

Regional Mapping & Wayfinding Project Update



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

BART/AC Transit Interagency Liaison Committee

August 13, 2025

Today's meeting

- Project goals and benefits
- Project updates
 - Powell “mini” prototype
 - Prototype evaluation
 - Standards development
 - Pilot projects
- Next steps



Prototype signs and maps



Facility identity



Bus stops



Rail stations



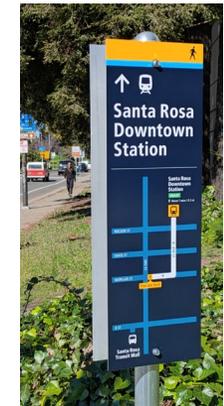
Local and regional transit maps



Bus stops

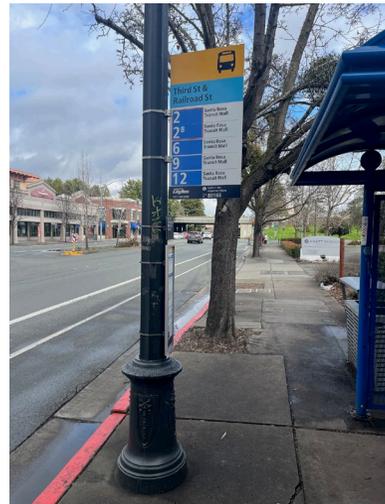
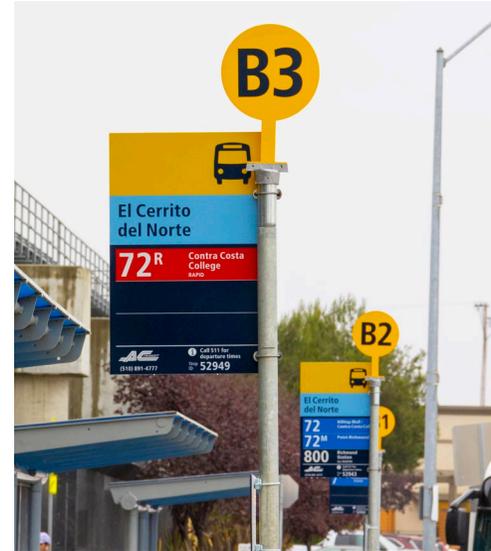


Rail stations



Pedestrian connection signs

Prototype bus stop signage



Project goals & benefits



92%

Find easy to use and uniform maps and signage important

Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Public Opinion Poll, April 2021

