

SMC 101 Express Lanes Project Update

Construction

Express Lanes Management

- Toll Policy
- Equity Program



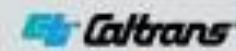
Construction:

- Purpose of the Express Lane
- What is an Express Lane?
- Timing

SAN MATEO 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT THE PURPOSE



SMC Express Lanes JPA



Jobs, housing and population growth continues

2010-2040 projections:

- Bay Area:
 - 1.3 Million new jobs
 - 820,000 new housing units
- San Mateo:
 - 134,000 new jobs
 - 60,000 new housing units

No incentive to share a ride

Cars avoid the freeway

The congestion on 101 has been bad and will continue to get worse.

Data from Plan Bay Area 2040.

SAN MATEO 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT BIG PICTURE



Multiple
projects
working
to solve
the
problem

The capacity increasing **Caltrain Electrification Project**

New **regional express bus service** on the 101 corridor

Santa Clara County Express Lanes on 101 seamlessly connecting to San Mateo 101 Express Lanes

Planning underway to extend the new 101 Express Lanes to the San Francisco County Line

Increased **park-and-ride lots**, and improvements to existing lots

Cities and Counties are working to improve and incentivize **ridesharing** and **public transit use**

SAN MATEO 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT EXPRESS LANE DEFINITIONS



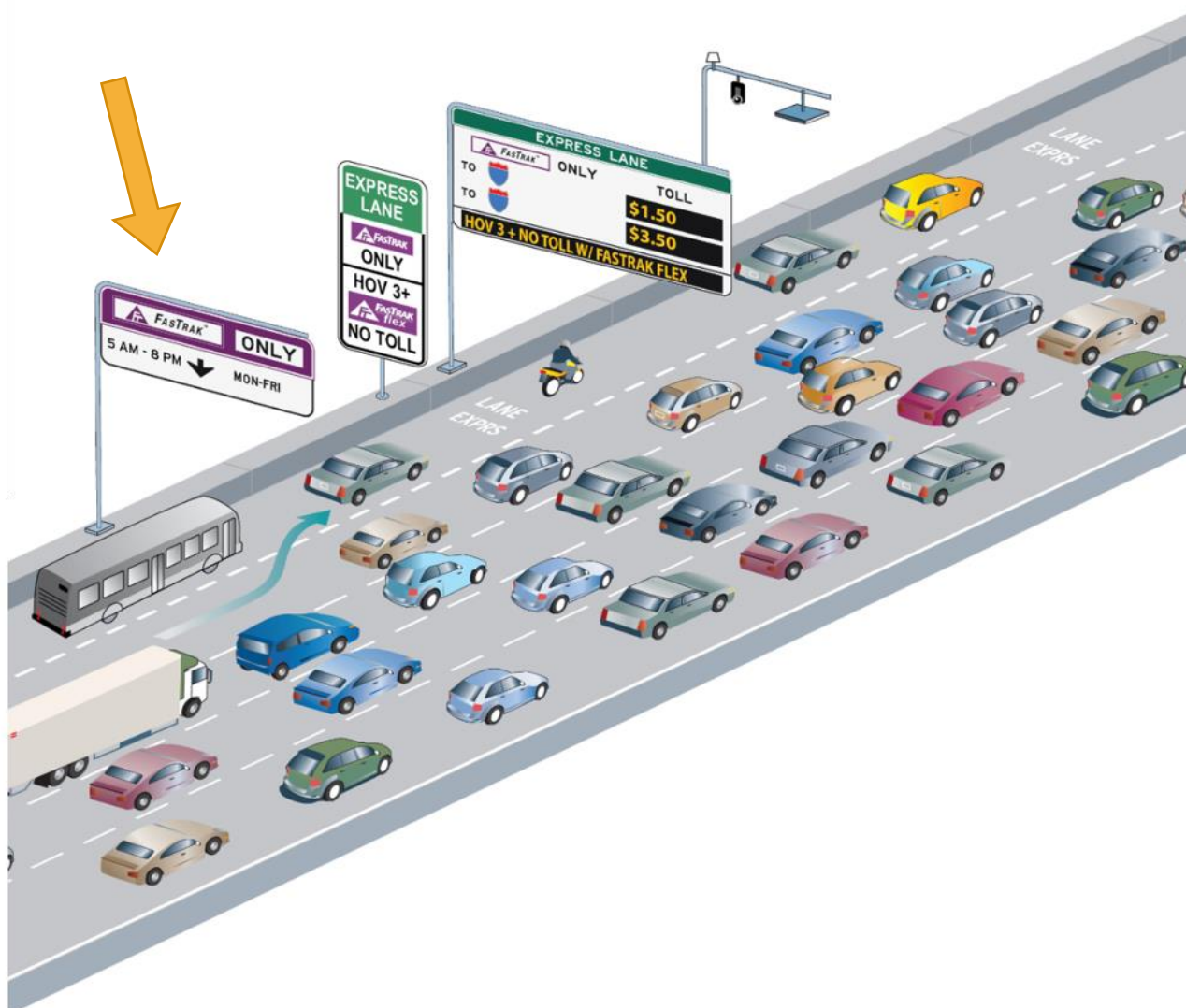
General Purpose Lane: a regular highway lane.

