

LINK21

CONNECT NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

LINK21 VIRTUAL OFFICE HOUR SUMMARY

DRAFT FINAL

October 27, 2022 | 4:30-5:30 pm

Prepared By:
Link21 Engagement & Outreach Team (HDR)

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1. OVERVIEW

On Thursday, October 27, 2022, the Link21 Program hosted the third of four virtual Office Hours designed to provide the public an opportunity to engage with the program team. Office Hours were held from 4:30 to 5:30 pm via Zoom with closed captioning and simultaneous Spanish and Cantonese interpretation. A dial-in option was also available for those without internet access. One participant logged in via Zoom, while none used the dial-in option.

A recording of the October 27, 2022, session is posted on the [Link21 website](#).

1.1. Meeting Summary

The Office Hour was facilitated by Link21's Engagement and Outreach Manager, Kimberly Sims from HNTB. Ms. Sims began the meeting with general housekeeping items (e.g., notifying participants the meeting was being recorded and that interpretation and closed captioning were available), and proceeded to introduce the speaker panel:

- Camille Tsao, Link21 Program Lead, Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (CCJPA)
- Chester Fung, Link21 Planning & Engineering Delivery Manager, HNTB

Questions and answers as well as participant comments are summarized in the tables below.

Table 1-1. Questions and Answers

QUESTION	ANSWER
What does HNTB and CCJPA stand for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ HNTB is the founders' names ▫ CCJPA stands for Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (who manages the passenger rail service from the Bay Area to San Jose)
How is the Link21 region defined?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ The 21 county Northern California Megaregion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Sacramento and Yolo regions — Nine county Bay Area region — Northern San Joaquin Valley to the east — Monterey area to the south
How is the Program being funded?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ BART Measure RR funds ▫ Capitol Corridor funding from the state ▫ Future funding for Link21 is being explored at the state and federal levels
Can you provide any comments on land-value capture?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Land-value capture is the ability to capture value from an increase in land value after a rail line is completed



<p>Has there been any significant opposition to the project and what can I do to support Link21?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Currently unaware of any strong opposition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Some are hesitant because they heard it was a second BART crossing, but then heard it will serve the broader Bay Area so began to recognize the opportunities — You can help support by raising awareness, riding the train, and reaching out to elected officials
<p>Does 'value capture' include tax increment financing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Yes, this option might be considered since everything has not been figured out yet
<p>Will Link21 be operational in our lifetime? Which portions will be operational earlier?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Preparing for implementation by 2040 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Link21 recognizes the ambitious schedule and is trying to learn from past experiences, coming up with ways to avoid and/or address delays ▫ Since Link21 will include improvements beyond the crossing, less ambitious improvements will potentially be completed sooner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Extent of the improvements has not been defined
<p>How is Link21 coordinating with other megaprojects in the region?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Regular meetings with the project development team (includes transportation organization throughout the Bay Area) ▫ Working group for city organizations ▫ Technical coordination with specific projects ▫ Coordination at the state level ▫ Co-creation workshops with marginalized communities ▫ Link21 also implements part of the State Rail Plan
<p>Is there potential for developing a second track system within the Union Pacific right-of-way?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Ultimately up to Union Pacific ▫ Areas that come to mind are Emeryville, Richmond, and Sacramento ▫ Better to have dedicated passenger rail tracks, and would be great to do this between Oakland and San Jose
<p>Will Link21 have electrified trains?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Plan is for vehicles using Link21 infrastructure, especially the transbay crossing, to be zero-emission vehicles using either current or future technology ▫ Electrification of the entire regional rail system might be more difficult given right-of-way owned by freight companies
<p>If we cannot fund Link21 is the project cancelled?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Project team will continue to deliver and ensure resources are being used appropriately ▫ Exciting time for public infrastructure projects with the federal government's commitment to funding transportation ▫ Reasonable to hope Link21 might get additional funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Team is working to present a good case



How has feedback from equity-based workshops influenced Link21?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Equity is used as a lens to inform which concepts should move forward, ensuring there are benefits to local communities ▫ Link21 is working to identify and engage equity populations to get input through co-creation workshops with non-profit organizations throughout the Megaregion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Workshops have been eye-opening and helped bring to the forefront barriers to access
How do we go from a concept to a project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Phase 1 is about identifying and defining an actual project ▫ Narrowing down the potential concepts and define the project more specifically <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Geographic reach – General alignment – Potential station location ▫ Goal for example concepts is working toward a full list of concepts and sharpening the content with community input for more future planning stages
How has co-creation been eye-opening?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Co-creation has helped the team realize barriers to access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Train stations near home is not open in time to get to work – Riders with disabilities have difficulties they experience riding BART – Job seekers discouraged by long commute times ▫ Team is not necessarily looking at every instance of a barrier, but at the collective lived experience
Is Link21 considering transit-oriented development (TOD)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ BART is working to get TOD built on land they own ▫ Cities and their zoning laws are the final decision-makers ▫ Link21 continues to discuss TOD with city partners and will be part of the conversation bringing these projects forward

Table 1-2. Comments

COMMENTS
No comments



APPENDIX A. ZOOM TRANSCRIPT

This is a Zoom transcript of the meeting. Other than correcting spelling of names, content has not been changed or revised.

1

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:01.570

Just a few minutes.

2

00:00:03.660 --> 00:00:09.350

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Good evening, and thank you for joining us. We'll get started in just a few minutes. Thanks for standing by.

3

00:01:45.790 --> 00:01:50.069

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: We'll give it a couple of more minutes, and then we will go ahead and get started.

4

00:01:50.410 --> 00:01:51.580

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Thank you

5

00:02:53.630 --> 00:03:07.080

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: All right. Thanks for joining us today to discuss with the link, the Link21 program. My name is Kimberly Sims, and we are excited to connect with many of you for the first time, and welcome back those who have participated before

6

00:03:07.090 --> 00:03:15.380

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Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Today's virtual office hours is being offered as an opportunity for the public to ask questions to some of the program's technical staff.

7

00:03:15.880 --> 00:03:18.080

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: But before we get started

8

00:03:18.170 --> 00:03:28.459

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: with answering your questions we would like to take a moment to go over a few things with you, so that everyone on the phone or in the Zoom virtual meeting understands how to participate.

9

00:03:29.130 --> 00:03:43.449

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: To reach as many participants as possible. We are offering this meeting virtually on Zoom as well as participating via the telephone. The office hour session is being recorded and will be posted within a few days to the Link21 Program website.

10

00:03:44.400 --> 00:03:59.430

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: It is being hosted in English, Spanish, and Cantonese. In order to access the audio channel for any of these languages. Please click the interpretation button the globe. Icon in the Zoom task bar when it appears

11

00:04:01.040 --> 00:04:11.210

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: from there you will select your language from the menu. This message will be repeated in all languages, and then you will be able to join the audio channel, for that language.

12

00:04:11.580 --> 00:04:15.010



Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Closed captioning is also available as well.

13

00:04:15.110 --> 00:04:29.029

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: If you would like to use this option. Please click the CC Icon in the Zoom task bar and then select subtitles to view on screen or live transcript to see the full transcript on the side panel.

