

# LINK21

CONNECT NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

## City of Alameda Transportation Commission

August 28, 2024



# Today's Meeting

## Purpose:

Information item for feedback and discussion

## Topics:

1. Overview of the Link21 Program
2. Upcoming Key Milestone: Technology/network decision for **new train crossing** between the East Bay and San Francisco
  - **Standard-gauge** that connects to Regional Rail network and destinations in larger megaregion; or
  - **Broad-gauge** that connects to BART network and regional destinations
3. Considerations for Alameda
4. Next Steps



# Link21: Planning A Better Future

## Connecting People & Places

### The Vision:

Link21 & its partners will provide faster, more connected, equitable, affordable, & accessible train service for the megaregion

### The Program:

- Construct new Transbay rail crossing
- Improve BART & Regional Rail service connections



# Finding The Right Solution

## The Challenge (Problem Statement):

### Megaregional Access

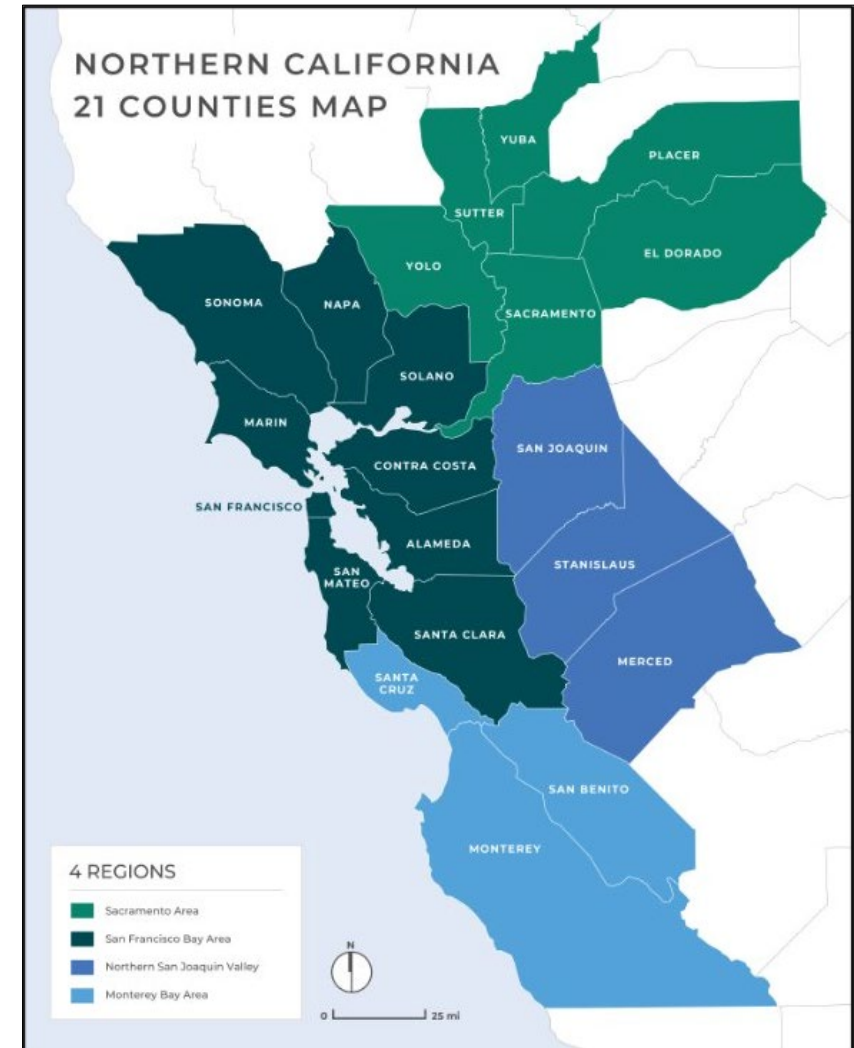
- Insufficient rail access to destinations