Goals

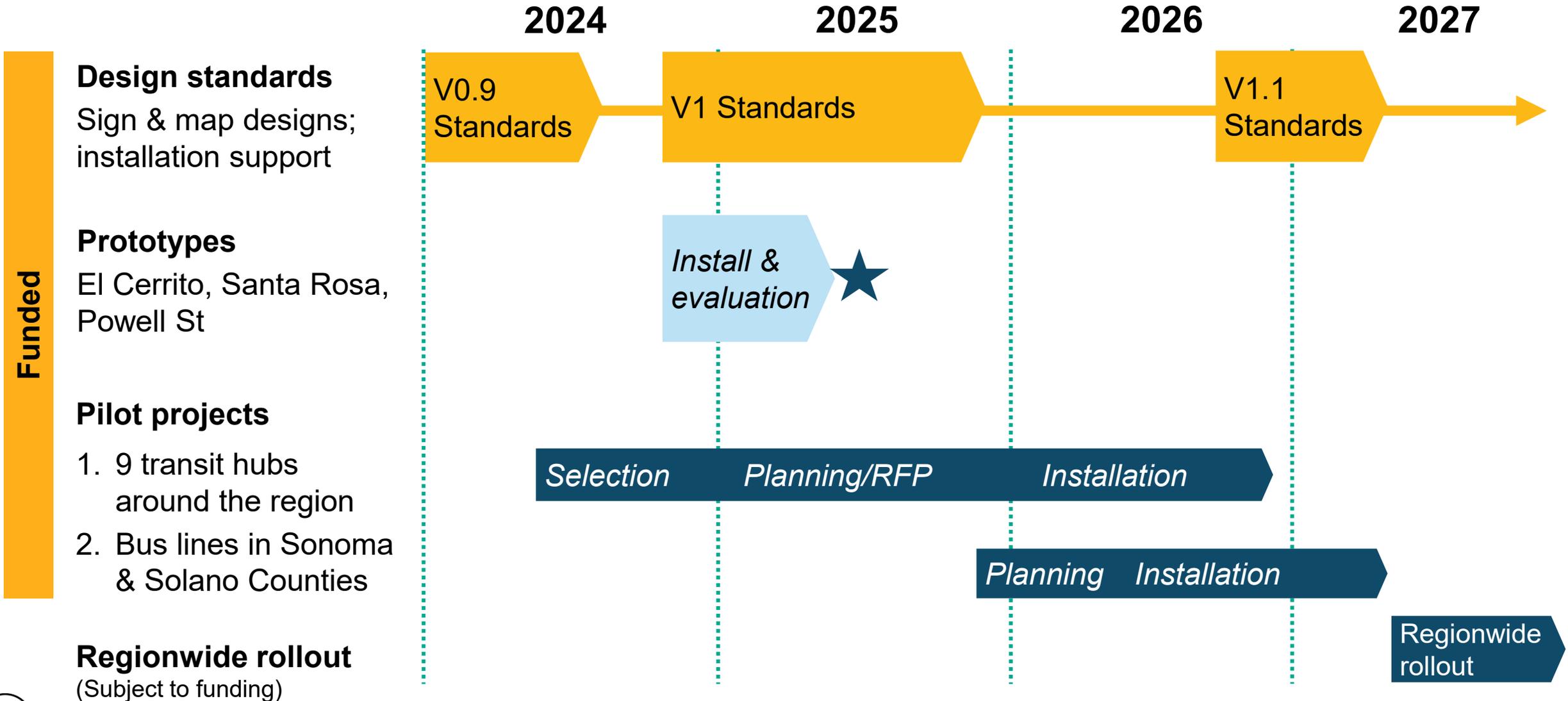
- **Increase accessibility of transit for all**
- **Maintain/increase ridership** by making transit more visible and easier to understand
- **Increase operational efficiency** with standard maps, signs, and other navigation materials for all agencies

Benefits of full buildout

- Over 200 intermodal hubs and stations, and 21,000 bus stops over 9 counties will have a harmonized design
- Improved access for people with disabilities
- Impact ~1 million transit boardings per day
- Increased transit visibility for millions of residents and visitors

Design development process

★ = We are here



Funded

Design standards

Sign & map designs;
installation support

Prototypes

El Cerrito, Santa Rosa,
Powell St

Pilot projects

1. 9 transit hubs around the region
2. Bus lines in Sonoma & Solano Counties

Regionwide rollout

(Subject to funding)