14

00:04:29.500 --> 00:04:43.490

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: If you need technical support, you can use the Q&A option. We invite our interpreters to repeat these instructions in Spanish and then Cantonese. First up is Clara, providing Spanish interpretation,

15

00:05:39.760 --> 00:05:59.020

Clara, Link21, Spanish Interpreter: Spanish Interpretation

16

00:06:06.460 --> 00:06:10.300

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: And now Weikuen, providing Cantonese interpretation,

17

00:07:28.040 --> 00:07:55.470

Weikuen Tang, Link21, Cantonese Interpreter: Cantonese Interpretation

18

00:07:55.480 --> 00:08:14.560

Weikuen Tang, Link21, Cantonese Interpreter: Cantonese Interpretation

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19

00:08:27.280 --> 00:08:31.829

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Thank you. We now invite participants to join me in

20

00:08:32.620 --> 00:08:40.380

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Thank you. We now invite participants to join the interpretation audio channel by clicking the interpretation button in the task bar.

21

00:08:41.200 --> 00:08:43.450

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Now let's meet today's panel.

22

00:08:46.740 --> 00:08:48.200

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Chester Fung

23

00:08:48.430 --> 00:08:55.689

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Chester is the Link21 planning and engineering delivery manager with HNTB. Chester, please introduce yourself.

24

00:08:56.360 --> 00:09:00.619

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Hello, everyone. Thank you for your time tonight looking forward to talking with you.

25

00:09:01.170 --> 00:09:18.609

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Thanks, Chester. And now we have Camille Tsao. Camille is the Link21 lead with CCJPA and Camille. If you can say hello for us.

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26

00:09:18.609--> 00:09:19.609

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Hi! Everybody! Thanks for being here and taking time this afternoon we look forward to your questions. Thank you. And now let's give the public an opportunity

27

00:09:19.860 --> 00:09:27.710

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: to ask questions. There are several ways to participate whether you are on the phone or sitting at your computer or mobile device

28

00:09:27.720 --> 00:09:40.149

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: for those joining via Zoom You may ask your questions verbally, or type them into the Q A box. You can access the Q&A box by clicking on the Q&A icon in the Zoom task Bar.

29

00:09:40.270 --> 00:09:55.830

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: If you prefer to ask your question verbally, you can raise your hand using the raised hand icon in the task bar. When I come to your turn, the Webinar host will grant you permission to speak upon which you can unmute and ask your question.

30

00:09:56.000 --> 00:10:09.100

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: If you're joining us via the toll-free dial in lines. You can raise or lower your hands by dialing star seven. The phone line manager will unmute you and record your question and add it to the queue.

31

00:10:09.310 --> 00:10:16.320

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Now off to our first question potential question. I'm sorry so for the Megaregion. Can we go to the next slide, please.



32

00:10:22.360 --> 00:10:40.720

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: I'm sorry. I think I have. Okay, I'm sorry. Here we go. We appreciate your participation in this webinar and want to remind you that there are other opportunities for engagement in the Link21 program, other teams. Our team is out in the community presenting, sharing information, and answering questions.

33

00:10:40.730 --> 00:10:58.590

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: You might see us at train stations, community events, or other places, and if you're interested in having the Link21 team present to your organization, please contact us via our telephone line at eight hundred and fifty-five, nine hundred and five L. I. N. K.

34

00:10:58.660 --> 00:11:10.029

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Our website is at [Link21program.org](https://link21program.org), and follow BART and Capitol Corridor on social media. Join the conversation with #Link21

35

00:11:12.350 --> 00:11:13.969

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: next slide, please.

36

00:11:24.310 --> 00:11:28.699

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: I think I am missing a piece of

37

00:11:28.820 --> 00:11:30.120

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: the script

38

00:11:34.830 --> 00:11:38.379



Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: so could I get uh another piece?

39

00:11:39.420 --> 00:11:49.629

Amber McGarvey, Link21, Phone/Interpretation Manager: Kimberly, We have a question in the Q A box. It's, we're just gonna go through the question and answer for the whole rest of the event.

40

00:11:49.950 --> 00:11:56.759

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: What does HNTB And CCJPA Stand for? Camille will give you that one.

41

00:11:58.390 --> 00:12:16.870

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um, HNTB. Is the name of the um consulting firm engineering firm. That is our our program management uh firm. I mean. Originally it stands for Howard, Needles, Tammen and and Bergendoff. But not many people know those names anymore. So HNTB usually just suffices.

42

00:12:16.880 --> 00:12:35.029

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um, and then CCJPA is the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority. So that is the organization that I'm with. And Capitol Corridor basically manages the uh passenger train service between the Sacramento area

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00:12:35.040 --> 00:12:38.000

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um down through the Bay Area to San Jose.

44

00:12:39.060 --> 00:12:54.670

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Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: That's great, Camille, because, you know, even though I work for HNTB. When people ask me what it stands for. I always say, Henry, Nancy, Tom, and that is not what it stands for. So look at you. You're doing really, really good.

45

00:12:55.140 --> 00:13:04.970

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: So we don't have any questions in the chat. But here's what I want to throw out at Camille and Chester. How is Link21 defining the Northern California Megaregion?

46

00:13:07.010 --> 00:13:21.870

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Well, um! We didn't define the Northern California megaregion. I don't know the first one was to but um we are defining it as the twenty-one county, Northern California Megaregion. Um,

47

00:13:22.040 --> 00:13:30.529

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: that goes, you know it's the it's the nine county Bay Area, and then uh to the North, you know, we have the

48

00:13:30.540 --> 00:13:51.479

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Yolo, Placer, Sacramento areas. Um, and then we have the Northern San Joaquin Valley um to the East, and then also down towards to the South we have uh the Monterey area. So that is the Northern the twenty-one county Megaregion.

49

00:13:52.330 --> 00:13:58.159

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: That's a pretty big area, I think we have about one hundred and sixty cities



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00:13:58.170 --> 00:14:18.720

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: and those um in those twenty-one counties that the program is responsible for engaging and getting involved in this particular program, you know. And speaking of that, um, you know one of the things that's really important to folks when you talk about these new transportation and infrastructure projects is funding.

51

00:14:18.730 --> 00:14:23.069

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: So how's the program being funded, and how much will it cost?

52

00:14:24.230 --> 00:14:32.730

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um. Well, currently, the program is being funded with a combination of BART's measure RR um money

53

00:14:32.770 --> 00:14:37.630

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: uh, as well as a contribution from the State

54

00:14:37.730 --> 00:14:50.409

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: uh the State. Capitol Corridor is the State funded uh service. So it it Um, The State funds Link21 through the Capitol Corridor Annual Budget.

55

00:14:50.580 --> 00:15:04.230

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um as far as the future, funding for Link21 we're exploring a number of different opportunities. Um, at the State and Federal levels. There's um a lot of new

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56

00:15:04.240 --> 00:15:16.720

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: uh funding that didn't exist before, so we're pretty excited. Um, you know, on the inner city passenger rail side there's a lot of great opportunities that we'd like to take advantage of um.

