

To: Marketing, Planning, & Legislative Committee

Date: 03/27/2023

From: Melody Reeb, Director of Planning, Marketing, & Innovation

Reviewed by: *Ref*

SUBJECT: Transit Corridor Study

Background:

In October 2022, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) released a call for projects for the FY 2022-23 Transit Performance Initiative (TPI) program, which is a competitive grant program to fund low-cost capital investments that improve operations and customer experience on major transit corridors and systems. The goal of the program is to provide funding for lower-cost improvements that increase transit speeds and reliability, especially buses experiencing traffic delays on high-ridership, high-frequency routes. New to this year, proposals for the planning and development of future TPI-eligible projects were also considered.

Corridor Study:

Staff submitted an application to conduct a study analyzing four major corridors within County Connection's service area and identifying options to improve the speed and reliability of buses. The proposed study includes segments of Clayton Rd, Monument Blvd, Ygnacio Valley Rd, and Treat Blvd, which are shown in Figure 1. The first two corridors serve County Connection's highest ridership areas with relatively frequent transit service, while the other two have high potential for increased transit use by making it more competitive to driving. The study will assess current conditions, including operations, existing infrastructure, and ridership, gather passenger and community feedback, and develop recommendations for capital improvements that would reduce delays and travel time and enhance the customer experience.

On March 22, 2023, MTC approved award of the full requested funding amount of \$400,000 for County Connection's proposed study. Staff plans to use the on-call planning contract with Transportation Management & Design (TMD) that was recently approved by the Board to assist with completing the study. Staff will be working closely with the cities of Concord and Walnut Creek throughout the process and will provide periodic updates to the Committee and Board as well as TRANSPAC and other regional partners as the study progresses. Once the study is complete and a program of projects has been developed, staff would then seek additional funding—including future rounds of TPI funds—for implementation of the recommended improvements.

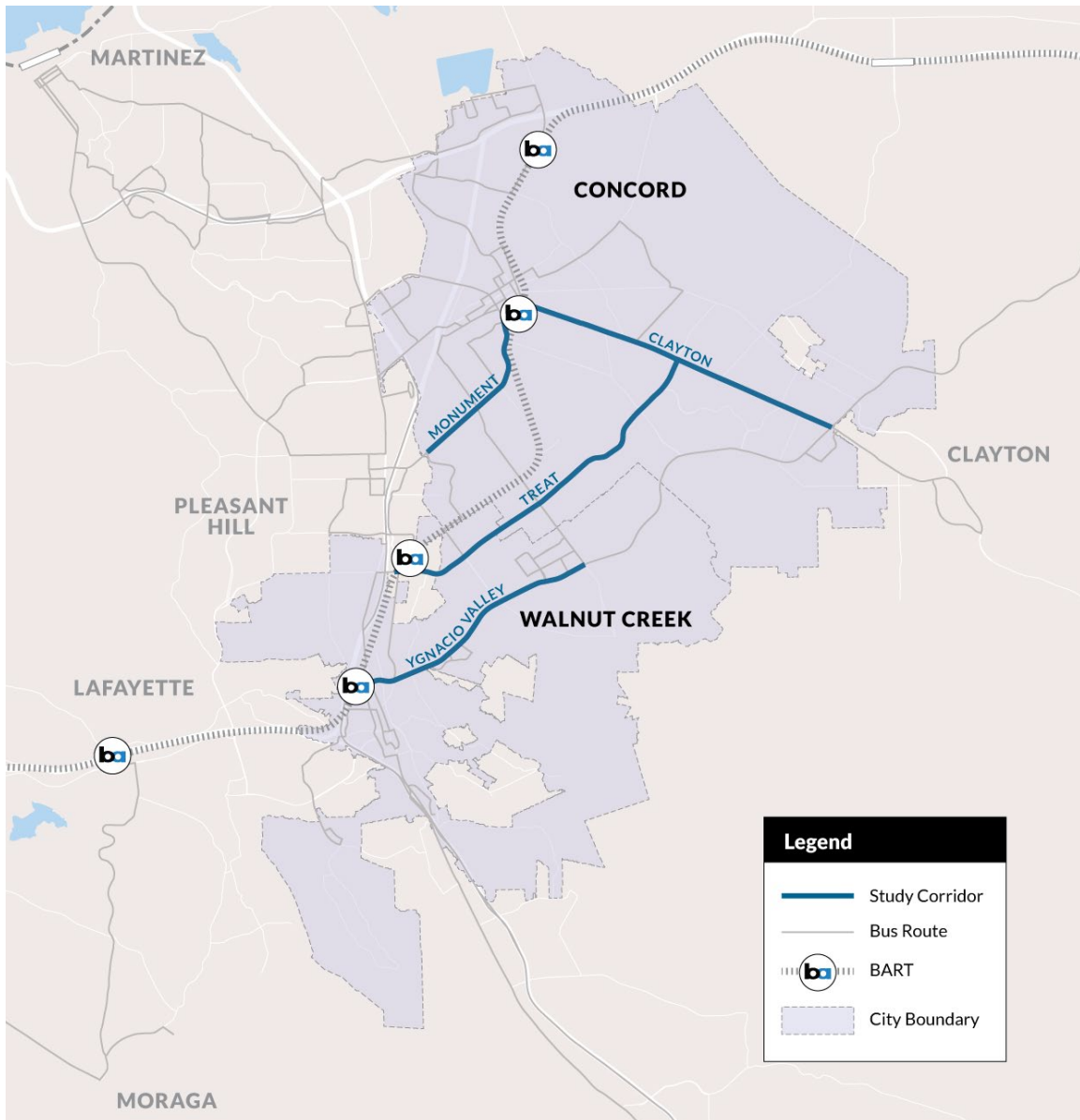


Figure 1: Study Corridors

Financial Implications:

County Connection will be receiving \$400,000 in Surface Transportation Program/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (STP/CMAQ) funds from MTC for the study. A minimum 11.47% local match is required, which amounts to \$45,880. Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds will be used for the local match.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the MP&L Committee approve the use FY 2022-23 TPI funds in the amount of \$400,000 for the proposed Transit Corridor Study.

Action Requested:

Staff requests that the MP&L Committee forward this item to the Board for approval.

Attachments:

None