### Equity

- Priority Populations face inequitable access

### Transbay Capacity

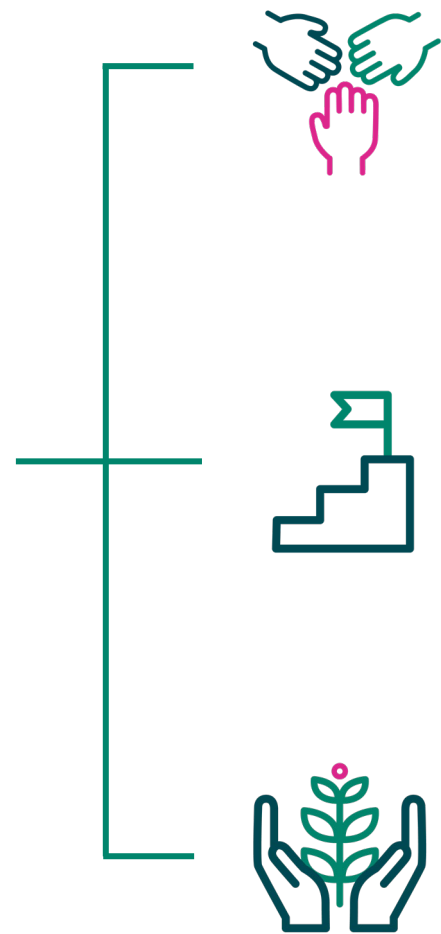
- Transbay rail capacity may be insufficient in future



# Link21 Goals & Objectives

## Transform the Passenger Experience

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



## Promote Equity and Livability

- Connect people and places
- Improve safety, health, and air quality
- Advance equity and protect against community instability and displacement



## Support Economic Opportunity and Global Competitiveness

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



## Advance Environmental Stewardship and Protection

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





# Link21 Commitment to Equity & Engagement

## Advancing Equitable Outcomes

- Community Partnerships & Co-Creation
- Targeting Priority Populations
- Equity Advisory Council
- Equity Metrics & Analysis

## Program Shaped by Public Input

- Briefings, presentations, large events & meetings
- Community events and in-station outreach
- In-person & digital communications



# City of Alameda Engagement

## Council and Commission Briefings

- Transportation Commission (March 2023)
- City Council (May 2023)

## City Staff Briefings

- Meetings with Alameda staff
- Jurisdictional Working Group (includes Alameda representatives)

## Equity Advisory Council

- Bi-monthly meetings (includes one Alameda resident)

## Community-Based Organizations

- Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda (CASA); Alameda Point Collaborative; Village of Love; Helping Hands East Bay



# What We Have Heard (Since 2021)

## Common Themes – All Audiences

- Faster, direct, convenient megaregional connections to San Francisco & Peninsula (direct connections)
- Improved reliability & greater frequency of service
- Increased late night & weekend service
- Bicycle & pedestrian facilities at stations to reduce personal vehicle usage
- Improved safety & security, ADA accessibility, & addressing potential gentrification / displacement
- Fare equity & affordability





# Link21 Program Key Milestone

## Phase 1 Work Completed:

- ✓ Concept Development & Analysis
- ✓ Service Planning
- ✓ Options Evaluation
- ✓ Engagement & Outreach

## Next Steps:

- Identify train technology in the crossing
  - Standard-gauge (Regional Rail)
  - Broad-gauge (BART)
- Further planning to define project (alignment, station locations, etc.)
- Stakeholder and public engagement