57

00:15:16.730 --> 00:15:29.240

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: But um! It's gonna take the combination of those, and also um perhaps value capture strategies in the future. Um, Perhaps some

58

00:15:29.350 --> 00:15:41.260

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: public-private partnerships. But we're not quite there yet. So first we're going to start with the State and Federal funding to, uh continue to progress the Program.

59

00:15:42.040 --> 00:15:57.470

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Now, Camille, you mentioned some terminology that our guests on the on the Webinar may not be familiar with. Can you tell us a little bit more about value capture, and how that could be used to to fund Link21.

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00:15:58.050 --> 00:16:05.440

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: So the the concept of value captures basically, you know, if you um

61

00:16:05.540 --> 00:16:23.370

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: bring a service, let's say either a new train service, or perhaps you greatly improve a service. Um, that the um property around the station where that new services being um provided



62

00:16:23.380 --> 00:16:29.710

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: that you are creating value uh that that there is additional value. Um!

63

00:16:29.770 --> 00:16:46.819

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Added to what was there before the service was improved. Um! And so the idea is that um! You can capture some of that value. The property owners kind of help pay into um.

64

00:16:46.930 --> 00:16:49.409

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Let's say you know some sort of

65

00:16:50.160 --> 00:16:51.660

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: improvement

66

00:16:51.850 --> 00:17:11.750

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: district, or or some sort of fund that then those funds can be used for other things. Um. But but the idea is the direct beneficiaries um meaning property owners of the extra value that's being created by rail. Then help fund some other improvements,

67

00:17:12.670 --> 00:17:17.790

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: and I see we have a hands up uh looks like Paul has a question.

68

00:17:18.010 --> 00:17:19.350

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Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Go ahead, Paul.

69

00:17:20.569 --> 00:17:32.719

Paul Bergamaschi: Um, hello! Thank you. Um! I dropped in just out of curiosity to see what was uh what was going on here. I attended the um.

70

00:17:33.210 --> 00:17:42.209

Paul Bergamaschi: I I guess I I don't know what you call it. I guess the open house yesterday. Um, So I had a couple of questions since. There doesn't seem to be a lot of

71

00:17:42.220 --> 00:17:54.590

Paul Bergamaschi: of participant activity here. I thought I'd just jump right in, Feel free to kick me out if I get obnoxious. Um! So I I'm wondering if um

72

00:17:55.200 --> 00:17:59.090

Paul Bergamaschi: I'm a rail enthusiast. So

73

00:17:59.200 --> 00:18:00.780

Paul Bergamaschi: the stuff that you're

74

00:18:00.960 --> 00:18:20.269

Paul Bergamaschi: um that you're looking at is just, I I think, is wonderful long overdue. We need more of this, and I'm wondering two things. One is, Has any any um significant opposition to the initiative emerged? I know we're in the early stages



75

00:18:20.280 --> 00:18:32.660

Paul Bergamaschi: and and the rubber Hasn't really hit the road yet, and the nimbys will come out in force at some point. Um! And what can um a rail enthusiast like me do to help

76

00:18:32.820 --> 00:18:35.730

Paul Bergamaschi: um support your initiative

77

00:18:35.920 --> 00:18:36.800

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: mhm

78

00:18:36.950 --> 00:18:38.899

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Camille? Do you want to take that one?

79

00:18:40.210 --> 00:18:44.000

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um Sure. And you know Chester you should chime in as well. Um,

80

00:18:44.330 --> 00:18:45.750

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: uh,

81

00:18:46.140 --> 00:18:52.379

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: there is there hasn't been any strong opposition that I'm aware of.

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82

00:18:52.460 --> 00:18:54.319

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um. I think

83

00:18:54.690 --> 00:18:57.760

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: a lot of what we've been doing is just

84

00:18:58.440 --> 00:19:08.509

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: spreading the word about what the program is about. I think um folks who had heard of it before had the impression that it was a second BART crossing, and then that was it.

85

00:19:08.720 --> 00:19:18.429

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: And so they're definitely, I think we're people that we're like, Hey, don't know if we really need that. Um! Is that really the best way to spend our

86

00:19:18.670 --> 00:19:32.910

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: our dollars? Um, I wouldn't call that strong opposition, but it was maybe more like lack of enthusiasm. Um! But when we share that we're really looking at more than just

87

00:19:32.970 --> 00:19:42.599

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um serving, you know more BART customers between Oakland and San Francisco that it's really much more than that. Um!

88

00:19:43.410 --> 00:19:50.199

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Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Then people get excited, and they see and understand the opportunities.

89

00:19:50.580 --> 00:19:51.910

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um!

90

00:19:52.250 --> 00:20:07.029

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: And what can you do as a rail enthusiast? Um! Well, you're doing some of it right now, which is participating in our process. I think you know, spreading the word, letting people know about

91

00:20:07.040 --> 00:20:13.039

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: the you know fact that you attended, and what you learned Um, and

92

00:20:13.400 --> 00:20:22.559

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know, riding the train I mean, we need to get. We need to get ridership back up. Um, obviously we need to provide the service that

93

00:20:22.730 --> 00:20:31.719

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: that you feel is um worthy of your time and and fair. But um, I think just writing the train getting out there

94

00:20:32.000 --> 00:20:47.220

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: telling people um about your experiences, making sure your elected officials um know that this is something that you care about and support are all right ways to show your support,

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95

00:20:50.440 --> 00:20:52.639

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: and I guess I can add in

96

00:20:53.160 --> 00:21:01.069

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: I I wouldn't say we've we've heard opposition um in the vein that I'm about to describe yet because we haven't quite gotten there.

97

00:21:01.270 --> 00:21:02.400

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um,

98

00:21:02.560 --> 00:21:20.209

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: yeah. But we we do know that there is definitely sensitivity to potential impacts. You know that uh to the community. Um, including things that might disrupt the You know the the neighborhoods that people live in. That might be,

99

00:21:20.220 --> 00:21:38.969

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: You know where some of the rail. Infrastructure improvements that we might propose could could go into uh and um, including, you know, during construction, you know. Maybe there there might be some disruption that Um, certainly we've. We've heard that the community, you know, may uh may be sensitive to

100

00:21:38.980 --> 00:21:40.329

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um. So

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101

00:21:40.370 --> 00:21:58.030

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: we we are incorporating that into our already into the development of of concepts that we may um propose as part of the program. Um, we are. We are considering um for the most part underground alignments for anything that's new.

102

00:21:58.450 --> 00:22:14.300

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um that that we might build um expressly, you know, not just to get under the the Bay, but um also, even on the up. You know the the two sides of the Bay to avoid those kinds of surface impacts that you know we know you know. Um

103

00:22:14.620 --> 00:22:19.109

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh could could negatively impact um communities.

104

00:22:19.200 --> 00:22:20.270

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um.

105

00:22:20.780 --> 00:22:38.229

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Construction definitely is is a, you know, something to really consider thoughtfully as well. And we're we are putting thought into that as well as we. You know, as we develop concepts, there's certainly more on that to come, especially as the physical um

106

00:22:38.240 --> 00:22:53.189

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: designs of our uh proposals start to come into sharper focus. So we'll certainly come back to that as as we go forward. But we are looking out

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for that, and we know that you know that that's going to be something that the community, um you know, is going to be sensitive to.

