LINK21 CONNECT NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

#### Connecting Northern California

Transbay Joint Powers Authority, Citizen's Advisory Committee

February 9, 2021, 5:30 p.m.





Link21:Transformative Rail Program for the Megaregion

Link21 is a *program of projects* to integrate and connect rail systems in Northern California to provide more service, faster connections, and access to jobs for the megaregion's residents and visitors.



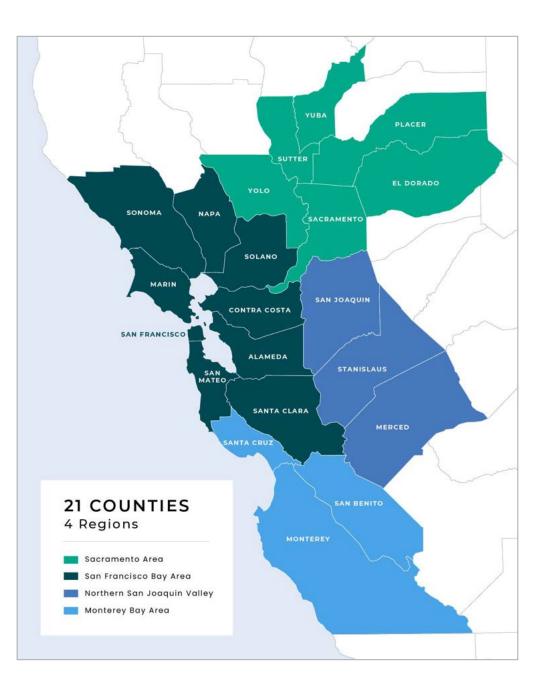
New Transbay Rail Crossing: Unlocks the Megaregion's Potential

A *major project* within the Link21 Program is a new transbay passenger rail crossing between Oakland and San Francisco.



# The Need for the Link21 Program

- Persistent traffic congestion
- Inconvenient, disparate rail service and limited routes
- Unreliable travel times
- Overcrowded BART trains
- Climate- and healthdamaging air pollution



### Link21 Goals and Objectives



#### ENHANCE COMMUNITY AND LIVABILITY

- Connect people and places
- Improve safety, health and air quality
- Advance equity



#### TRANSFORM THE PASSENGER EXPERIENCE

- Provide better service
- Improve reliability and system performance
- Build ridership and mode share



#### SUPPORT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

- Improve access to opportunity and employment
- Connect major economic, research and education centers
- Enable transit-supportive land use



#### ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND PROTECTION

- Increase climate change resilience
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Conserve resources

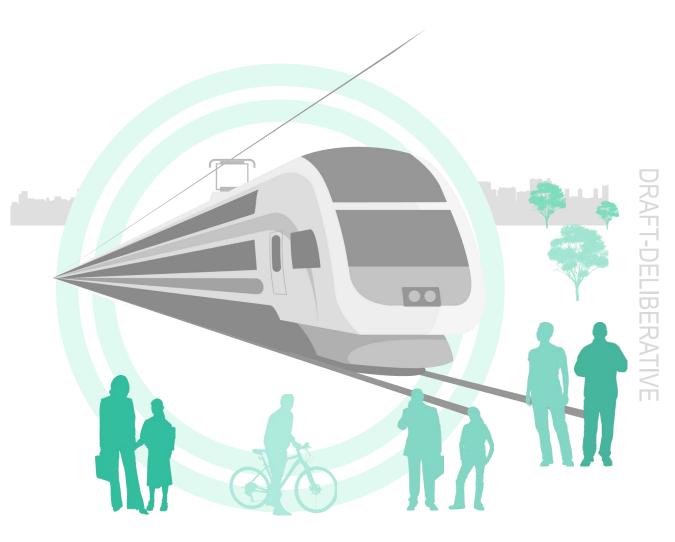
### Link21 as an Economic Powerhouse

- Link21 will create faster, frequent, and reliable travel to jobs, airports, education centers, healthcare, sports, and recreation facilities throughout the Megaregion
- Everyone deserves access to quality jobs. Link21 will help bridge the gap between affordable housing and job centers



Link21 will Enable Clean and Green Transportation

- An optimized rail network will provide convenient alternatives to driving
- Air quality will be improved; greenhouse gases will be reduced



### Link21 is an Equitable Program



- Equity is a central principle of Link21
- We are committed to incorporating equity through *all* Program work
- Link21's equity strategy will align with BART's larger equity vision



#### **Program Timeline** WE ARE HERE 2021 2028 2019 2024 2040 PHASE 0 PHASE 1 PHASE 2 PHASE 3 SERVICE Project(s) Project(s) Program Program Definition Identification Selection Delivery Business Case One or more Preliminary Intermediate Design Framework **Business** Case **Business** Case projects may be Construction ready for service Problem and Preferred Program Preferred Project before 2040) Testing and Vision Statement Alternative Alternative(s) Commissioning CEQA NOD/NEPA Goals and ROD\* Objectives List of Program Final Business Alternatives Case and Implementation Strategy ENGAGEMENT

\*CEQA NOD = California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Determination/NEPA ROD = National Environmental Policy Act Record of Decision