V0.9
Standards

V1 Standards

V1.1
Standards

Install &
evaluation

Selection

Planning/RFP

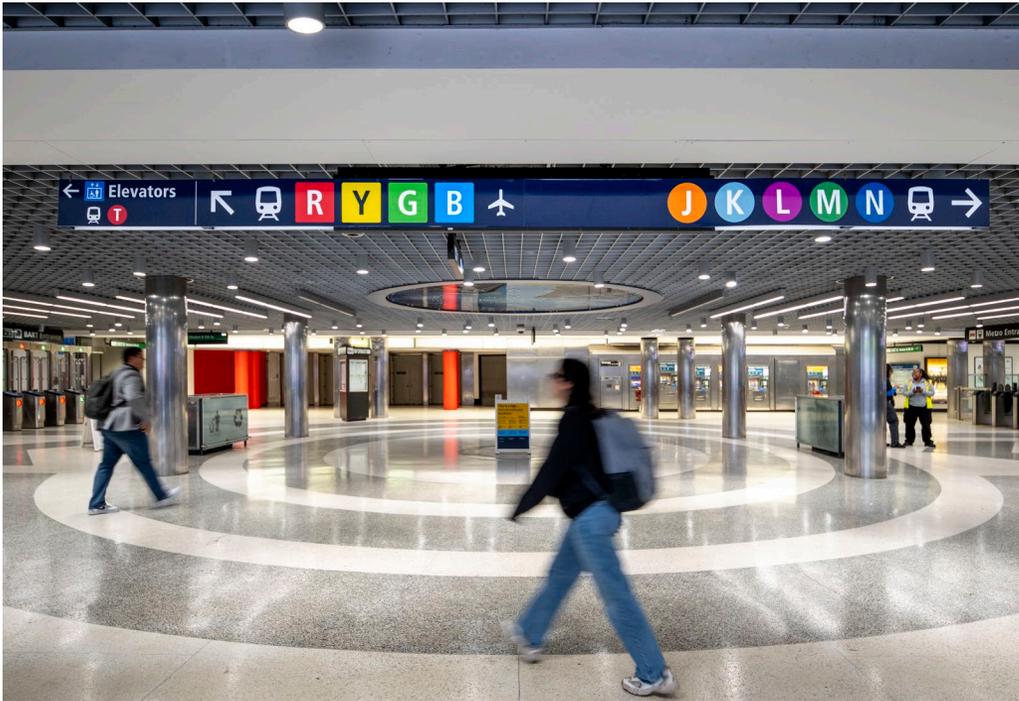
Installation

Planning Installation

Regionwide
rollout

Powell design test

Installation and surveys, early June 2025



Collaborative & iterative design development

- Transit agency staff partnerships
 - In-person map workshops
 - Four "service types" meetings for bus stop signs and maps
- Design changes from feedback
 - Service frequency on signs and maps
 - Agency customer service phone number
- Process changes from feedback
 - Added Agency Technical Advisory Committee to guide designs and overall project development
 - Added Accessibility Working Group to provide user experience insights



Prototype evaluation: public engagement

Goal: Seek robust and representative feedback on prototype designs



Before installation

- 1,021 Online survey responses (2023)
- 8 Online focus groups (2023)
- 157 On-site intercept surveys
- 16 On-site individual test journeys
- 6 On-site staff interviews

After installation

- 3,215 Online survey responses
- 5 Online focus groups
- 586 On-site intercept surveys
- 19 On-site individual test journeys
- 2 On-site Accessibility Working Group tours
- 3 On-site transit agency staff tours

Prototype evaluation: summary of findings

- Positive feedback and engagement
- Prototype design choices are on the right track
 - Frequency
 - New network identity
 - Operator identity
 - Icons
- Lots of specific, actionable feedback
- Clear direction for refinements aligned with project goals and values