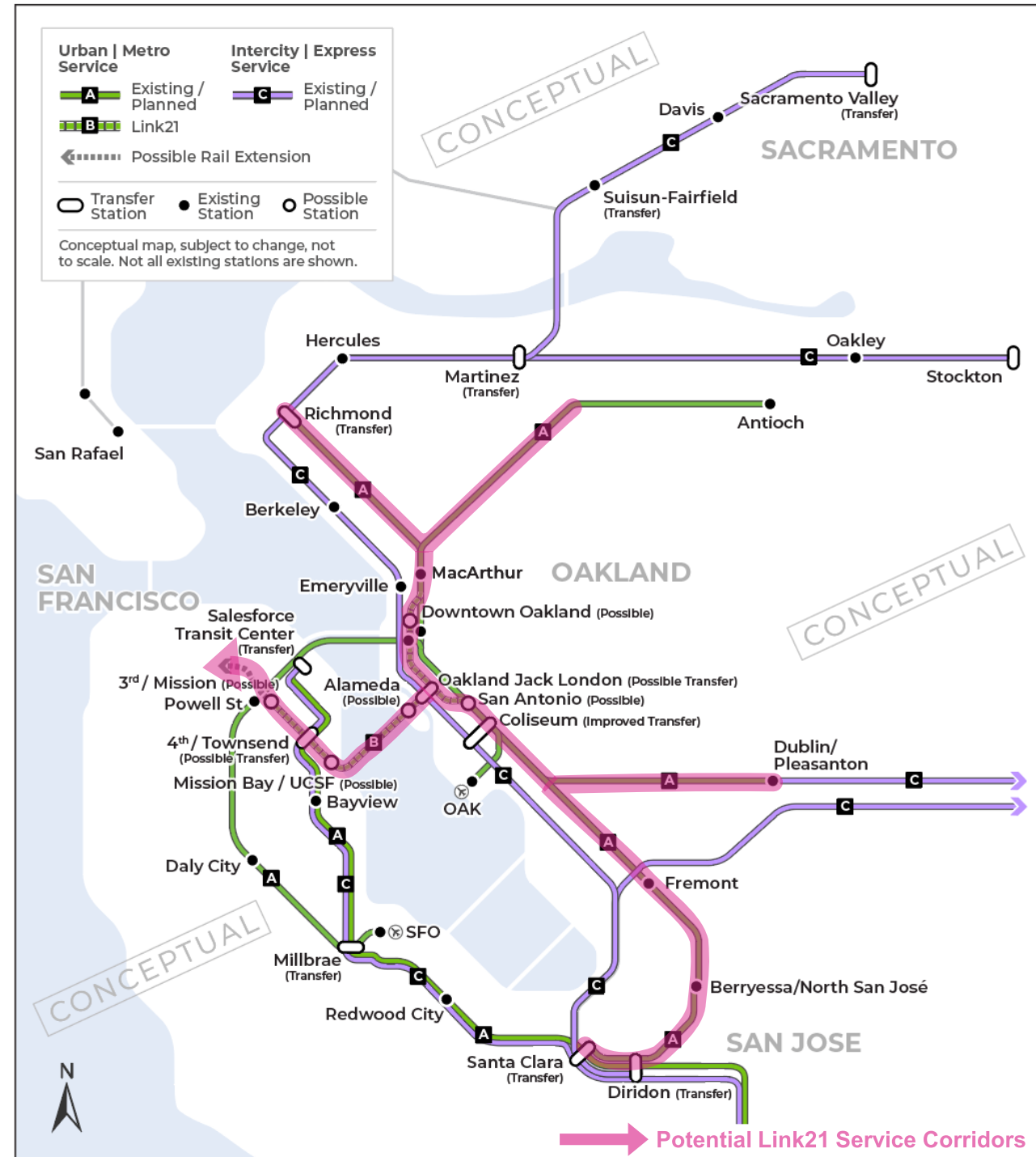


# Concept: Broad-gauge (BART) Crossing

## Accommodates only BART service

### Example Concepts help to understand trade-offs

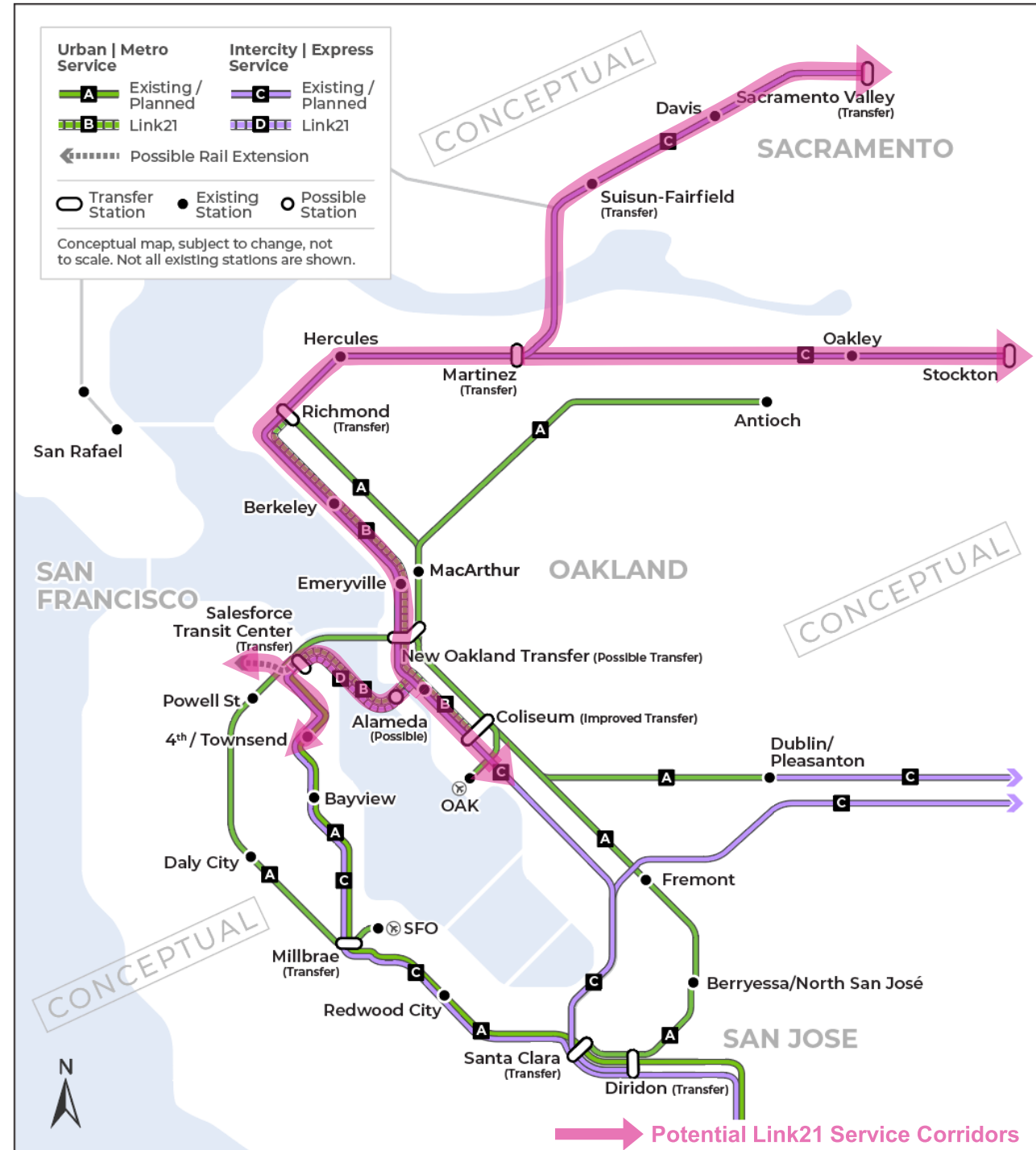
- New Urban | Metro service at new stations
- Includes Oakland transfer between BART & Regional Rail
- Improved service on existing BART lines
- BART trains could use either crossing (provides service redundancy and reduces crowding)
- Utilizing existing rail corridors – new track alignment is underground



