

To: Operations & Scheduling Committee

Date: 12/27/2024

From: Pranjal Dixit, Manager of Planning

Reviewed by: AMS

SUBJECT: Transit Corridor Study Update

Background:

In October 2022, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) announced the FY 2022-23 Transit Performance Initiative (TPI) grant program, which funds low-cost capital investments to improve transit operations and customer experience on major corridors and systems. The program prioritizes improvements that increase bus speed and reliability, particularly on high-ridership, high-frequency routes experiencing traffic delays. County Connection submitted a successful application for a study analyzing four major corridors within its service area to identify such improvements. MTC approved the full funding request of \$400,000 on March 22, 2023, and the Board approved the use of these funds in April 2023.

Corridor Study:

In October 2024, staff and County Connection's on-call planning consultants, Transportation Design & Management (TMD), launched the Transit Corridor Study, a comprehensive analysis of four key corridors: Clayton Road, Monument Boulevard, Treat Boulevard, and Ygnacio Valley Road. The study will evaluate existing conditions, identify and implement strategies to improve speed and reliability, prioritize recommended projects, and engage stakeholders and the community.

County Connection has identified these corridors as offering the greatest potential benefit from transit priority improvements, aiming to:

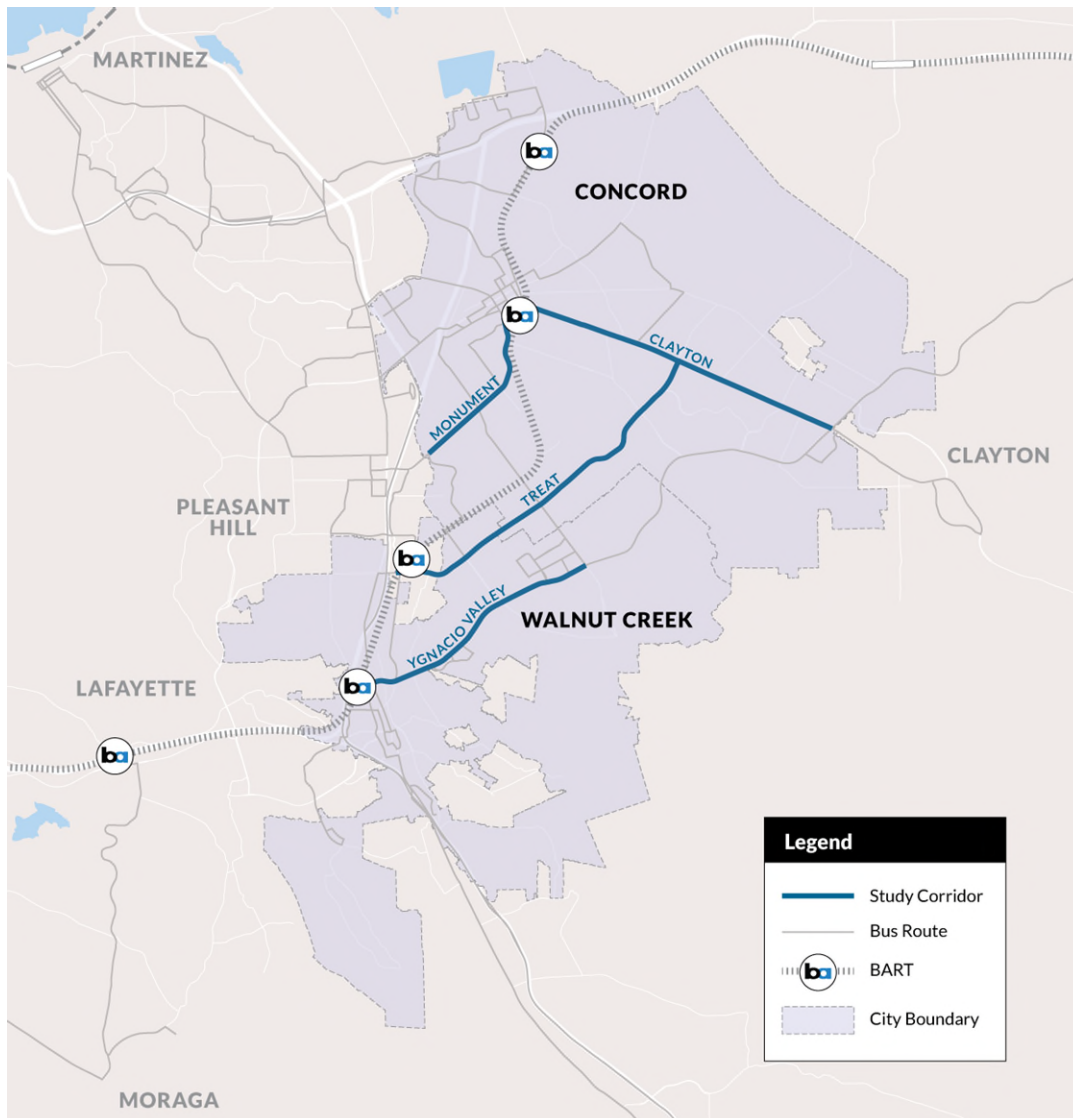
- Increase bus speeds and reduce delays, shortening passenger travel times.
- Improve schedule reliability by reducing travel time variability, enhancing the passenger experience.
- Enhance bus stop siting, security, and amenities to reduce dwell time and increase passenger appeal.
- Improve ADA accessibility at bus stops while seamlessly integrating into the surrounding pedestrian infrastructure..
- Improve customer satisfaction and increase ridership.
- Improve cost-effectiveness through faster, more reliable service.

Each corridor's distinct characteristics justify its inclusion:

- **Clayton Road (Routes 10, 310):** Served by the second-highest ridership route.
- **Monument Boulevard (Routes 14, 16, 314):** High transit propensity, serving an Equity Priority Community and an SB 535 Disadvantaged Community.

- **Treat Boulevard (Routes 7, 11, 14, 15, 311):** Serves multiple schools and retail destinations.
- **Ygnacio Valley Road (Routes 1, 92X, 93X, 301):** A congested corridor with healthcare, employment, retail, and some high-density housing, offering strong potential for transit development.

All four corridors are anchored by a BART station: Concord (Clayton Road and Monument Boulevard), Pleasant Hill/Contra Costa Centre (Treat Boulevard), and Walnut Creek (Ygnacio Valley Road).



A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), including representatives from the Cities of Concord and Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County, and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), has been established to provide input throughout the study. Feedback will also be gathered from riders and operators throughout the study process.

The study will begin with an analysis of existing conditions, including traffic speeds, ridership, signal delays, origin-destination patterns, and demographics. Based on this analysis, a toolbox of improvement strategies—such as transit signal priority, enhanced bus stops, and queue jump lanes—will be developed. These improvements will then be prioritized based on documented benefits, including

impacts on wait times, travel times, and the customer experience. The study is scheduled to be completed by end of June 2025.

On November 20, 2024, MTC awarded County Connection an Innovative Deployments to Enhance Arterials (IDEA) grant to support the development of a comprehensive implementation plan for the Transit Corridor Study recommendations. This will include detailed designs for transit signal priority installations, enhanced bus stops, and potential queue jump lanes, along with a robust funding strategy to secure future project construction.

Financial Implications:

None. Staff is using the Transit Performance Initiative (TPI) grant to conduct this study.

Recommendation:

None, for information only.

Action Requested:

None, for information only.

Attachments:

None