

Environment

The East Bay is growing and so is traffic congestion. Cities across the US and the world have chosen BRT as a cost-effective way to improve transit, increase ridership and provide a more equitable and efficient transportation system.



Effects on the Environment & Our Community

BRT provides sustainable, clean transportation that supports our community's efforts to reduce air pollution and respiratory ailments. As the only transportation method approved by the Kyoto Protocol, the landmark global climate change treaty, BRT would lead our community's efforts to build a greener, healthier future.

Helping our environment

- **State-of-the-art buses** would help reduce the air pollution that leads to asthma and other respiratory problems in the community.
- **Berkeley, Oakland and San Leandro have all created Climate Action Plans** requiring GHG emissions reduction. BRT would help meet those goals.
- **Oakland has explicitly included BRT in its draft Climate Action Plan.** San Leandro has included BRT in its plans for transit-oriented development.
- **BRT would bring multiple environmental benefits to our communities:**
 - **reduce fuel consumption** in the corridor by 210,000 gallons/year
 - **decrease the production of greenhouse gases** by 1,900 tons/year
 - **reduce automobile trips** by 9,300 trips/day
 - **improve air quality** and reduce noise and other pollution from street traffic.

Examples of East Bay BRT at Key Locations



Telegraph Ave. & 24th St.



Telegraph Ave. & 31st St.



International Blvd. & 82nd Ave.



International Blvd. and 98th Ave.

Encouraging walking and biking

- **BRT would calm speeding traffic and install new crosswalks** and pedestrian islands, making walking and crossing the street much safer.
- **Near BRT stations, sidewalks would be improved** in some neighborhoods, sidewalk bulb-outs added at some corners, and curb cuts (sidewalk ramps) added where needed.
- **BRT would implement bike lanes** in Oakland, creating another safe, healthy and family-oriented transportation choice.
- **New benches, bus stops and lighting would be installed** to create safer transit stops.

Building community spaces

- **By encouraging walking** and putting more “eyes on the streets,” our streets would become safer and more welcoming for everyone.
- **Many communities place a high value on their neighborhood trees and landscaping, and AC Transit does too.** We’re funding new medians, adding trees and landscaping and working to make minimal impacts on existing medians so trees can continue to be the lungs of the city.
- **BRT provides mobility to young people** as it provides access to hundreds of employers, churches, schools and youth centers along the corridor.
- **BRT would provide more reliable transportation to underserved residents.** Nearly 46% of corridor residents are low income, and 23% live in households that do not own cars.



What is BRT?

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a transportation technology being implemented across the US and internationally. AC Transit has designed East Bay BRT to bring its transit benefits to Oakland, Berkeley and San Leandro.

An upgraded form of transit, BRT is essentially light rail without the tracks. Service would reliably run every 5 minutes on weekdays from 6 am to 7 pm.



- 1 Cleaner, greener buses
- 2 Dedicated right-of-way for the bus
- 3 Traffic signal priority
- 4 Step-free, level bus entry
- 5 “Proof-of-payment” fare system (similar to CalTrain)
- 6 Real-time arrival information