Carpool Lane/High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lane: a highway lane that can only be used when there is more than one person in the car. Some Carpool/HOV lanes require 2 people and others require 3 people.

Express Lane: a highway lane which buses, carpools, and motorcycles access for free. Other vehicles, like cars with just one person, pay a toll that goes up or down depending on how crowded the lane is.

EXPRESS LANES PROJECT PROJECT UPDATES

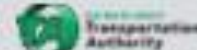




SAN MATEO 101
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT
TOLL RATE SIGN



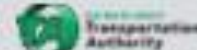
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SAN MATEO 101
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT
FASTRAK® FLEX IS THE KEY



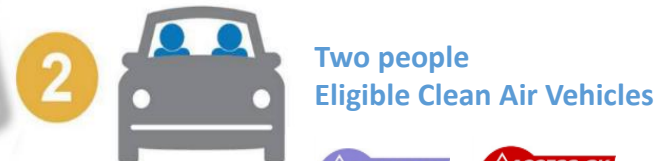
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Set the switch, take your trip!



One person



Two people
Eligible Clean Air Vehicles



Three or more people
Buses
Motorcycles

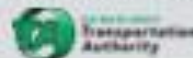
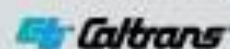


Please visit bayareafastrak.org for more information

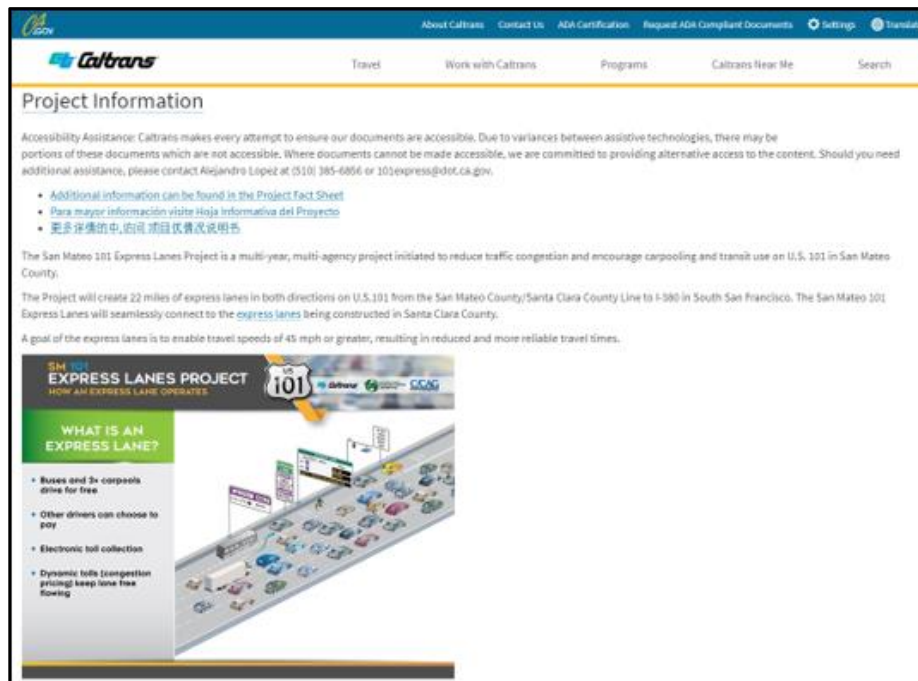
SAN MATEO 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT PUBLIC INFORMATION



