

SR 23-250c Att.1.

Revised Guiding Principles AC Transit Board of Directors Meeting

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2023



Realign Project Phasing

| 1 | 2 3 | | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Develop Plans + Learn Rider Needs | Aligning Guiding Principles with Community Assessment | Develop Service Scenarios and Gather Feedback | Draft Final Service Plan and Plan Adoption | Develop Service Standards and Inform Riders about Service Changes |
| Mar-Jun 2023 | Jul-Aug 2023 | Sep-Dec 2023 | Jan-Apr 2024 | Apr-Sep 2024 |
| On-going emphasis on equity and transparency in all project phases and communications | | | | |



Guiding Principles

Equity

Provide a network that prioritizes services for communities who need it the most.

Reliability

Provide bus service that is reliable and predictable.

Frequency

Provide frequent service to the most people; frequency's importance will vary by location and be balanced against geographic coverage and community needs.



What we've heard from the Board

- Reliability: this is critical!
- Access: consider access to destinations, opportunity, healthcare?
- Sustainability: consider service that gets people out of their cars?
- Connections: mixed opinions about reconciling interconnected network efforts
- Incorporate Visionary plan



What we've heard from outreach

- Reliability: this is critical!
- Frequency: not enough service!
- Recovery: bringing back pre-pandemic service levels
- Safety: wait experience, or walk experience.
- Connectivity: improved connections between routes and with BART

TRANSIT

Frequency/Coverage – How Much?

More frequency? More coverage? Stay the course?

TRANSIT

Frequency/Coverage – How Much?

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Guiding Principles Proposed Revisions



Guiding Principles as a Measuring Stick

- Lack of definitive guidance on Frequency-Coverage values debate
- Guiding Principles aren't mutually exclusive
 - Can't group alternatives by each guiding principles theme
- Use guiding principles as tool for educational public discourse
 - Show frequency-coverage options, show specific implications

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Ridership/Coverage Focus Three Plan Options

Stay the Course More Frequency, Less Coverage Visionary: More Frequency, More Coverage



Equity

Provide a network that prioritizes mobility for communities who need it the most.

Intent

 Provide the greatest level of service where the greatest concentrations of mobility need exist.

Goal and Metric

- Focus service within MTC Equity Priority Communities (EPCs) within AC Transit service area.
- Improve access to jobs, groceries, medical facilities for Equity Priority Communities, comparing peoples' access to destinations for existing and proposed networks.



Frequency

Provide frequent service to the most people; frequency's importance will vary by location and be balanced against geographic coverage and community needs.

Intent

 Provide the greatest level of service where the greatest concentrations of mobility need exist.

Goal and Metric

- Focus service on higherdensity areas according to ridership demand.
- Improve peoples' access to the frequent network (every 15 minutes or better) for existing and proposed networks.



Reliability

Provide bus service that is reliable and predictable.

Intent

 Provide adequate redundancy in operating resources to ensure that trips that are scheduled are operated.

Goal and Metric

- Added buffer in schedules to account for traffic congestion or unforeseen delays.
- Match scheduled service levels to real-world operator availability, even if that means service reductions.
- Codify standard operating procedures for delay management.



Next Steps



On-going emphasis on equity and transparency in all project phases and communications









47 Events 914 Touchpoints 1 Trilingual digital workshop











Realign Phase 2: Help Build our Future Transit Service

ACT Update



Website Page views: 2,116 total

- ACT Transit Realign: 1,740
- Realign: What We've Learned: 376

Social Media Performance (impressions/engagements)

- Twitter: 7,007/137
- Facebook: 4,565/167
- Instagram: 510/22

We are updating our bus network Help build our future transit service at actransit.org/realign

Contact Us (510) 267-5631

Estamos actualizando nuestra red de autobuses Ayúdanos a construir nuestro futuro servicio de transporte en actransit.org/realign

Comunicate con nosotros (510) 267-5632



Questions?

Help build our future transit service at actransit.org/realign



Equity

Provide a network that prioritizes mobility for communities who need it the most.

Background

- Cost of living, displacement, and gentrification make staying local difficult for lowincome households.
- The service area is aging with fewer and fewer youth under 18.
- Community members mentioned the need for weekend, early morning and late evening schedules for those with nontraditional work hours.

Intent

 Provide the greatest level of service where the greatest concentrations of mobility need exist.

Implementation

- Focus service within MTC Equity Priority Communities (EPCs) within AC Transit service area.
- Maintain or increase service within these areas, with the goal of providing highfrequency service (15 minutes or better) for all EPCs.
- Frequency or hours of operation may be reduced; suspended lines outside of EPCs would not be restored.



Reliability

Provide bus service that is reliable and predictable.

Background

- 39% of survey respondents identified reliability as an improvement area (the single most-mentioned area).
- Riders shared in person that they feel AC Transit bus service is unreliable and unpredictable.
- These trends track with continued operator availability issues.

Intent

 Provide adequate redundancy in operating resources to ensure that trips that are scheduled are operated.

Implementation

- Added buffer in schedules to account for traffic congestion or unforeseen delays.
- More resources spent on existing service means fewer resources available to increase service frequencies, expand hours of operation, or operate other existing service.
- Reductions in service levels may occur to ensure that trips can be delivered consistently and reliably.

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Frequency

Provide frequent service to the most people; frequency's importance will vary by location and be balanced against geographic coverage and community needs.

Background

- Survey respondents marked more frequent service as the number one improvement that could improve their travel.
- Denser neighborhoods beget more riders, for AC Transit, most high ridership lines are in the densest parts in the system.
- Feedback from engagement efforts underscored the importance for frequent service on busier routes throughout the week.

Intent

This principle is intended to provide the highest frequency service where the greatest demand exists while maintaining a network of high-frequency corridors (15 minutes or better) that includes all Planning Areas.



Frequency

Provide frequent service to the most people; frequency's importance will vary by location and be balanced against geographic coverage and community needs.

Implementation

- Focus service on higher-density areas according to ridership demand. Pre-pandemic service levels may be restored where demand exists.
- Implementation of frequent service to be balanced against geographic coverage, with at least one high-frequency corridor maintained in each sub-area.
- Transbay routes and school routes prioritized within Equity Priority Communities, but some routes may be reduced in favor of providing high-frequency service where the highest demand exists.
- Microtransit or other alternatives to fixed-route service may be explored in areas with low ridership.

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Frequency/Coverage Three Four Options More Frequency More Coverage Stay the Course More Frequency, More Coverage

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