107

00:22:55.310 --> 00:23:14.769

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: And, Paul, I just want to chime in um to, you know. Make sure that you're grabbing your neighbors and your colleagues, and you're telling them about this program. Um that you're inviting them when you when you think you're going to come and and come to one of our public meetings, but also reach out to your elected officials,

108

00:23:14.780 --> 00:23:21.449

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: because, you know we are engaging the elected officials, so it'd be great if they could hear from some of their constituents,

109

00:23:21.490 --> 00:23:30.889

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: and I see that you've put a question in the chat Paul about value capture. Does value capture include tax increment financing.

110

00:23:34.280 --> 00:23:50.350

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: So I'm not a value capture expert. I know that tax increment financing is one of the tools in the value. Capture toolbox. Um! So yes, I mean it. It does include that. Um, and

111

00:23:50.360 --> 00:23:55.510

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know, Would it still be on the table? I imagine so, because you know, we haven't figured it all out yet.

112

00:23:55.720 --> 00:23:57.640

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Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um! So

113

00:23:58.630 --> 00:24:06.919

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: we'll use any tool at our disposal that we think is is going to be successful in in helping our program,

114

00:24:12.610 --> 00:24:20.369

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: all right, So we've talked a little bit about schedule. I'm sorry we talked a little about funding. Let's talk a little bit about schedule.

115

00:24:20.690 --> 00:24:26.489

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Chester is Link21 going to be operational in our lifetime?

116

00:24:27.290 --> 00:24:28.320

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Mhm

117

00:24:28.490 --> 00:24:30.629

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: I know that kind of question comes up

118

00:24:30.730 --> 00:24:48.869

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um immediately, for for many people when you're talking about such an ambitious, you know. Infrastructure project. Um! I like to think. Yes. In fact, our program is uh planning for uh implementation. Um by the year 2040. So we're expecting.

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119

00:24:48.880 --> 00:25:05.890

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Uh, if everything goes goes well and we're able to get through. You know our you know, uh Project Development Process, if we're able to line up the funding uh and all the other things that need to happen for this um, you know, uh for our our proposed concepts

120

00:25:05.900 --> 00:25:10.220

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: that, uh, by 2040 trains will be running. Um!

121

00:25:10.680 --> 00:25:18.219

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: We know that's ambitious in some ways. Given the history of infrastructure projects. But it's also

122

00:25:18.420 --> 00:25:19.270

yeah,

123

00:25:19.650 --> 00:25:38.069

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Yes, you know It's also eighteen years away. Um, and that's that's a pretty long time. So we're we've got that in mind, and we're We're trying, you know, as hard as we can to learn from the um the experience that we've had uh building infrastructure projects, and

124

00:25:38.080 --> 00:25:43.529

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: anticipating the challenges that they run into with regard to getting delayed.

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125

00:25:43.540 --> 00:26:01.190

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um, because we know that it happens. Uh there, there's a long process, and many points along the way can represent um potential delays. So we're We're trying to learn from um past experiences and and come up with ways to um, either, you know, not get

126

00:26:01.200 --> 00:26:09.290

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh stuck in those delays, or to, you know, really come up with a way to get through them um as as quickly as possible.

127

00:26:10.680 --> 00:26:16.400

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: I'd like to add to that. I think Link21 is um going to include

128

00:26:16.590 --> 00:26:25.130

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: multiple improvements more than just the crossing, and so crossing is definitely going to be a big lift. Um!

129

00:26:25.360 --> 00:26:26.410

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: But

130

00:26:26.550 --> 00:26:31.040

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: should we be able to implement some of the other

131

00:26:31.140 --> 00:26:40.380



Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: less ambitious improvements, we don't know what they are yet. But should we be able to implement some of the other improvements sooner, we would definitely

132

00:26:40.400 --> 00:26:44.999

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: to do that. So we we're going to be constantly looking for ways

133

00:26:45.040 --> 00:26:48.630

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: to deliver sooner or later, as Chester mentioned.

134

00:26:50.330 --> 00:27:00.210

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: So I I think you were about to say what I was going to say, which is, I think there's a follow up to to that which is um.

135

00:27:00.440 --> 00:27:06.770

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: So what Camille said? I think that the question is which portions could be operational earlier.

136

00:27:07.970 --> 00:27:09.060

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um,

137

00:27:09.970 --> 00:27:13.240

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: I can certainly aim at that first.



138

00:27:13.590 --> 00:27:15.030

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Uh the

139

00:27:15.560 --> 00:27:32.610

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: We can't say anything for sure at the moment, because we don't, we haven't yet defined the extent of the potential improvements. Uh, so I don't want to. Um, I I I can't we? We certainly can't say you know which ones we will will advance sooner. But I I'll say in general,

140

00:27:32.640 --> 00:27:43.700

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: there may be portions of um the improvements that are on uh uh surface alignments for for rail,

141

00:27:43.710 --> 00:28:02.759

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: and those likely could could be done sooner than the ones that are intel more infrastructure like the the tunnel um, you know, underground portions. So, um! We were definitely going to keep an eye out for that as we go forward, and as we identify the improvements Um!

142

00:28:02.770 --> 00:28:08.349

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: And we we are going to be thinking about which ones could be let you know um

143

00:28:08.830 --> 00:28:10.130

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh

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144

00:28:10.310 --> 00:28:12.919

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: done into, you know, broken into discrete

145

00:28:12.990 --> 00:28:22.020

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh pieces, and then um some pieces delivered sooner, and it's likely that you know some of the the ones that may be on the surface

146

00:28:22.290 --> 00:28:27.680

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: little further away from the crossing. Possibly um could be delivered soon.

147

00:28:28.670 --> 00:28:31.090

Oh, that's it. Um.

148

00:28:31.400 --> 00:28:35.310

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Our service runs on freight owned right of way.

149

00:28:35.770 --> 00:28:40.960

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: So a lot of timing questions depend on

150

00:28:41.120 --> 00:28:43.449

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: the approval

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151

00:28:43.500 --> 00:28:46.990

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: of uh improvements by

152

00:28:47.520 --> 00:28:56.250

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um, our landlord. So, um that part is not necessarily under our control. But, uh,

153

00:28:56.410 --> 00:29:03.770

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: we are going to do our best, and, you know, use the the working relationship that we have currently,

154

00:29:03.910 --> 00:29:11.490

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: uh with Union Pacific to, you know. Try to make sure that we get them involved. Um

155

00:29:11.750 --> 00:29:20.730

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: at the appropriate time, and in the discussions on on the improvements that we're looking at. We we have them on the on the Program, and

156

00:29:20.910 --> 00:29:23.489

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: they have a lot of um

157

00:29:24.100 --> 00:29:25.090

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: uh

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158

00:29:25.460 --> 00:29:27.289

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: projects to review,

159

00:29:27.320 --> 00:29:30.290

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: not to stars. So um

160

00:29:30.550 --> 00:29:36.899

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: they tend to. They tend to prioritize what's happening sooner as opposed to

161

00:29:37.300 --> 00:29:39.839

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: fifteen years from now. But um,

162

00:29:39.960 --> 00:29:47.539

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: anyways they are an important stakeholder of ours, and so, uh, definitely working with them is going to be an important part of

163

00:29:47.640 --> 00:29:50.130

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: delivering improvements

164

00:29:50.370 --> 00:29:52.479

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: sooner rather than later.