# Concept: Standard-gauge (Regional Rail) Crossing Accommodates multiple train services

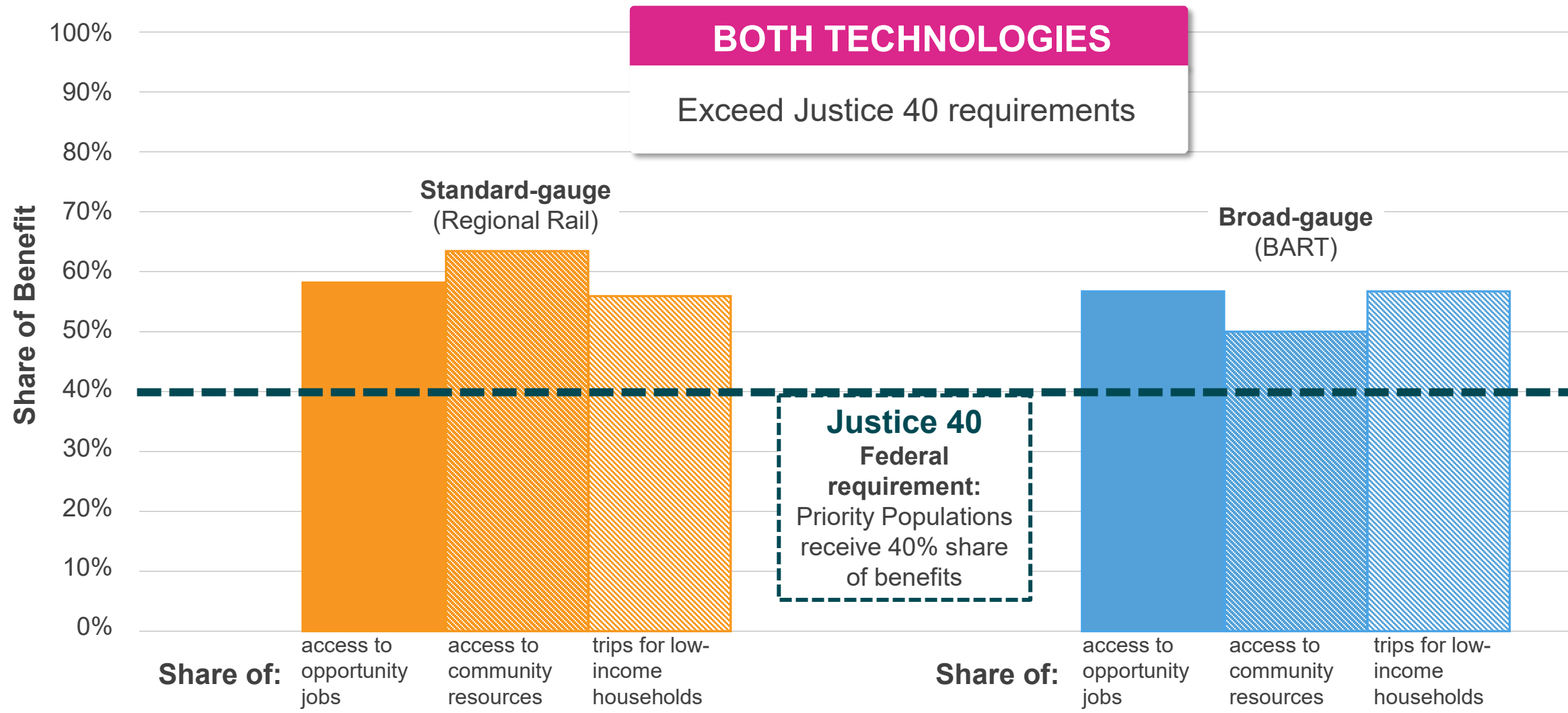
## Example Concepts help to understand trade-offs