SMC Express Lanes JPA



101express.com



- Sign up for email updates by emailing 101express@dot.ca.gov with the subject line “weekly” or “quarterly”
- For questions, contact Caltrans PIO Alejandro Lopez at (510) 385-6856 or 101express@dot.ca.gov

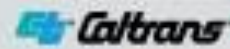


Express Lanes Management

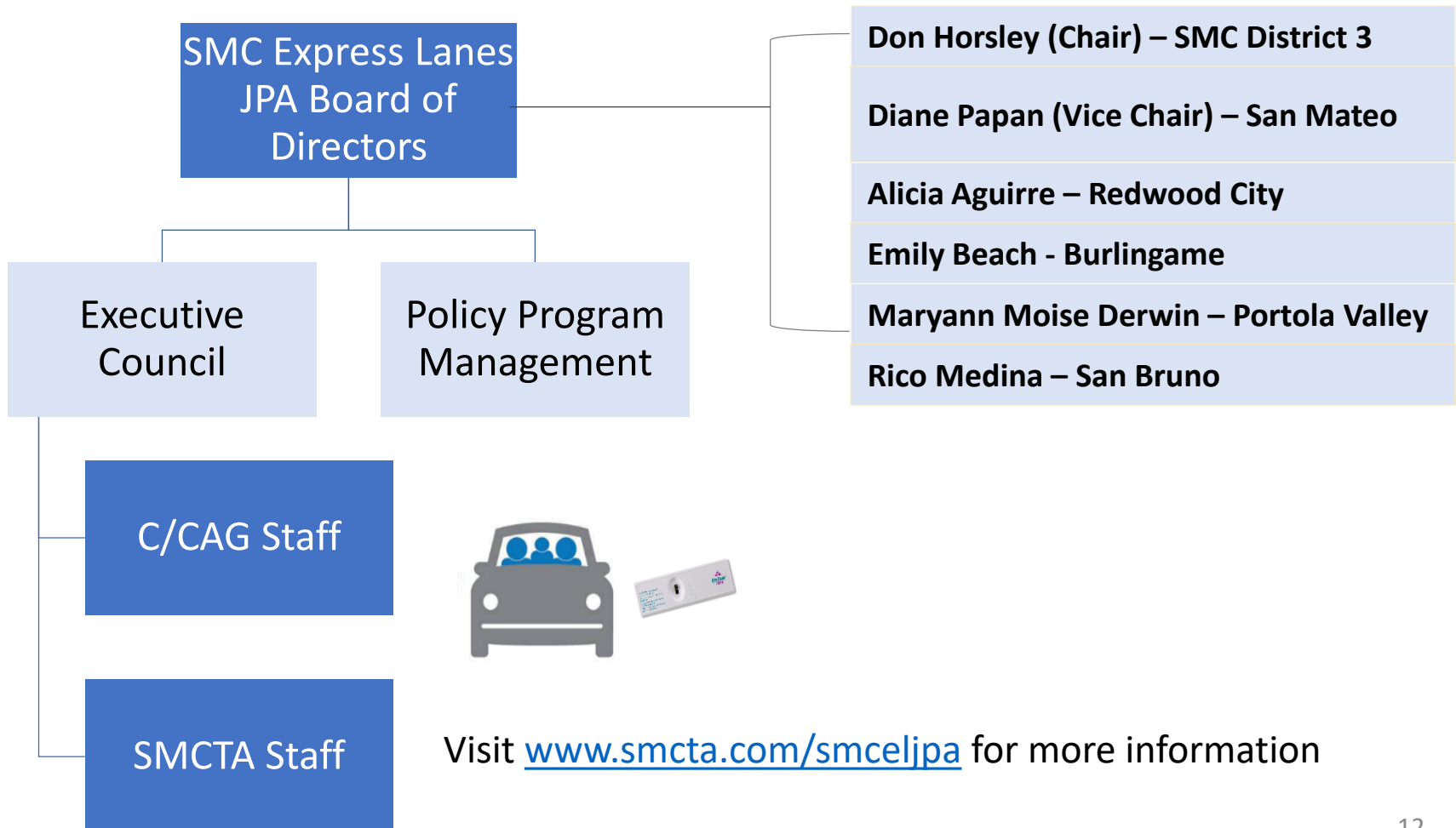
SAN MATEO 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT GOVERNANCE