Project values

Designing for all

Advance access to anyone who wants to use public transit

Interconnectedness

Support the harmonization and connectivity of the regional system

Design excellence

Create attractive signs and maps for welcoming transit environments

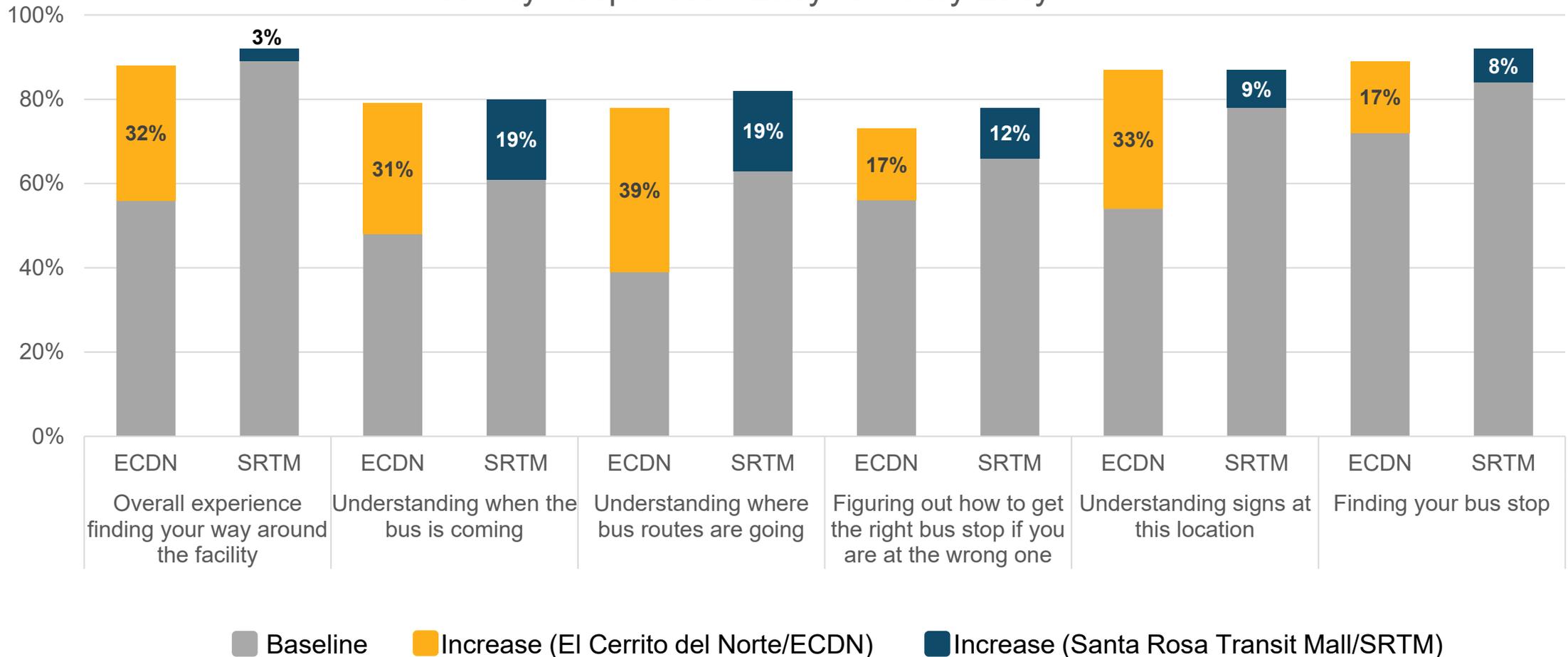
Operational viability

Affordable and practical for transit agencies to implement and maintain

Evaluation findings: transit ease of use

New signs and maps made using transit easier than before

Survey Responses: "Easy" or "Very Easy"



Actionable feedback driving design refinements

Improving accessibility

- Larger text sizes and lines on maps
- More contrast of network identity colors on signs
- Make modal icons more distinct
- Clearer elevator and exit icons

Bus stop signage updates

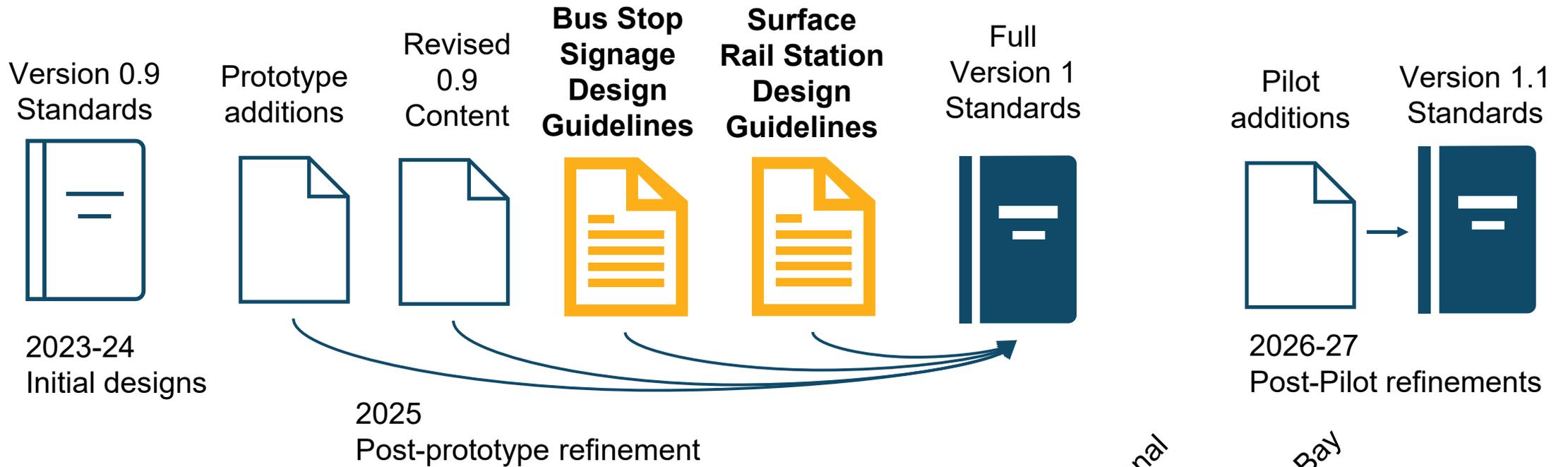
- More space for agency logos and customer service info
- Testing blue vs white background for legibility and visibility
- Options for route names and limited services