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165

00:29:57.010 --> 00:29:58.910

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: You know, As you both know

166

00:29:58.950 --> 00:30:11.219

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: there are a ton of infrastructure projects either underway or ongoing within the Megaregion. How is Link21 coordinating with those projects?

167

00:30:13.930 --> 00:30:16.149

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Well, I can start that

168

00:30:16.650 --> 00:30:20.940

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: we're coordinating with them in many different ways. Um,

169

00:30:21.440 --> 00:30:28.620

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: we have uh regular meetings of our program Development Team

170

00:30:29.050 --> 00:30:40.890

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um, which is comprised of many different real agencies and transportation planning agencies in the Megaregion.

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00:30:41.030 --> 00:30:54.209

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: We we interface with staff from those agencies as well as their executives Uh, meaning their executive director, general managers.

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172

00:30:54.310 --> 00:31:01.049

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um, We also have a working group of city representatives.

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00:31:01.220 --> 00:31:07.819

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: So uh again meet with them on a regular basis, just like with our other

174

00:31:08.100 --> 00:31:12.499

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Uh program development team Um. And

175

00:31:12.570 --> 00:31:17.659

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: and what's been really helpful, I think, in concept development is that

176

00:31:17.860 --> 00:31:26.739

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know, we we took a few examples. The ones that we've been showing to the public and our all outreach series. We

177

00:31:26.810 --> 00:31:29.760

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: we share them with our um

178

00:31:29.780 --> 00:31:32.740

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: public agency city stakeholders,

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179

00:31:32.840 --> 00:31:39.449

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um, and and got some really great feedback from them on those

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00:31:39.500 --> 00:31:57.229

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um. And then we also have some other, you know, technical coordination with specific projects. Um, and you know subsets of of our PDT. Um that maybe focus more on rail operations.

181

00:31:57.240 --> 00:32:16.089

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Or, for example, you know, projects in San Francisco. There's a lot of lot happening in in San Francisco, and so it requires pretty regular coordination with them, just to make sure we're all on the same page, and and um understand what's going on with each each each other's efforts.

182

00:32:16.190 --> 00:32:21.839

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um, you know, we also coordinate at the State level in California

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00:32:21.860 --> 00:32:35.039

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um State Transportation Agency Department of Rail and Mass transit um their key stakeholder. And all this, as as I think we've mentioned in previous presentations. We're

184

00:32:35.340 --> 00:32:38.940

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: we're implementing part of the State Rail Plan. And um,

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185

00:32:39.090 --> 00:32:42.799

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know, the State really wants to see a more integrated

186

00:32:42.950 --> 00:32:45.570

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: rail network as do we.

187

00:32:45.600 --> 00:32:51.409

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: And so we're, basically you know, slotting into the vision that they have. And so,

188

00:32:51.520 --> 00:32:55.329

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um. We're trying to make sure that whatever we're doing is

189

00:32:55.710 --> 00:33:03.570

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um furthering. You know the goals that they have to improve rail service in in the State. Um!

190

00:33:04.370 --> 00:33:16.709

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: There's a lot of other important stakeholders that we interface with. Uh elected officials briefing elected officials um doing public outreach uh working with

191

00:33:16.790 --> 00:33:33.280

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Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: uh marginalized communities through our um creation workshops. Um and lots. That's more. I'll add the rail operators to that, too, uh Caltrain

192

00:33:33.550 --> 00:33:38.280

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: others.

193

00:33:38.620 --> 00:33:39.570

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um.

194

00:33:39.590 --> 00:33:40.590

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: So

195

00:33:40.910 --> 00:33:43.849

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um lots of coordination happening,

196

00:33:45.810 --> 00:33:49.549

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Thanks, Camille and Chester. So we've got another question from Paul.

197

00:33:49.710 --> 00:33:57.080

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: The question is, is there potential for developing a second track system within the up right of way.

198

00:33:58.300 --> 00:34:05.379

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Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: So I think you're you're asking if it would be if there's a possibility to create a dedicated

199

00:34:05.550 --> 00:34:09.540

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: passenger track way within up right away.

200

00:34:09.750 --> 00:34:23.309

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um, Well, that's ultimately up to up. But I think where the right of way is wide enough. Uh and where there is a need for more capacity, because we're

201

00:34:23.360 --> 00:34:39.529

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: proposing to increase service levels. Uh yes, I mean, that's certainly something that we'd like to look at and propose. Um. You know areas that we that come to mind specifically are like between.

202

00:34:39.540 --> 00:34:57.790

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: And we Bill, enrichment that that area with with the service that we're thinking about, you know, coming from the Peninsula, crossing over to the East Bay. Uh, in addition to the service we've got from Sacramento increasing that service. And that section is really gonna need more capacity. It would be great

203

00:34:57.800 --> 00:35:07.889

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: if we could have dedicated passenger tracks as well as dedicated freight tracks instead of sharing the two that are there now. So Um!

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00:35:08.340 --> 00:35:12.440



Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: That's something we definitely want to look at, and uh,

205

00:35:12.490 --> 00:35:26.369

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know, it would also be great to do it, You know, between Oakland and San Jose I don't know um what the possibility is there. I mean, we we have our South Bay Connect project going on right now. Capitol Corridor Um,

206

00:35:26.380 --> 00:35:33.679

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Which basically was looking at having free. Use one subdivision and have the passenger trains use the other.

207

00:35:33.790 --> 00:35:40.130

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um. So we're already starting to look at that opportunity in some locations.

208

00:35:40.350 --> 00:35:41.430

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um,

209

00:35:41.470 --> 00:35:46.390

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: But yeah, it uh it would be, I think, very challenging to do that,

210

00:35:47.030 --> 00:35:54.180

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know, in an entire uh in the entire stretch um of our corridor, which is one hundred and seventy miles,

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211

00:35:54.660 --> 00:36:03.120

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: but for the the areas that are most congested, or that we need that for our future capacity we are definitely looking at.

212

00:36:04.580 --> 00:36:06.409

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Did I miss anything, Chester?

213

00:36:08.600 --> 00:36:11.009

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Nope, I think that that covers it

214

00:36:12.500 --> 00:36:32.199

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: All right. Gang We are about halfway through our office hours session. Um, there's still time to to ask questions. Either put them in the chat or raise your hands, and we will get you live and on the air to ask Camille and Chester questions about the Link21 program.

215

00:36:32.830 --> 00:36:47.540

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Um question that I may have is, you know, a lot of times. We think about the environment we think about um zero emission train vehicles. Um, So will Link21 have electrified trains.

216

00:36:51.860 --> 00:36:52.930

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um!

