Process and Guiding Principles to Update AC Transit Bus Stop Policy

City of Alameda – AC Transit ILC Meeting

April 18, 2024

Agenda

Overview

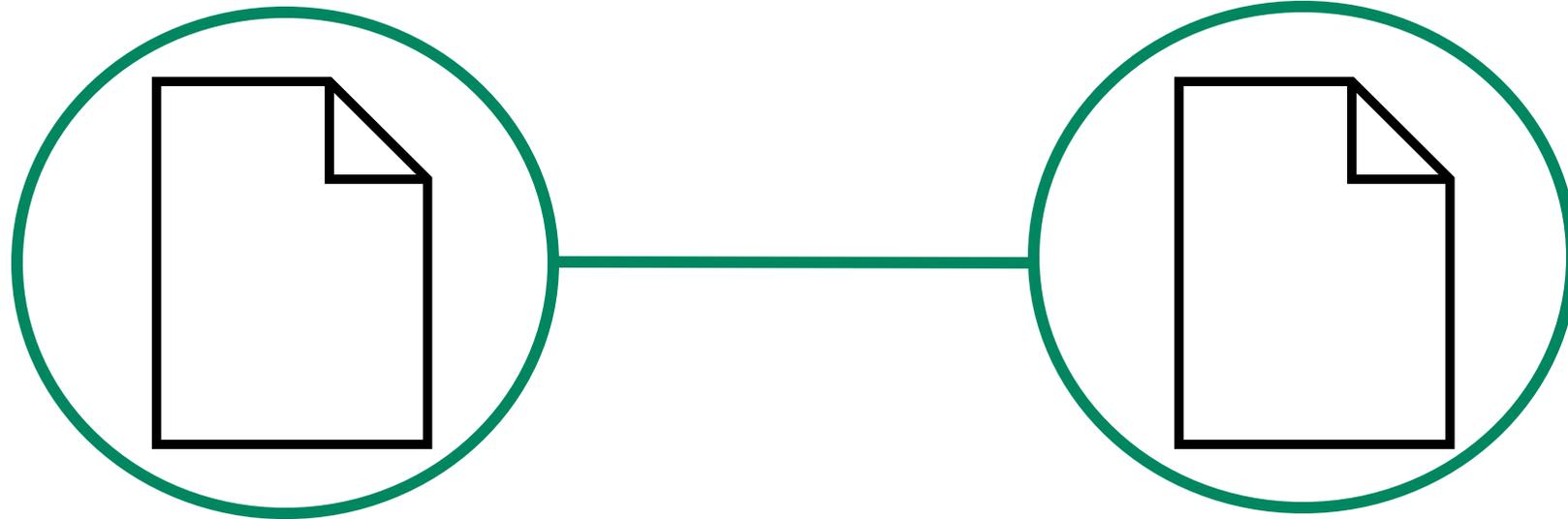Stakeholder Engagement

Guiding Principles

Timeline

Questions & Discussion

OVERVIEW

EXISTING BUS STOP POLICIES AND GUIDANCE

**Board Policy 501:
Bus Stop Guidelines**
bus stop placement
including spacing,
location, length, &
accessibility.

**501A: Administrative
Regulation**
the process for reviewing
bus stops by District staff

WHY UPDATE THE POLICY?

- Policy due for a five-year update

- Make the policy more customer-focused

- Develop a hierarchy for decision making

- Reflect the District's priorities and goals

- Easing navigation between different bus stop related documents:
  - Bus Stop Furniture Design Guidelines
  - 501 Administrative Regulation: Bus Stops
  - Transit Supportive Design Guidelines

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

INTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Bus Stop Committee

- Supervision
- MarCom
- Maintenance
- LACR
- Safety
- Scheduling
- Transportation
- Legal
- Long Range Planning
- Service Planning

Other Stakeholders

- Accessible Services
- Division Safety Committees
- Pole Crew

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

External stakeholder engagement would take place during the month of May & Early June

Webpage	Feedback Form/Email	Social Media
BP 501 Technical Advisory Committee	General Manager's Access Committee	ILC Presentations
eNews to riders, community-based organizations and elected officials		Presentations to Other Existing Bodies

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PEER REVIEW

Review of various peer agencies' bus stop and transit design policies led us to guiding principles and best practices.

APTA
Recommended Practice for Design of On-Street Transit Stops and Access from Surrounding Areas

APTA
Recommended Practice for Why Design Matters for Transit

COTA
Transit Stop Design Guide (Central Ohio Transit Authority)

TriMet
Bus Stop Guidelines

NACTO
Transit Street Design Guide

SamTrans
Bus Stop Improvement Plan (BSIP)

SF City & County
Bus Stop Policy (General Plan)

VTA
Bus Stop and Passenger Facilities Standards

PEER REVIEW TAKEAWAYS

The peer review aggregated the most common guiding principles and goals of agencies' bus stop design processes.

Our guiding principles were derived from the most frequently utilized principles of peer agencies:

Safety

Comfort

Accessibility

Legibility

Visibility

Convenience

Community Connectivity

Maximize Efficiency

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The peer review and internal feedback led us to four guiding principles for the policy update.

Safety

Comfort

Accessibility

Feasibility

Reliability

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Safety

Ensuring the safety of **riders, operators, and pedestrians** by implementing measures to **mitigate risks and hazards** at bus stops. Includes bus stop placement in well-lit areas with clear signage and designated waiting areas to prevent incidents and enhance security.

Comfort

Creating welcoming and pleasant environments by providing **amenities such as seating and shelter** to offer respite from **weather elements** and facilitate a more enjoyable waiting experience.

Ensuring **cleanliness, and aesthetic enhancements** can contribute to a positive rider experience.

Accessibility

Strategically located to serve the needs of riders, considering **proximity** to residential areas, employment centers, schools, and other **key destinations**

Designing and locating bus stops with consideration for the needs of **diverse riders' demographics**, including seniors, children, and individuals with disabilities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Feasibility

Feasibility of a bus stop location hinges on critical factors such as ADA compliance, visibility, sidewalk conditions, and supporting land uses. **Community input** plays a pivotal role in this assessment, as local residents, businesses, and organizations offer valuable insights into the practicality of the proposed bus stop placement. Their perspectives help gauge factors such as accessibility, safety concerns, and impacts on their daily lives. **Positive community input** can bolster the feasibility of a bus stop placement by affirming its alignment with local needs and preferences. On the other hand, **community opposition** or concerns may signal potential challenges or unaddressed issues, causing staff to reconsider the viability of the proposed bus stop placement.

Reliability

Optimizing the reliability of bus service by implementing measures to **minimize wait times** and provide **consistent service** for riders. bus stop placement and design to facilitate **efficient boarding and alighting** processes, reducing dwell times, and **streamlining rider flow**. In addition, staff will need to strategically develop policy around the spacing of bus stops to find the balance between rider accessibility and service reliability.
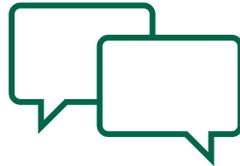
TIMELINE

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March
Gather Internal Feedback

March -April
April 10 Board Briefing
Develop Draft Policy

May
Gather Feedback
on Draft Policy

June
Present Draft Policy to the Board
Finalize Policy based on Feedback

July
Present Final Policy to the Board for Approval

Thank you! Questions?