



*Photo courtesy of MTC*

# WORKSHOP ON PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE RICHMOND-SAN RAFAEL BRIDGE PUBLIC PATHWAY PILOT PROJECT

JANUARY 16, 2025

# PURPOSE

1. Share information about the proposed pilot modifications;
2. Share findings from the original pilot project;
3. Provide Commissioners the opportunity to ask questions prior to a future hearing and vote; and
4. Elicit guidance for a future staff recommendation.

# AGENDA

1. Workshop Welcome
2. Presentation on the Pilot and Proposed Modifications
3. Commissioner Q&A
4. Small Group Discussion
5. Public Comment
6. Workshop Close



Photo courtesy of MTC

# BCDC STAFF REPORT

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JANUARY 16, 2025

# PROJECT LOCATION



# PERMIT HISTORY

**1997:** Original BCDC Permit 1997.001 for seismic retrofit project

- Found bicycle and pedestrian access was desirable and would maximize public benefits
- Further study required to ensure public safety
- Caltrans volunteered to study feasibility of access

**2016:** Pilot Project authorized by Material Amendment Four in 2016



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# PILOT PROJECT AUTHORIZATION (1997.001.04)

## Lower Deck

- Peak hour vehicle lane in shoulder

## Upper Deck

- Two-way Class I pathway in shoulder
- Moveable barriers, safety railing, signage

## Reporting Requirement

- Analysis of public usage and benefit
- Assessment of operational and safety issues
- Need for future changes, including removal or making permanent



Source: Commission materials, Sept. 15, 2016

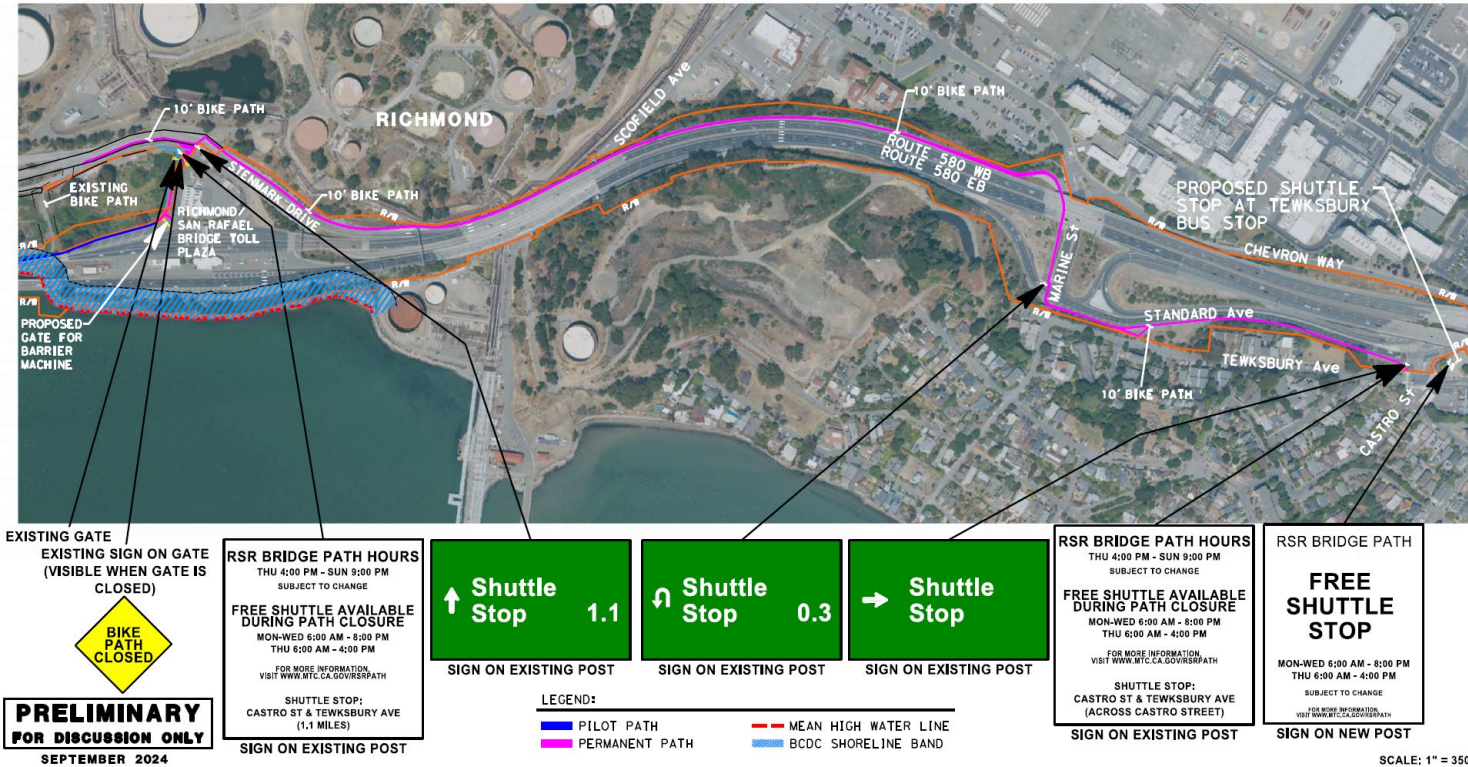
# MODIFICATIONS

## Lower Deck

- Continue peak hour vehicle lane permanently

## Upper Deck

- Revert path to shoulder from 9PM Sunday night to 2PM Thursday afternoon
- Bike shuttle on days the path is closed