217

00:36:53.030 --> 00:36:57.220

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: I can I can take that one at least uh to start with Um,

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218

00:36:57.600 --> 00:36:58.649

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh,

219

00:36:58.930 --> 00:37:02.429

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: we we do expect, and we are planning for

220

00:37:02.450 --> 00:37:18.180

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: the the vehicles that use the Link21 um uh infrastructure the rail, you know, rails that we we would put in as part of the the concept that we're developing. We expect them to be zero emission vehicles uh

221

00:37:18.390 --> 00:37:21.370

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: meaning they they won't be diesel.

222

00:37:21.620 --> 00:37:39.580

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: There are uh uh technologies that are available today, and that are continuing to develop that would allow for uh trains to operate, even if they don't have access to electric power all along the um the right of way.

223

00:37:39.590 --> 00:37:58.040

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: So allow them to operate. You know ones that are battery-powered ones that have hydrogen as their fuel source. Um! So those are the kinds of trends that we're looking at um and us, and and looking forward to um, having use the infrastructure. Use. Use the new crossing that we would put in

224

00:37:58.050 --> 00:38:12.520

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Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um. We know that um full electrification of the entire regional rail system, you know, including, you know, Capitol Corridors. Alignment, as Camille was already just talking about a little earlier

225

00:38:12.620 --> 00:38:28.509

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: is owned by uh Freight. Freight companies. And uh, you know, there are potential uh challenges to putting up um the electric infrastructure for, uh, all of those rights of way. Um,

226

00:38:28.660 --> 00:38:37.639

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: but that doesn't stop us from having trains that can operate, you know, bringing their own power source along

227

00:38:37.790 --> 00:38:51.219

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um, so that in the tunnel in the in the transbay crossing, at least uh it won't be a, you know diesel train putting out emissions in in the tunnel. Um, we're looking at a next generation of

228

00:38:51.230 --> 00:39:04.109

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: of greener uh vehicles that, you know, are gonna perform. We think much, much better than you know the current vehicles that you see uh operating Um, for you know, regional rail these days

229

00:39:06.100 --> 00:39:13.570

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: when Caltrain starts its service with this new electrified fleet, everyone should go, ride,

230

00:39:13.710 --> 00:39:15.529



Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: and check out that

231

00:39:16.490 --> 00:39:23.109

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: uh that new fleet, and feel what that's like, because that is the future of

232

00:39:23.280 --> 00:39:25.899

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: regional rail. Um!

233

00:39:26.340 --> 00:39:29.480

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: It's much higher performing

234

00:39:29.840 --> 00:39:34.179

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Greener vehicles are lighter um.

235

00:39:34.670 --> 00:39:41.469

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: And so we anticipate that that's what regional rail is gonna feel like

236

00:39:41.600 --> 00:39:47.120

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um. So it's going to be a much better passenger experience for folks.

237

00:39:50.230 --> 00:39:51.720

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Thanks, Camille

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238

00:39:52.800 --> 00:39:56.380

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: going back to a funding question here.

239

00:39:56.510 --> 00:39:57.720

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: So

240

00:39:58.010 --> 00:40:05.389

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: if we are not going to be a if for some reason we are not able to fund Link21. Does that mean that the project is cancelled.

241

00:40:09.670 --> 00:40:20.689

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Wow. I mean, that's usually true for most things. Um,

242

00:40:21.070 --> 00:40:27.180

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: I think we're just gonna keep working hard to make sure we continue to fund the Program.

243

00:40:27.320 --> 00:40:31.770

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: But um, yeah, Nothing's a guarantee in life.

244

00:40:31.830 --> 00:40:45.460

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: We just need to. We need to just stay focused. Do our jobs uh make sure we're delivering that we need to deliver. Use Use what we've got as efficiently as possible.

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245

00:40:45.590 --> 00:40:46.910

Um,

246

00:40:47.560 --> 00:40:50.589

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: yeah, And I I I will say that um,

247

00:40:50.690 --> 00:41:08.280

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: I mean, now is actually quite a you know it. It's quite an exciting time actually, for uh, uh, for public infrastructure projects in general, because the Federal Government is, you know, has made a big commitment to supporting um infrastructure in in a

248

00:41:08.290 --> 00:41:25.480

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: you know, much higher um in a much bigger way than before. There are um coming. Grant programs um from the Federal Government that um Link21 would actually be quite well positioned for, and we are um you know we're working hard to

249

00:41:25.490 --> 00:41:41.670

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um, you know, present as as good a case as possible to to get some of that funding. Um, Yeah, the uh. So we we, We have reason to be hopeful that we'll be able to get additional funding. Um,

250

00:41:41.680 --> 00:41:57.260

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: you know, even just to to keep going with the program and develop, you know, develop um improvements to the point where they their shovel ready. Uh, there is now, you know there's There's starting to be more federal support for getting to that point which

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251

00:41:57.270 --> 00:42:12.759

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: we we think is a good thing. And certainly there's been that amount of support on the highway side from, you know, State and Federal sources before, and there's always been. And if it's imbalance of you know, funding available for developing transit projects.

252

00:42:12.770 --> 00:42:25.059

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um, that's one of the things that I think that the Federal Government is really looking out for at this point is trying to support, you know, developing transit projects. Um, at least at a you know, a higher level than before.

253

00:42:29.560 --> 00:42:47.190

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Not, Chester. I want to turn a little bit. You've been working a lot with the concepts and the development of the concepts. And one thing Um, that link twenty-one. That's been unique about you, Link21 is our foundation of equity, and we do know that the Program has

254

00:42:47.830 --> 00:43:00.330

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: hosted a series of co-creation workshops. Can you tell us a little bit about how feedback from those workshops have been incorporated into the work that you're doing?

255

00:43:01.480 --> 00:43:14.659

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Yeah, and i'll. I'll say, just in general that um we certainly in on Link21 are are really trying to pay a lot of attention to equity, and we're trying to do it in a number of different ways,

256

00:43:14.730 --> 00:43:31.490



Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: one of which is Um, we're. We're trying to build in more consideration of equity issues in the concept development, process and do analysis that helps us understand what the equity outcomes of our concepts might be.

257

00:43:32.240 --> 00:43:51.710

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um, So that's kind of like an analysis thing where we identify. You know, equity populations that we really are are trying to be looking out for. And um, you know, trying to make sure that those populations benefit from the concepts and the service improvements that we're, we're incorporating

258

00:43:51.720 --> 00:44:09.730

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um at least as much of the general population overall the total population. So we're able to have that um kind of um look into, you know, and that lens into the to help inform which concepts we might move forward.

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00:44:09.740 --> 00:44:13.759

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um! And so that's one way. So you know there's some analysis there

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00:44:13.910 --> 00:44:25.910

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: and then the other way is, you know, analysis might tell you. Um, you know some of those kinds of um uh insights, but you know, nothing really does beat

261

00:44:26.360 --> 00:44:40.579

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: hearing from people who have that lived experience in their everyday lives. And um uh, you know there, and can tell us about You know what are their pain points with regard to transportation

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262

00:44:40.590 --> 00:44:58.320

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: in their community, And what would we? What they see, you know, would really be beneficial. So we do have a program, and we're spending a lot of effort on um engaging, identifying with and engaging uh equity populations

263

00:44:58.330 --> 00:45:00.660

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh, so that we can get that input

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00:45:00.730 --> 00:45:19.689

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um. Some of our uh, some of those efforts are have been um through uh a set of what we call co-creation workshops that we've held um with uh in partnership with um uh nonprofit organizations across the Megaregion,

265

00:45:20.140 --> 00:45:23.080

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: and we've done. We've started by doing things like

266

00:45:23.220 --> 00:45:36.019

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um coming to those um, those events and asking for input on You know what? You know, what exactly what I was talking about, You know What are the problems that you see in your your community?

