

# East Bay Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)



The Future of AC Transit

## Health & Safety

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 Health & Safety

Studies have shown that people who live near transit are less likely to be obese and are more likely to lead active, healthy lifestyles. BRT is reliable transit that offers a sustainable and healthful way to get around. The system would help clean up our air and improve health by encouraging people to choose transit, walking or bicycling. Investment in BRT would also bring new money and infrastructure to improve community safety, creating safer streets and a healthier East Bay.

### Healthier communities

- **Reduce asthma and other respiratory problems** by reducing air pollution. BRT would help clean the air by reducing car usage and encouraging greener transportation choices.
- **Reduce obesity and health problems** by creating safe, accessible and walkable communities. BRT would create more pleasant transit stops and safer streets and sidewalks.
- **Provide more accessible, reliable transit to health and medical centers** along the BRT corridor, ensuring that non-drivers can access the medical care they need.
- **Improve ambulance and fire response time** by giving emergency vehicles access to a traffic-free dedicated bus lane (as buses do now, the BRT would pull over to allow emergency vehicles to pass).

### 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.

## Safer roads

- **Reduce automobile speeding** and accidents along the corridor with new traffic-calming elements that may include:
  - o New lane striping
  - o New signals and signage
  - o Wider sidewalks and sidewalk bulb-outs
  - o “Pedestrian islands” in crosswalks
- **Reduce frequent left-turn car crashes** by removing dangerous left turns and creating signals for many others.



## Safer pedestrians and bicyclists

- **Safer, more comfortable bus stops** would feature new lighting, shelter, benches, security cameras and emergency phones.
- **Make crossing the street safer** with new crosswalks, better lighting, calmer traffic and “pedestrian islands” in the street.
- **Reduce the number of traffic lanes between pedestrians and the bus stop.** Current conditions require that pedestrians cross up to five lanes of traffic at a time to reach the bus stop. BRT would place many bus stops in the median, requiring pedestrians to cross only one lane of traffic at a time.
- **Increase bicyclist safety** by calming traffic and creating bicycle lanes along parts of the corridor. Bicycles would be accommodated on the bus.

## 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