

BART Sustainability Policy

Vision:

The San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) is committed to advancing regional sustainability by providing safe, affordable, equitable, and environmentally-friendly transit to move people to jobs, recreation and services. BART incorporates cost-effective sustainability through fulfillment of the following goals:

Goals:

1. Advance smart land use, livable neighborhoods and sustainable access to transit by implementing:
 - the District's Station Access policy.
 - the District's Transit-Oriented Development policy.
2. Choose sustainable materials, construction methods, and operations practices by:
 - Adopting standards, designing projects, and purchasing products and services to minimize ongoing maintenance and reduce waste.
 - Considering net embodied energy; incorporating efficient construction, deconstruction, and recycling practices; and including local businesses.
3. Use energy, water, and other resources efficiently by:
 - Achieving 100% renewable electricity supply through on- and off-site sources.
 - Reducing energy use, water use, and consumption of other resources at all BART facilities and in non-revenue vehicles, through resource-efficient equipment, systems, and practices.
 - Designing new facilities to be resource efficient.
4. Reduce harmful emissions and waste generation by:
 - Powering non-electric facilities and vehicles with sources generating the lowest feasible greenhouse gas emissions and criteria air pollutants.
 - Reducing, reusing, and recycling materials, including hazardous and non-hazardous materials.
 - Managing wastewater and stormwater comprehensively, including strategies to re-use water safely.
5. Respond to risks from extreme weather, earthquakes, and other potential disruptions by:

- Assessing and addressing resilience in projects and operations to ensure BART is prepared for disturbances most likely to happen in the future, including impacts from climate change.
 - Implementing hazard mitigation strategies that contribute to community safety.
6. Improve patron and employee health and experience by:
- Choosing the safest possible materials and design strategies for trains, facilities, and systems.
 - Controlling noise to improve rider experience and reduce impacts on nearby residents and businesses.
 - Providing clean and comfortable stations and trains that are easy to navigate, while functioning smoothly.
 - Implementing programs for BART employees to decrease their environmental impact.
7. Serve as a leader in sustainability for transit agencies and the communities that BART serves by reducing BART's environmental footprint and encouraging other organizations and institutions to act similarly.

Strategies:

Commitment: Participate in the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Sustainability Commitment or equivalent programs, and strive to achieve the highest level of recognition.

Action and Updates: Develop a Sustainability Action Plan to implement this policy, including specific actions, implementation strategies, decision making, and metrics. Review both the Plan and Policy at least every five years.

Standards: Identify the best available sustainable practices and standards and incorporate them into the BART Facilities Standards (BFS).

Partnerships: Develop partnerships with federal, state, regional and local agencies, community organizations and others to implement this Policy.

Engagement: Engage staff and riders in achieving the goals set out in this Policy. Listen to ideas and share information about progress with District staff and the public. Partner with community organizations and consider input from community members when identifying sustainability actions.

Environmental and Sustainability Management System (ESMS): BART is committed to continual improvement of an ESMS to enhance environmental performance, protect the environment, and fulfill applicable legal and other requirements.

Innovation: Take advantage of emerging technologies that support sustainable practices.