- New Urban | Metro service at new & existing stations
- Improved travel times & more direct megaregional trips
- Complements existing BART crossing
- Provides redundancy and alleviates crowding
- Utilizing existing rail corridors – new track alignment is underground



# Similarities: Benefits Share to Priority Populations

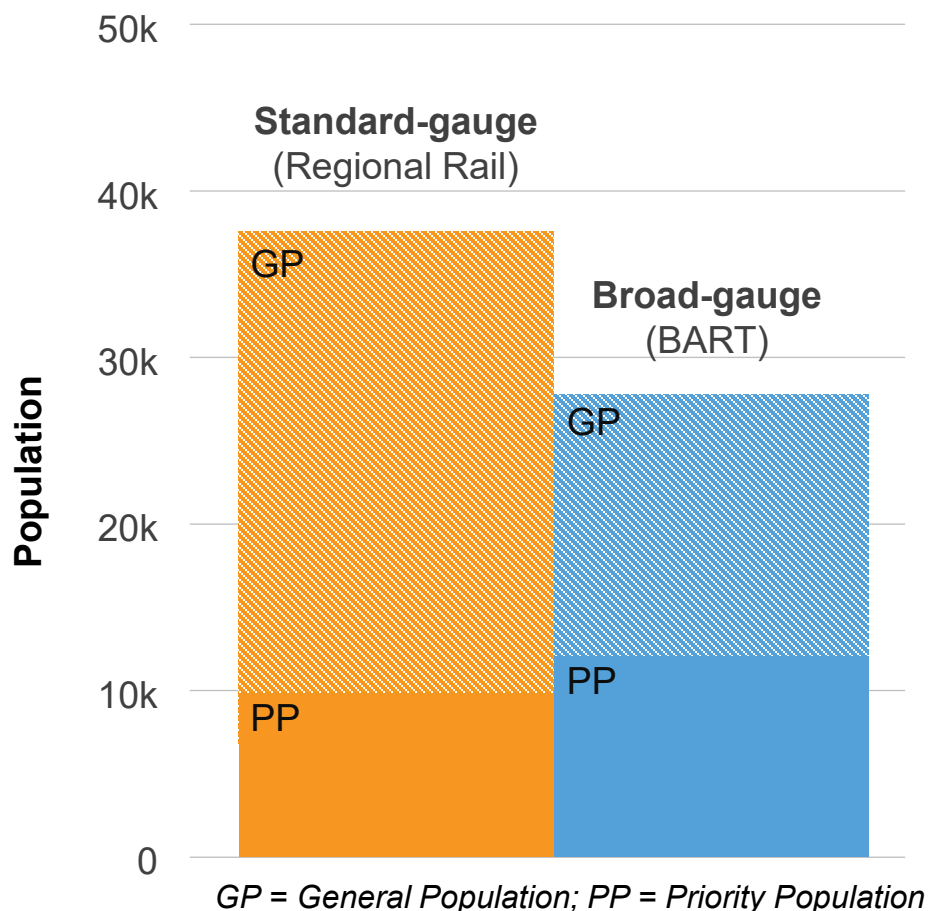
## Promoting Equity and Livability



# Similarities: Access to Stations & Jobs

## Supporting Economic Opportunity & Livability

### Access within ½ Mile of Station



### Jobs within 1 hour commute

- Approximately **45,000 more jobs will be accessible** for the average person with either crossing
- Approximately **80,000 more jobs will be accessible** for the average person within priority population areas with either crossing

