TRANSIT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION FACT SHEET



The Director's Transit Policy and the subsequent Implementation Action Plan provide Caltrans direction for incorporating public transit into the state highway system (SHS) and enhancing bicycle, pedestrian, and transit connectivity to local and regional networks. The Implementation Action Plan is divided into three categories: planning, projects, and data.

Planning

1. Local, Regional, and Transit Agency Coordination

Caltrans will take a proactive role in coordinating with local, regional, and transit agencies to improve service, enhance interoperability, and boost ridership. Through its 12 statewide districts, Caltrans will collaborate with local and regional partners to identify gaps and needs in the transit network and seek funding opportunities for transit.

2. Planning Documents

o District and Statewide Transit Plans – Caltrans, in collaboration with its 12 districts and stakeholders, is developing District Transit Plans that will identify and prioritize transit needs, network gaps, and improvements strategies on the State Highway System (SHS). By the end of 2026, key milestones such as setting goals, collecting data, assessing statewide needs, and engaging the public will be completed, with final plans and the full contract scope delivered by mid-2027. Caltrans District 4, encompassing the Bay Area, has nearly completed their district's transit plan which has been developed in coordination with transit agencies, regional partners, and local residents to identify deficiencies and potential improvements to increase transit reliability, access, and encourage more transit use along the SHS in the Bay Area. In parallel, Caltrans will finalize a Statewide Transit Plan by mid-2027 to establish a unified vision for an integrated, statewide transit network.

3. Reducing Transit delay

o Caltrans will investigate strategies to mitigate transit delays on the SHS.

Projects

1. Intake Process

 Caltrans will create and implement a process for receiving, evaluating, and reviewing transit projects in preparation for the encroachment permit process, to better prepare agencies and ensure a more transparent and coordinated review.

2. Project Scoping

o By the end of 2026, Caltrans will release updated policies, templates, and guidance to help agencies better plan future projects when feasible. These updates will offer useful

information on project scoping, timelines, costs, and how projects are added to funding programs.

3. Transit Facility Guidance

 Caltrans will develop and/or update guidance, as feasible, including the Design Information Bulletin 82 Pedestrian Accessibility Guidelines for Highway Projects, Managed Lanes Guidance, Bus on Shoulder Pilot Guidance, and the Mobility Hubs Guidance by mid-2027.

4. Maintenance of Transit Facilities

 Caltrans will work to establish a clear and collaborative process for defining maintenance responsibilities for transit facilities located on the SHS.

Data

5. Data collection.

- Caltrans will develop and maintain a transit and open transit data product portfolio.
 Caltrans is currently partnering with transit agencies to collect and republish standardized data on ridership, stop amenities, traffic signal priority activations and other real-time data.
- Caltrans will establish targets for transit that strengthen Caltrans' ability to evaluate and measure the performance of transit projects. Metrics may include things like spacing between and quality of transit stops, on-time performance, minimum service frequency, and minimum average transit vehicle speed. They may also include other infrastructure improvements including, but not limited to, bus shelters and park-andride facilities.