267

00:45:36.050 --> 00:45:39.509

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: What do you think would really help in terms of transportation?

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268

00:45:39.550 --> 00:45:57.099

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: and we've also started to dialogue about If we want to set out some goals and objectives for the Link21 program that will actually um be the guiding light for the concepts that we develop. You know we we're gonna

269

00:45:57.110 --> 00:46:10.850

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: target and shape concepts that address the goals and objectives, and we'll be evaluating those uh concepts um relative to their performance in achieving those goals and objectives.

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00:46:10.860 --> 00:46:23.850

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: So we've actually started a dialogue with the community about: Are these the right goals and objectives? Um for the Link21 Program, And we've been able to get that input so that we can fine-tune the goals and objectives.

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00:46:23.920 --> 00:46:32.770

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: as as we, you know, turn them into an evaluation frame that um is going to be used to uh evaluate the concepts.

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00:46:36.240 --> 00:46:40.090

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: right. Thank you so much, Chester. It's um.

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00:46:40.560 --> 00:46:57.859

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: I think our co-creation workshops have been very eye opening and help us, as you said earlier, to learn about folks in their barriers to uh to access. And what's going to be important to them moving forward because that's going to be very important, because we are building the system



274

00:46:57.870 --> 00:47:15.529

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: uh for the people of the Megaregion. So we need to know exactly what they need and what their barriers to access are. I want to go back to talk a little bit about concepts. So you know, we've been working, The program team has been working um for a long time now. Uh, for about two years now,

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00:47:15.710 --> 00:47:23.629

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: and we've uh working on concepts. So how do we get from a concept to an actual project?

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00:47:28.620 --> 00:47:30.800

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um, Well,

277

00:47:31.060 --> 00:47:43.790

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: So that is the goal of the current phase of the Program, the what we call Phase One of the Link21 Program is: at the end of Phase One

278

00:47:44.030 --> 00:47:47.759

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Our goal is to identify and define

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00:47:47.850 --> 00:47:55.080

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: an actual project that then at that point would go into an environmental um

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00:47:55.150 --> 00:47:59.359



Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: documentation process and analysis and review process

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00:47:59.460 --> 00:48:04.969

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: as per the you know the regulatory requirements.

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00:48:05.360 --> 00:48:17.119

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um! And so what we are trying to do in order to get there is to um start with, you know, a wide range of potential

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00:48:17.160 --> 00:48:22.740

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: concepts. Um for uh

284

00:48:23.290 --> 00:48:27.569

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: regional rail crossings of the Bay and for BART crossings of the Bay,

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00:48:27.820 --> 00:48:40.110

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: and to start evaluating those concepts. Um! According to those goals, and object their ability to achieve the goals and objectives that I was just talking about,

286

00:48:40.150 --> 00:48:58.659

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh go through that evaluation process. Do some refinement so that we can improve and ref, you know, refine the concepts, and improve how they how they do with regard to the goals and objectives. Um, and then start to narrow down some choices. Um

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287

00:48:58.670 --> 00:49:13.709

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh, so that we can define uh a project to find kind of the extent of the project geographically. Uh define um. You know what the uh

288

00:49:13.840 --> 00:49:17.430

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: the align, the general alignments of the the project

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00:49:17.530 --> 00:49:24.549

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: some potential station locations. Um. So those are all things that would go into

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00:49:24.680 --> 00:49:33.860

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: the definition of the project that we would present at Stage Gate 2 which is the the end of the Phase One process that we're we're in right now.

291

00:49:34.240 --> 00:49:49.689

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um, So that's what our our work in front of us is uh, and we're at the point where we've defined a few example concepts that we've. You know we're sharing this fall uh Our next step is to get to a full list of potential concepts.

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00:49:50.000 --> 00:50:09.340

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Then we'll go through that evaluation process as I mentioned. We'll start to screen things out. We're select to refine things Um! And uh, the alignments and this potential station locations and the extent of our project uh concepts. Uh, and you know the goal is to get those

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00:50:09.410 --> 00:50:17.200

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: sharpened um to to the point where we can, We can get um. We can identify a project

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00:50:17.340 --> 00:50:19.880

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: ready to go into the environmental process,

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00:50:19.990 --> 00:50:33.249

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: I will mention that. Um, We are not necessarily looking to get exact in this Phase, like we are not looking to select an exact alignment. It's gonna go down this street and not that street.

296

00:50:33.480 --> 00:50:34.689

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Um!

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00:50:34.850 --> 00:50:40.100

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: And the station's gonna be at the corner of this street in that street, and not the corner of the other street.

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00:50:40.710 --> 00:50:51.240

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Those are decisions that we can still have some flexibility in uh, you know. So we we're um, you know, if if there are

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00:50:51.280 --> 00:51:05.530

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: community, if there's community input about that, you know, we want to hear about that. Um, we want to be clear that we don't need, and

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we're not going to make any decisions. Final decisions about that in this phase we're going to um get the general

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00:51:06.160 --> 00:51:14.980

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: uh concept defined and ready to move to environmental where that's where the more specific decisions and conversations are going to have.

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00:51:17.140 --> 00:51:30.270

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: We got another question in the chat, and this goes back to our conversation about co-creation. Um co-creation feedback, eye opening in what way and can you give some specific examples?

302

00:51:31.620 --> 00:51:42.539

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: and I can. I can kick this off a little bit, Chester. Um, because I I did actually um get an opportunity to sit in one of the co-creation workshops, and I think a lot of times.

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00:51:42.580 --> 00:51:44.700

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: There are things that we just

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00:51:45.210 --> 00:52:04.739

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: just take for granted. Right? Um, but they are really um barriers for other people. Um, one person um that was in my workshop. Talked about having to be uh at work very early in the morning. However, you know, there was a train station that was close to her house,

305

00:52:04.750 --> 00:52:18.189



Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: but it didn't open, or the trains weren't starting to run until a certain time later than what she needed, so she has to go a little bit further out to catch a train to get to work at the time that she needed to get to work.

306

00:52:18.220 --> 00:52:20.369

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: So those things um,

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00:52:20.380 --> 00:52:49.849

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: you know I I don't think that we're necessarily always thinking about because it's her it lived experience if we, if I did not have that lived experience that would not be um something that would be top of mind for me, because I'm thinking there's always going to be a train ready for me. Um Wherever, whenever I need to leave, the train is going to be available for me to take. I may have to wait a few minutes, but it's going to be there, but in some instances, you know, there's a time where

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00:52:49.860 --> 00:52:58.720

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: things have to be adjusted. But I know that Camille and Chester also sat in on some of those workshops would love to hear your feedback as well.