New feature development

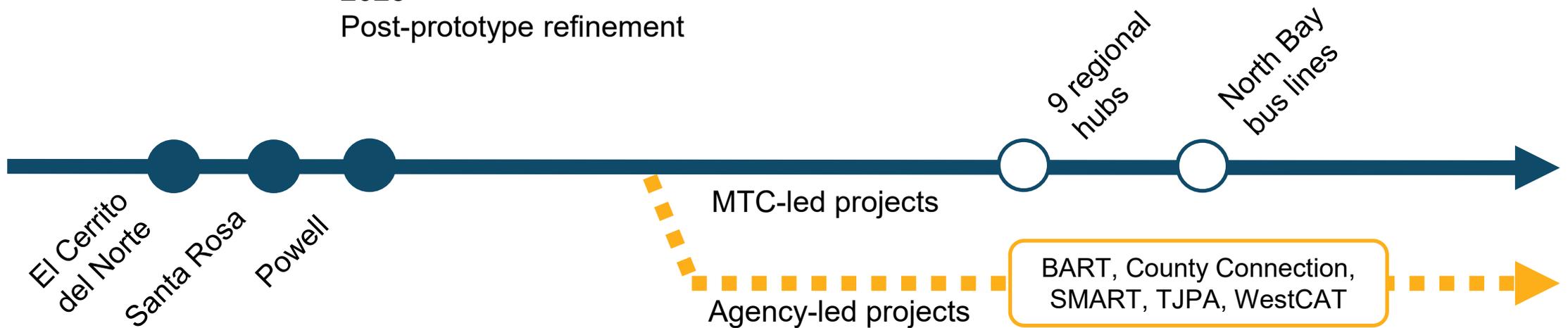
- Depicting occasional and express services on signs and maps
- Guidance for placement/use of QR codes

Developing Regional Wayfinding Standards

Standards



Projects



Next steps: Pilot Projects

- Regional Hub Pilot Projects
 - Release Design-Build RFP for fabrication/install
 - Onboard fabrication vendor and begin engineering and agency permitting processes
 - Develop MOU for operations and maintenance
- New: Accessibility Pilot
 - Test tools for accessible navigation that could be implemented regionally

Regional Hub Pilot Projects

Goal: Refine V1 Standards via installation at 9 multimodal transit hubs around the region



Next steps

Milestones



Fall 2025

- Share Bus Stop Signage Design Guidelines (part of V1 Standards) for agency-led projects
- Release RFP for Pilot Project fabrication and installation
- Share Surface Rail Station Design Guidelines (V1 Standards)
- Begin Pilot Project final design, engineering, and permit processes

Spring 2026

- Begin to install new wayfinding at 9 hubs around the region
- Agency-led signage projects begin

Late 2026

- Implement new wayfinding on selected bus lines in North Bay
- Accessibility Pilot test

2027+

Expand new wayfinding signs and maps throughout the region (dependent on funding)

BART Bus Bay Numbering

- Bus bay numbering identifies each bus bay independently of the services that use it.
 - Supports navigation, including permanent wayfinding, communications of service changes, and operations.
- Implementation at BART stations
 - Using federal funding
 - Visual signage installation planned to start this fall
 - Tactile signage awaiting finalization of regional standards
- Will coordinate with bus operators on installation details