### BOTH TECHNOLOGIES

Support economic opportunity & livability by improving access to stations and jobs



# Alameda Considerations

- Potential **new station** in Alameda
- Potential **new urban metro service** (10 min frequency or better) that connects to the inner East Bay, San Francisco, and the Peninsula
- Potential **new transfer station** between the BART and Regional Rail networks in Downtown Oakland
- **Faster travel times** to Oakland and San Francisco
- Supportive of potential **new land use development** at Alameda Point
- Improved **access to jobs and destinations** for Alameda residents
- Improved **safety, health, and air quality**



# Next Steps: Identifying a Project For Link21

## Planning Focus Areas



Identify Crossing Train Technology



Project Definition & Refinement



Funding Strategy



Governance & Key Stakeholder Coordination



Ongoing Public Engagement & Equity



Thank you

<https://link21Program.org>

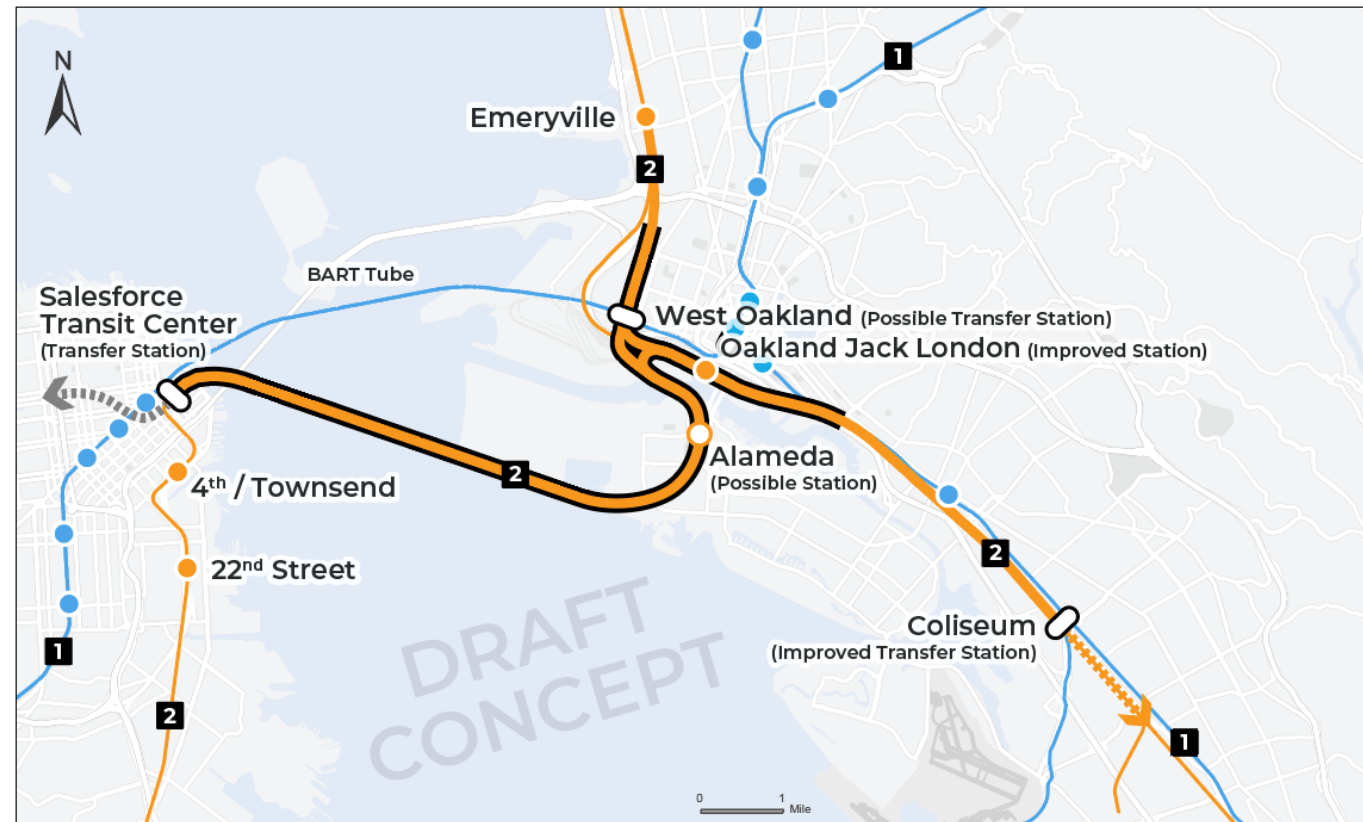


# Appendix

# Link21 Concept A:

## Service Benefits

- Includes Urban | Metro and Intercity | Express service on Regional Rail tracks
- Prioritizes Oakland connection to BART over shorter travel time between East Bay and San Francisco
- Creates new connection in West Oakland (transfer between Regional Rail & multiple BART lines)
- Connects to Salesforce Transit Center offering riders an easy trip to the Peninsula/Silicon Valley