309

00:52:59.090 --> 00:53:08.999

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Yeah, I mean some of the things that I learned in the workshops. I was in um. There was one that was a you know, for folks in the

310

00:53:09.120 --> 00:53:19.249

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Central Valley, Northern San Joaquin Valley, and in this one may not be as eye opening like. But um, you know, just hearing someone talk about



311

00:53:19.280 --> 00:53:24.490

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: wanting to find employment, but just um not

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00:53:24.540 --> 00:53:42.150

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: considering employment in the Bay Area, because just thinking about the commute time it would take for them to travel to and from work, and how onerous that would be. Um, And it just, you know, made me realize that

313

00:53:42.200 --> 00:53:57.419

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: when you live closer to jobs that you know obviously that allows you more opportunities, It gives you more time um to do other things like spend time with your family or others. Um,

314

00:53:57.500 --> 00:54:14.510

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: if you're not spending so much time, you know, in your car, just trying to get from place to place. I know that's more obvious to folks. But just hearing from people that were even further away outside the Bay Area looking for employment in Bay Area. You know, I really

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00:54:14.520 --> 00:54:19.220

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: empathize with them. Um! And also there was another workshop I was in, where

316

00:54:19.610 --> 00:54:32.329

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: there were folks who um had a disabilities, and just like during the experience of a blind person who tries, you know, does use BART

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317

00:54:32.340 --> 00:54:59.360

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um, and how challenging that can be sometimes. Um. And like, Kimberly said, you know, we just take for granted. Okay, we can just Oh, our for my trains coming. I'm just gonna run up to the station or now I can. I can read the signs? Um, I don't. I don't need the audio to tell me that a train is coming. It just all these little things and experiences just remind you that your passenger experience could be very different from someone else's

318

00:54:59.370 --> 00:55:06.750

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um, And you know we need to try and consider um as many of those as possible,

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00:55:10.170 --> 00:55:12.109

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: just for anything to add.

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00:55:14.060 --> 00:55:18.020

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: I think nothing else that comes to mind at the moment.

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00:55:18.700 --> 00:55:34.820

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Alright, we've got five more minutes um before we before we close down, we have another question from Paul is Link21 considering transit oriented development or our separate initiatives looking at those possibilities?

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00:55:36.900 --> 00:55:39.890

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um: yeah. So um,



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00:55:40.830 --> 00:56:00.650

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know, BART um owns its stations. And uh a lot of times, if those stations have parking lots, then BART owns the land. Um! Where those parking lots are, and has been working for many years with the cities.

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00:56:00.660 --> 00:56:16.070

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um. In which those stations are located to um get transit or into development built um in those locations. So um Link21 currently isn't exploring TOD.

325

00:56:16.080 --> 00:56:33.569

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: But um Mark continues to work on that um, and as we engage with our city partners, uh, and you know, are considering possible um new station locations,

326

00:56:33.580 --> 00:56:47.720

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know. That is part of the conversations, because the cities frankly have the control over whether a TOD project could be built in their jurisdiction, their zoning dictates.

327

00:56:47.730 --> 00:57:03.340

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: You know that the height and use of these developments, and whether there's parking requirements, et cetera, et cetera. So really, the cities are the decision makers in that in that arena. Um.

328

00:57:04.170 --> 00:57:23.320

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Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: And um, you know, there there has been um state uh efforts at the State level to um. Basically give more, I guess. Authority for um for transit agencies to, you know,

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00:57:23.420 --> 00:57:24.490

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: um

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00:57:24.540 --> 00:57:42.329

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: build or develop TOD. And areas, but you know it can be very contentious. There are people who don't want to see very dense development in their cities. They're worried about traffic. They're worried that it may increase crime or whatever. And

331

00:57:42.340 --> 00:57:54.740

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: you know these things may or may not be true. Um, but uh, TOD in general can be, you know, a a contentious issue. Um, in local jurisdictions.

332

00:57:54.790 --> 00:58:01.110

Camille Tsao, Link21, Panelist: Um. So you know, we're gonna continue to work with our agents, our city partners.

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00:58:01.420 --> 00:58:15.419

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: Yeah. Sorry. Sorry to interrupt. I was just gonna say I think that's a I mean, that's a great question, you know. Certainly, if we're going to invest so much money, you know, as we're talking about in in transit infrastructure,

334

00:58:15.490 --> 00:58:26.909

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Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: we want it to be effective, and the ways that for it to be effective are for it to be supported by all the land use around it. So that is granted. You know what Camille said, is absolutely right. The

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00:58:27.220 --> 00:58:35.210

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: The cities are in charge of land use, you know, not Link21. Link21 can't, doesn't have any power to affect that,

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00:58:35.250 --> 00:58:48.459

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: but we know it's crucially important. And so we are, that's one of the topics that we are working with the city partners uh with um about, and we're going to continue to

337

00:58:49.230 --> 00:59:08.229

Chester Fung, Link21, Panelist: um. Keep those considerations in mind as we as we develop the concepts. Where stations might go. You know what might happen around stations that all needs to be part of the conversation, as we bring a project forward because um it won't be successful if it's not supported by land use.

338

00:59:13.380 --> 00:59:26.709

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: all right. Well, we're at 5:29. Um one more minute left and I guess we will we'll start to shut things down. If we could get to the last slide, please.

339

00:59:27.030 --> 00:59:44.509

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: We appreciate everyone's participation in this Webinar and want to remind you that there are other opportunities for engagement in the Link21 program. We have one more uh public meeting series left, a public meeting left, and that's going to be on November the sixteenth,



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00:59:44.520 --> 01:00:02.289

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: and it will be uh focused on San Francisco. And then, immediately the day after, on November seventeenth, we will have at office hours another event similar to this one. So again, our team is out in the communities, presenting sharing information and answering questions.

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01:00:02.300 --> 01:00:16.410

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: You might see us at train stations, community events, or other places, and if you're interested in having the Link21 team present to your organization again, please contact us via Our telephone line at one eight hundred and fifty-five,

342

01:00:16.420 --> 01:00:29.610

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: nine hundred and five L. I. N. K. That's one eight hundred and fifty-five, nine hundred and five I. I. N. K. You can also visit our website Link21 program dot org.

343

01:00:29.620 --> 01:00:46.599

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: And of course we are on social media. You can visit BART or Capitol Corridor accounts on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram join the conversation by using hashtag Link twenty-one again. Oh, I'm sorry. I think I missed a question

344

01:00:46.660 --> 01:00:50.869

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: trying to shut it. Down thirty seconds early. Hold on one second.

345

01:00:51.480 --> 01:00:54.710

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Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: My mouse is not cooperating. Here, Here we go.

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01:00:55.550 --> 01:01:12.519

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: Oh, Paul is just saying Thank you. Well, thank you, Paul. We appreciate all of your questions. We want to thank Roland for being here. He's been with us Um, pretty much for every one of these events, and we appreciate him being here and asking great questions,

347

01:01:12.530 --> 01:01:25.539

Kimberly Sims, Link21, Facilitator: and so we will see you next time. Again Link21program, dot org Visit our website, Learn more about the program and see what we're going to be at in the community. Thanks, everyone. Enjoy your evening.

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