park passengers by 11%.

BART is Developing Local, Clean Sources of Power

The recently opened Warm Springs Station has a 512Kw on-site solar system that helps power the station and the electric vehicle (EV) chargers. It produces enough energy to power approximately 100 homes. In addition, BART has installed solar photovoltaic systems on the rooftops of its Richmond and Hayward maintenance yards and over its pedestrian promenade and busway at the Union City Station. Solar projects are under construction at the new Antioch Station and the existing Lafayette Station. These projects are each 1MW in size and will be operational in 2017. These local, clean power sources are part of our sustainability effort to provide renewable energy to support operations.