# MAXIMUM FEASIBLE PUBLIC ACCESS

- **McAteer-Petris Act Section 66602**

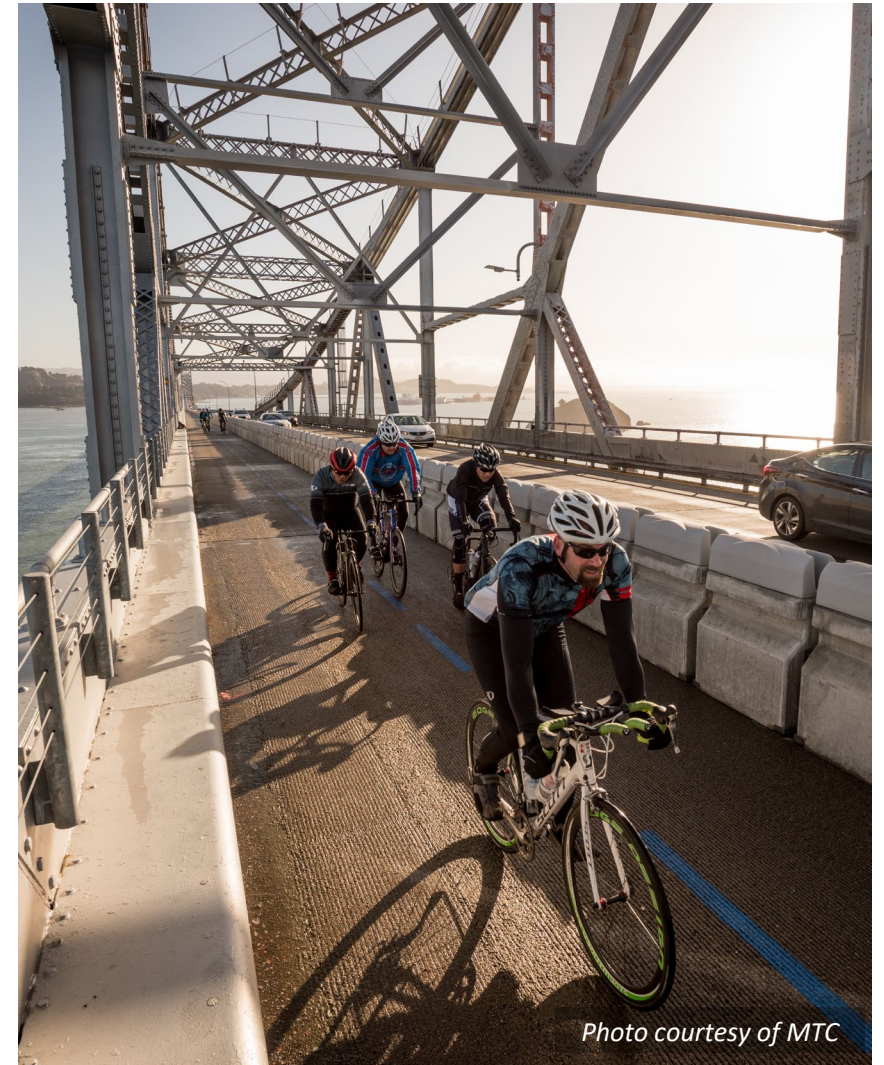
The Legislature further finds and declares... that existing public access to the shoreline and waters of the San Francisco Bay is inadequate and that maximum feasible public access, consistent with a proposed project, should be provided.

- **Public Access Policy No. 1**

A proposed fill project should increase public access to the Bay to the maximum extent feasible...

- **Public Access Policy No. 2**

...Maximum feasible access to and along the waterfront and on any permitted fills should be provided in and through every new development in the Bay or on the shoreline,... except in cases where public access would be clearly inconsistent with the project because of public safety considerations or significant use conflicts...



# BAY PLAN PUBLIC ACCESS POLICIES

- **Public Access Policy No. 5**

Public access... should be sited, designed, and managed based on meaningful community involvement to create public access that is inclusive and welcoming to all and embraces local multicultural and indigenous history and presence...

- **Public Access Policy No. 8**

Public access improvements... should be consistent with the project, the culture(s) of the local community, and the physical environment, including protection of Bay natural resources, such as aquatic life, wildlife and plant communities, and provide for the public's safety and convenience. The improvements should be designed and built to encourage diverse Bay-related activities and movement to and along the shoreline, should provide barrier free access for persons with disabilities, for people of all income levels, and for people of all cultures to the maximum feasible extent, should include an ongoing maintenance program, and should be identified with appropriate signs, including using appropriate languages or culturally-relevant icon-based signage.

- **Public Access Policy No. 12**

...The Commission should cooperate to provide appropriately sited, designed and managed public access, especially to link the entire series of shoreline parks, regional trail systems (such as the San Francisco Bay Trail) and existing public access areas to the extent feasible without additional Bay filling and without significant adverse effects on Bay natural resources...

# BAY PLAN TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

- **Transportation Policy No. 1**

...The Commission should continue to take an active role in Bay Area regional transportation and related land use planning affecting the Bay, particularly to encourage alternative methods of transportation and land use planning efforts that support transit and that do not require fill...

- **Transportation Policy No. 4**

Transportation projects on the Bay shoreline and bridges over the Bay or certain waterways should include pedestrian and bicycle paths that will either be a part of the Bay Trail or connect the Bay Trail with other regional and community trails...



# CONSIDERATIONS

- **Public access**

- Pathway is a key link between trail systems
- Uses existing infrastructure to minimize fill
- Barrier free

- **Feasibility**

- What are important components of public access feasibility on the bridge?

- **Significance**

- When is an impact significant enough to affect feasibility?



Photo courtesy of MTC

# THANK YOU



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