SMC Express Lanes JPA



San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA)



SAN MATEO 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT TOLL POLICY



- The SMCEL-JPA Board will establish tolling rules and policies through the adoption of a toll ordinance in the Summer 2021.
- The toll ordinance will include:
 - Pricing
 - Discounts
 - Enforcement
- Submit your comments and look for updates at www.smcta.com/101Toll.

For questions regarding toll policy, contact the SM 101 Express Lanes Policy Program Manager, Matt Click at mclick@hntb.com



Equity Program Study

- Develop a Pilot Equity Program that **invests** toll revenue in **historically underserved communities** in San Mateo County
- The Program should be flexible and can evolve over time in response to changing community needs
- Funding:
 - \$1 Million available in first year
 - \$600,000 annually in subsequent years

Desired Outcomes



Flexible and adaptive to changing needs and feedback.



Encourage mode shift to high-occupancy modes.



Strategies benefit underserved communities who live near or use the lanes.



Supports the Express Lanes benefits and goals (mobility, travel time, and reliability).



Program reflects input from historically disadvantaged communities.



Improve active transportation network adjacent to the corridor.



Strategies are replicable and could be expanded regionally.

SAN MATEO 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT EQUITY PROGRAM STUDY



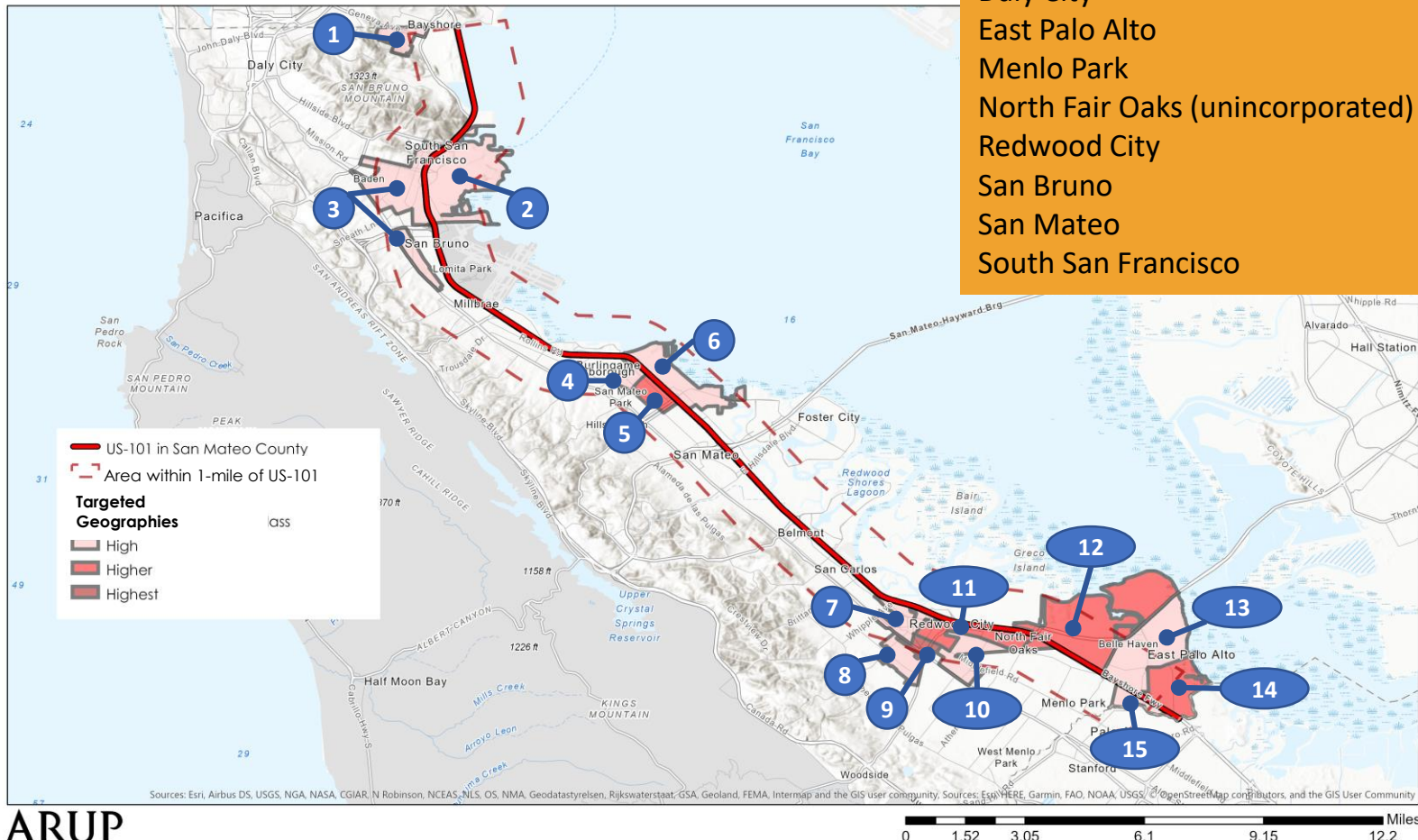
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15 Studied Targeted Geographies