- Regional Rail Concept
- Regional Rail Concept (Tracks Underground)
- Regional Rail Concept (Possible Improvements)
- Possible Rail Extension

- Stations
- Existing BART Rail
  - Possible BART Rail
  - Existing Regional Rail
  - Possible Regional Rail
  - Transfer

- Existing and Planned
- 1 — BART Rail
  - 2 — Regional Rail

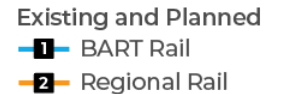
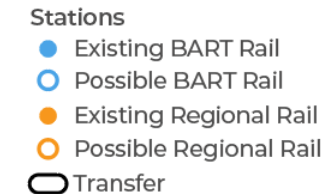
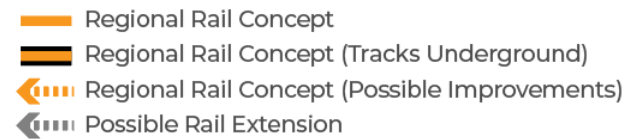
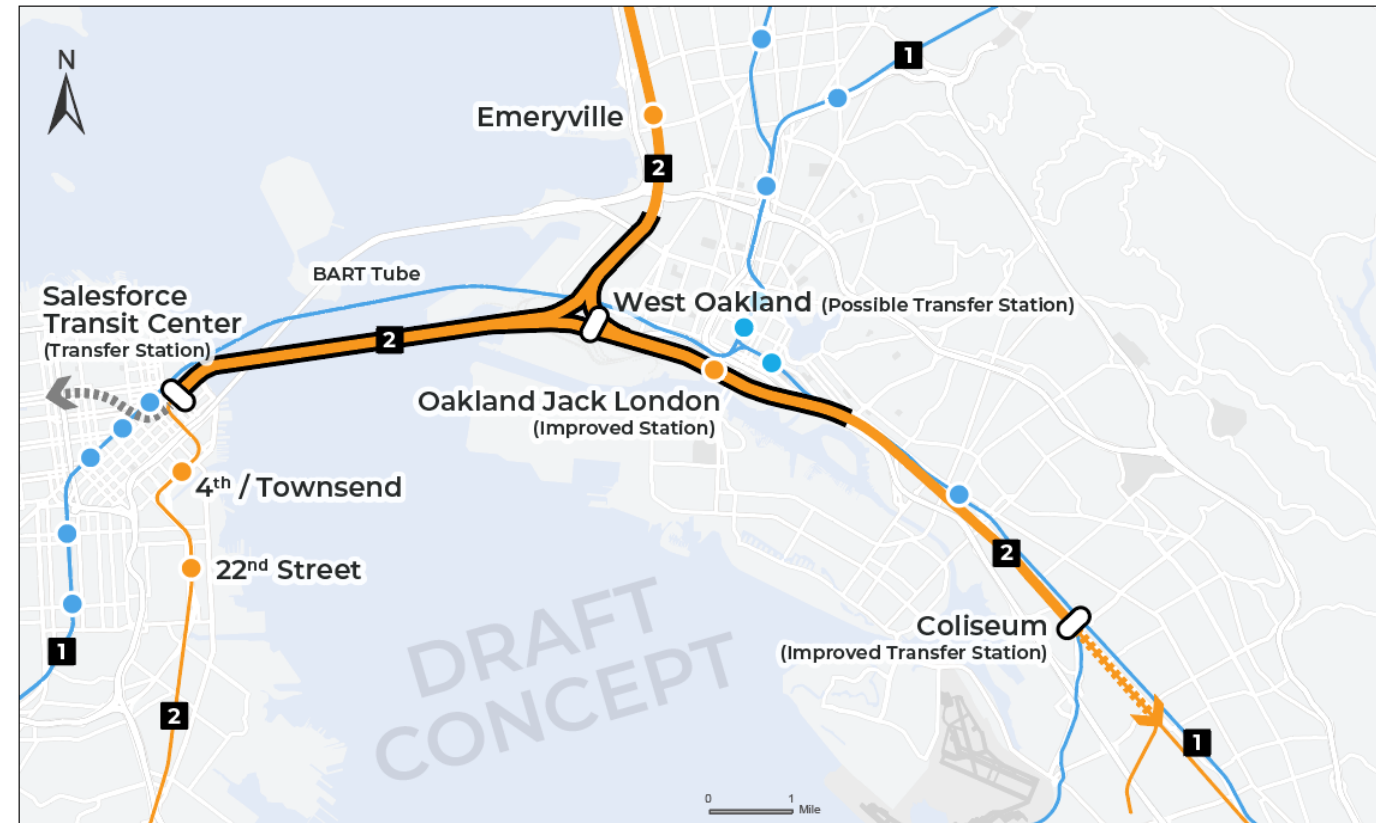
Concept includes BART system improvements