### Coordination on Salesforce Transit Center

- Regular meetings with TJPA team and consultants in 2020 to update 2014 tech memo
- Revised memo issued in June 2020; Link21 using as basis for further studies on connecting to STC for regional rail concepts
- Monthly meetings with Caltrain, CAHSR, and Caltrans DRMT on coordinated regional rail operations
- Caltrans-led Northern California Rail Working Group (Caltrain, ACE, SJJPA, CAHSR, TAMC, MTC) participation
- Regular meetings with TJPA will resume Spring/Summer 2021

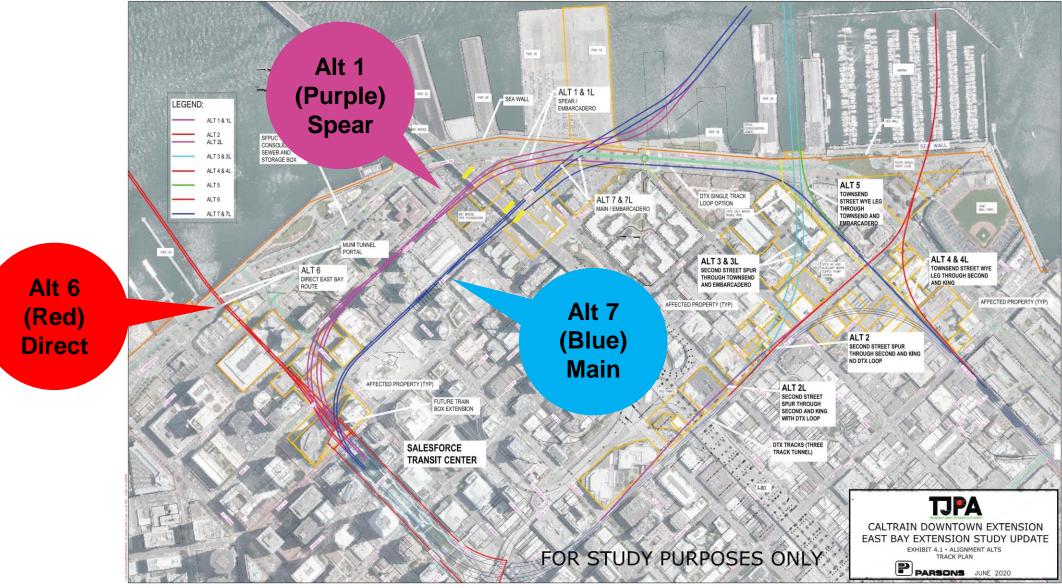
#### **Initial Assumptions**



- Main goal: integrated passenger rail network in megaregion
- Universe of Link21 Program concepts is still very broad
- STC early assumptions for regional rail concepts in development:
  - Two tracks from East Bay into STC
  - Service operates through on to Caltrain
  - ZEV vehicles similar to Caltrain
  - Operator agnostic
  - Cognizant of Caltrain 2040 Vision Plan investment and service levels

- All assumptions are very preliminary
- Many options are being considered
- Planning for flexibility and operating capacity
- Seeking input. What do you think is important?

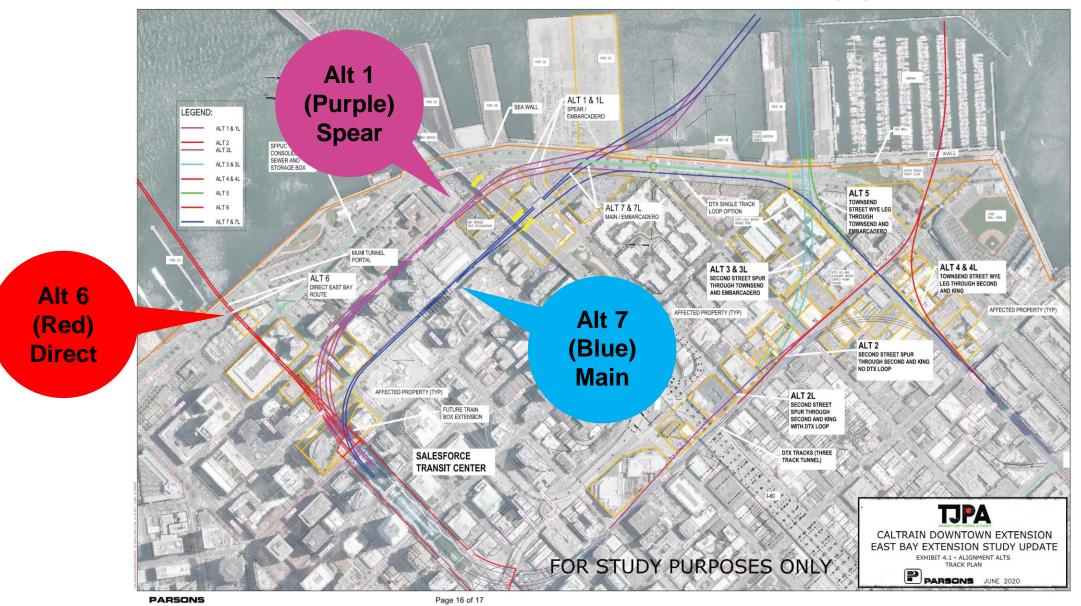
#### Accessing Salesforce Transit Center from the East Bay



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#### Please let us know your ideas and suggestions





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## Thank you! Visit www.Link21Program.org for more information