Includes portions of the following cities:

Daly City
East Palo Alto
Menlo Park
North Fair Oaks (unincorporated)
Redwood City
San Bruno
San Mateo
South San Francisco



Identifying Barriers to Travel



Do not own or have access
to a car for regular use



Do not have access to a
credit card or bank account



Congestion on US-101 limits
access to job opportunities



Limited access to the
internet and/or a smart
phone



Have a disability that makes
traveling by transit difficult
or impossible



Feel unsafe walking or biking
on streets close to US-101

Phase 1 Community Engagement

Key takeaways

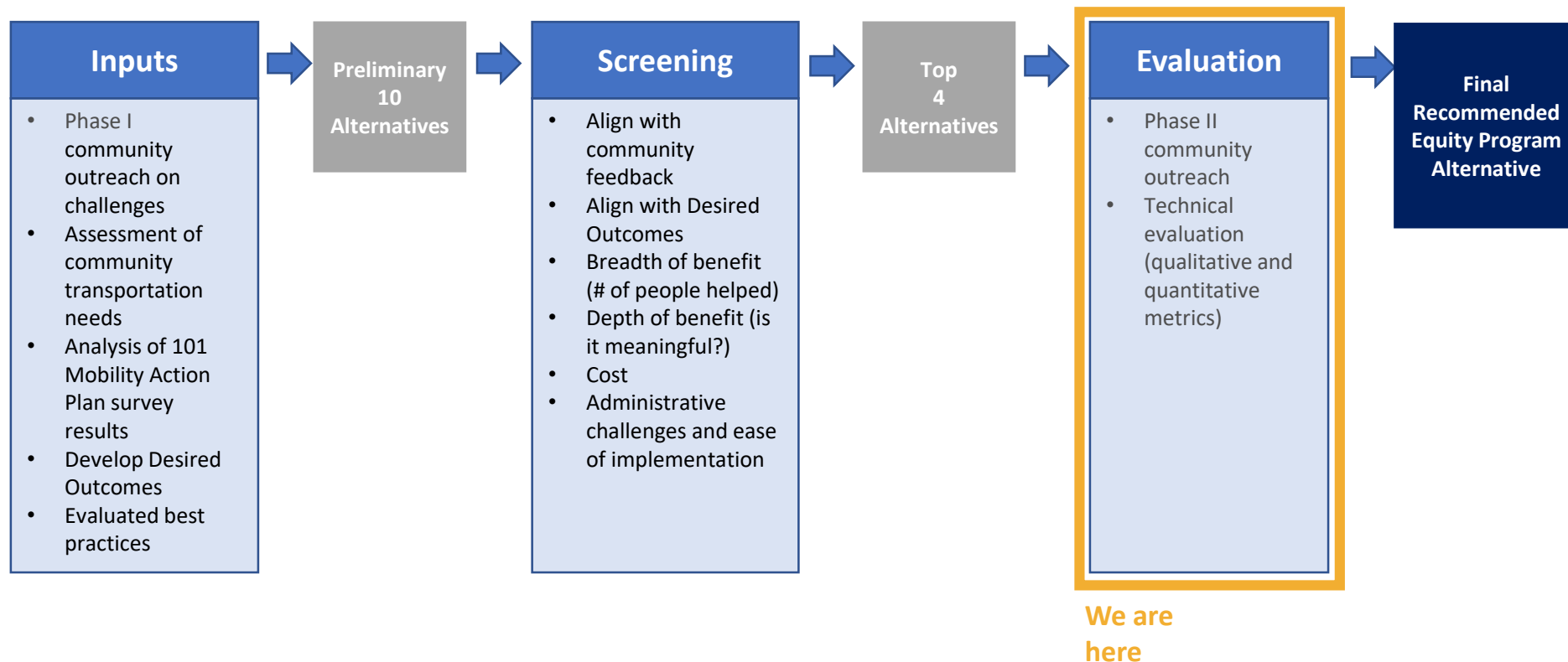
Mobility challenges facing communities:

- Unreliable public transportation
- Cost of transportation
- Too much traffic

Equity program recommendations:

- Toll subsidies or other programs to help low-income drivers use the lanes
- More frequent and reliable public transportation
- Improved sidewalk and bicycle infrastructure
- Discounted or free transit passes
- Any program for individual benefits should be relatively easy to access

Alternatives Development Process



Alternative #1: Express Lane Toll Benefit

Pre-loaded \$50 Toll Tags

- Provide one-time benefit of pre-loaded toll tags to qualifying households
- \$50 cash benefit plus security deposit
- Toll tags can be reloaded online (with a credit or debit card), by mail, or at cash payment locations
- 7,000+ households could be served annually



Get FasTrak

» MY ACCOUNT » OVERVIEW

CURRENT BALANCE

\$50.00

REPLENISHMENT AMOUNT : \$25.00

THRESHOLD AMOUNT : \$15.00

ADD FUNDS

Alternative #2: Transit Benefit

\$50 Cash-On-Clipper Benefit

- Provide \$50 per year to eligible individuals as cash value on a Clipper Card for use on any regional transit service that accepts payment via Clipper
- 10,000 individuals could be served annually



Alternative #3: Place-Based Improvements

Biking, Walking, & Transit Safety Improvements

- Build safety improvements in historically disadvantaged communities in San Mateo County on the 101 Corridor
- Example projects:
 - Bike lanes, ADA ramps, new/modified traffic signals, bus shelters, intersection improvements
- Communities could apply for the funding



Alternative #4: Carpool Rewards Program

Cash Benefit for Carpool Trips

- Provide carpool cash benefit up to \$50 per year for qualifying individuals
- Both drivers and passengers eligible
- 10,000+ individuals could be served annually



Next Steps

Selection of a Preferred Alternative

- Analyze the four alternatives
- Solicit community and stakeholder input
- Select and recommend preferred alternative to JPA Board
- **JPA Board adoption: May 2021**
- Develop implementation plan

Virtual Community Meeting

When: Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 5:30-6:30 p.m.

- Opportunity for the public to provide input
- Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish, Cantonese & Mandarin
- Zoom and Call-in options to join,
<https://bit.ly/SMC101equity>
- Additional details can be found at:
www.smcta.com/101equity



Discussion Questions

- Which alternative would best meet the needs of the historically underserved communities you serve?
- Is there something you would change to make one (or all) of the alternatives more effective?
- What other types of programs or investments would be beneficial?
- What barriers could interfere with this program reaching those who need it the most?

Contact Information

Toll Policy & Equity Study

 smcta.com/101toll

 smcta.com/101equity


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