

Bay Area Transit Priority Policy for Roadways

Stakeholder Engagement Summary

September 10, 2025

This memo provides a summary of stakeholder engagement and key feedback received during the development of the Bay Area Transit Priority Policy for Roadways (Policy).

Stakeholder Engagement Process

Over the course of developing the Policy, RNM staff presented to over 20 working groups and advisory committees throughout the region, and received nearly 550 individual comments on the Policy memos. For a list of all presentations, see Appendix C-1. The table below outlines all Policy outreach activities.

Winter/ Spring / Fall 2024	Policy effort kicked off with a workshop attended by various partner agencies including transit agencies, county transportation agencies (CTAs), Caltrans, local jurisdictions, and transit advocacy organizations. Policy Development Working Group (PDWG) convened with a subset of workshop attendees. Feedback from the PDWG and other staff working groups informed the policy framework, which was presented to MTC's RNM bodies in fall 2024.
Winter 2025	RNM staff developed a Preliminary Draft Policy Memo summarizing proposed Policy content and requirements. Outreach consisted of presentations at eight regional staff working groups. Approximately 350 comments were received from around 50 agencies.
Spring 2025	RNM staff shared the Revised Draft Policy Memo summarizing proposed Policy content and requirements. Outreach consisted of presentations at nearly 20 committees organized by the nine county transportation agencies in the region. Approximately 200 comments were received from over 50 agencies.
Summer 2025	RNM staff shared the revisions to the Policy that were made in response to the feedback received in spring with MTC's Policy Development Working Group and Transit Priority Working Group, had targeted meetings with key stakeholders to finetune policy revisions, and previewed the Policy with the RNM Customer Advisory Group.

Key Feedback from Stakeholder Engagement & Changes to Policy

Through the engagement process, staff commonly heard the following feedback:

- Desire for clear guidance about the **transit review process, implementation of the Policy,** and optional **adoption of a local resolution/policy.**

Staff response: Staff would develop the “Primer for Public Agency Staff Implementing Bay Area Transit Priority Policy for Roadways” to address: project sponsor expectations to complete transit review, elements of transit review, transit review timelines, transit review format, exceptions to transit review, context as part of the larger Complete Streets Checklist process, and phased Policy implementation schedule. Staff would also develop Guidance on Optional Local Transit Priority Resolution or Policy to detail expectations for the adoption of a local transit priority policy or resolution in support of the regional policy or modification of an existing related policy or plan to incorporate transit priority content.

- Desire for **flexible, context-sensitive transit-supportive design, technical assistance, and support resolving modal conflicts** at constrained locations.

Staff response: The Policy would not dictate roadway modal hierarchy, allocation of space, or specific transit priority treatments. These decisions should be made at the local level through regular coordination between local agencies. Proposed Policy approach provides tools for more effective interagency coordination, resulting in better projects with improved outcomes for transit, without stepping into local decision-making or conflict resolution. Policy would encourage early and proactive coordination between project stakeholders that would be documented as part of the CS checklist process. In limited circumstances, MTC could convene a meeting of stakeholders upon request, but would not lead be a mediator. MTC also plans to facilitate technical assistance to support the implementation of the Policy.

- Desire for **funding incentives for local jurisdictions that adopt a local transit priority policy or resolution** to encourage local commitment to transit priority.

Staff response: Staff are considering how funding incentives could be provided to encourage local jurisdictions to adopt local transit priority resolutions or policies, such as awarding bonus points to MTC transit priority discretionary funding applications from jurisdictions that have adopted a resolution or policy. Any funding incentives would be implemented through MTC funding programs, not through the Policy.

Next Steps

RNM staff have used the feedback received to develop draft Policy text and attachments, which are being taken to the MTC RNM bodies in September and October for comment. RNM staff will use feedback to develop the final Policy text and attachments and present again to the MTC RNM bodies, anticipated late 2025. Policy adoption by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission is anticipated in late 2025 or early 2026.

Appendix C-1. Stakeholder Outreach Meetings

Table 1. Presentations on the Draft Policy Memo – Winter 2025

Stakeholder Group	Date
MTC Transit Priority Working Group (TPWG)	2/18/25
MTC Policy Development Working Group (PDWG)	2/27/25
MTC Transit Finance Working Group (TFWG)	3/5/25
Bay Area County Transportation Agencies (BACTA) Planning Directors	3/7/25
MTC Bay Area Partnership Accessibility Committee (BAPAC)	3/10/25
Caltrans District 4	3/12/25
MTC Local Streets and Roads Programming and Delivery Working Group (LSRPDWG)	3/13/25
MTC Active Transportation Working Group (ATWG)	3/20/25
Transit Steering Group/Caucus	4/3/2025

Table 2. Presentations on the Revised Draft Policy Memo – Spring 2025

County	Body	Date
Alameda	Alameda County Technical Advisory Committee (ACTAC)	5/8/25
Contra Costa	West Contra Costa Transportation Commission (WCCTC)	5/8/25
	East County Transportation Planning Committee (TRANSPLAN)	5/20/25
	Southwest Area Transportation Committee (SWAT)	5/21/25
	Transportation Partnership and Cooperation (TRANSPAC)	5/29/25
Marin	Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) Executive Committee	6/9/25
	TAM Technical Advisory Working Group	7/10/25
Napa	Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	5/1/25
	NVTA Community Advisory Committee	5/7/25
Santa Clara	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) System Operations & Management Working Group	4/23/25
	VTA Technical Advisory Committee	6/11/25
San Francisco	None identified ¹	
San Mateo	City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) Congestion Management TAC	5/15/25
	C/CAG Congestion Management & Environmental Quality Committee	5/19/25
Sonoma	Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) TAC	4/24/25
	SCTA Planning Advisory Committee	5/15/25
	Sonoma Countywide Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee	5/27/25
Solano	Solano Transportation Authority (STA) TAC	4/30/25
	STA Transit & Rideshare Committee	7/9/25
Regional	MTC Policy Development Working Group	4/14/25
	MTC Transit Priority Working Group	4/15/25
	Bay Area County Transportation Agency Executive Roundtable	5/30/25

¹ San Francisco staff did not identify a CTA or other committee that would be a good audience for a presentation. However, feedback was received from San Francisco staff at working group meetings and by email.

Table 3. Additional Outreach – Summer 2025

Stakeholder Group	Date
MTC Transit Priority Working Group	7/1/25
MTC Policy Development Working Group	7/7/25
RNM Customer Advisory Group	7/22/25
Bay Area Partnership Board Meeting	8/29/25
Quarterly Regional Coordination Planning Committee Meeting	9/2/25
Transit Steering Group/Caucus	9/4/25
Small Operator General Manager Meeting	9/9/25