# Link21 Concept B:

## Service Benefits

- Includes Urban | Metro and Intercity | Express service on Regional Rail tracks
- Prioritizes shorter travel time between East Bay-San Francisco over more station stops in Oakland
- Creates new connection in West Oakland (transfer between Regional Rail & BART for southbound riders)
- Connects to Salesforce Transit Center offering riders an easy trip to the Peninsula/Silicon Valley

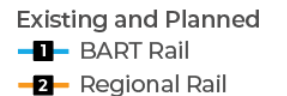
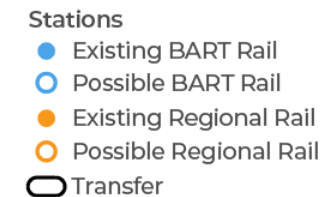
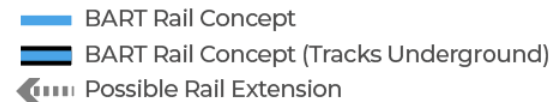


Concept includes BART system improvements

# Link21 Concept C:

## Service Benefits

- Increases Urban | Metro service and includes stronger connection to Intercity | Express service on Regional Rail tracks
- Creates new connection in Oakland Jack London (transfer between Regional Rail and multiple BART lines)
- Serves Market Street / Financial District in San Francisco (near Salesforce Transit Center for Regional Rail service to the Peninsula/Silicon Valley)



Concept includes Regional Rail system improvements

# Link21 Concept D:

## Service Benefits

- Increases Urban | Metro service and includes stronger connection to Intercity | Express service on Regional Rail tracks
- Creates new connection in Oakland Jack London (transfer between Regional Rail and multiple BART lines)
- Serves Mission Bay / UCSF in San Francisco and 4<sup>th</sup>/Townsend station to transfer to Regional Rail service to reach Peninsula/Silicon Valley

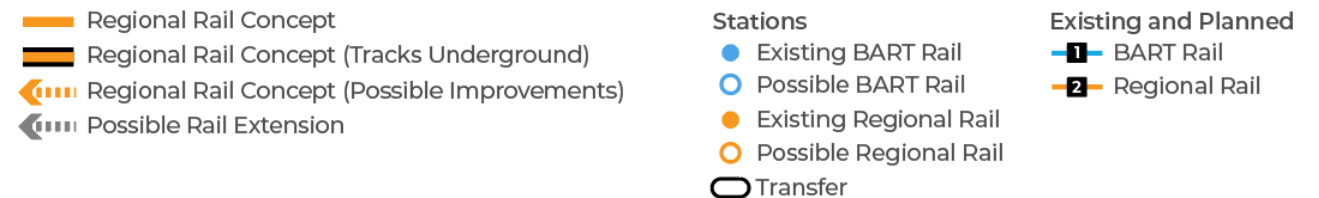


Concept includes Regional Rail system improvements

# Link21 Concept E:

## Service Benefits

- Includes Urban | Metro and Intercity | Express service on Regional Rail tracks
- Prioritizes Oakland connection to BART over shorter travel time between East Bay and San Francisco
- Creates new connection at MacArthur station in Oakland (transfer between Regional Rail & multiple BART lines)
- Connects to Salesforce Transit Center offering riders an easy trip to the Peninsula/Silicon Valley



Concept includes BART system improvements



# Link21 Concept F:

## Service Benefits

- Includes Urban | Metro and Intercity | Express service on Regional Rail tracks
- Prioritizes Oakland connection to BART over shorter travel time between East Bay and San Francisco
- Creates new connection in Downtown Oakland (transfer between Regional Rail & multiple BART lines)
- Connects to Salesforce Transit Center offering riders an easy trip to the Peninsula/Silicon Valley



Concept includes BART system improvements