





A Transformative Program for Northern California

Link21 aims to create a faster, more connected, equitable, and accessible network of train service that cares for people, the environment, and our quality of life for generations to come. At the core of Link21 is a new train crossing between Oakland and San Francisco that will:

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Increase connections between affordable housing and high-quality jobs
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Enable fast, frequent, reliable, safe, and accessible rail service
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Improve air quality by creating alternatives to driving
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Meet the future travel demands of Northern California's growing, diverse population

The 21-county Northern California Megaregion ranges from Sacramento to Monterey, San Francisco to the Central Valley, as well as points in between. Home to more than 12.7 million people, the Megaregion is the fifth largest economy in the United States. The population is expected to reach 14.9 million by 2050. Travel demands across the Megaregion are expected to increase sharply in the coming decades.



For more information, visit Link21Program.org

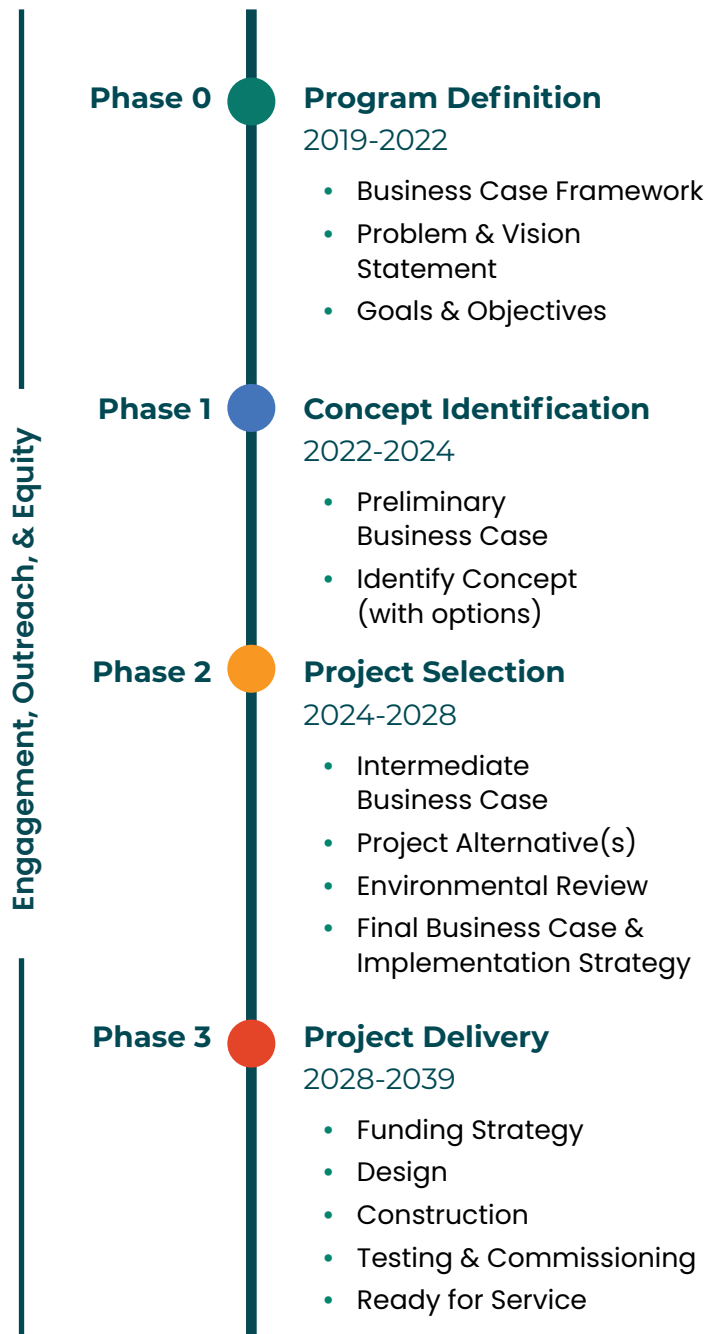


Looking Toward Recovery

While the pandemic has changed employment trends and impacted travel patterns, Northern California's freeway system is congested and nearing capacity similar to pre-pandemic traffic. The shift toward remote work, plus the high cost of living in the Bay Area, has resulted in residents moving farther away from the urban core, placing more demands on our transportation network. This new reality, our region's population projections, and the strong need we have heard from our communities for improved train service during non-commute hours for travel beyond just work, are driving planning efforts for Link21.

To meet evolving needs, Link21 will continually assess long-term travel patterns and market trends to measure the viability of a second train crossing of the San Francisco Bay and other rail improvements. In 2023, concepts will be analyzed based on future travel scenarios that consider factors like remote work patterns, land use changes, and increased freeway tolling.

Program Phases



Program Goals and Objectives

The following four goals reflect the broad benefits that will be achieved by this program. The foundational goal—**transform the passenger experience**—serves as the catalyst to enable the other three goals to come to fruition.



Transform the Passenger Experience

- Provide better service
- Improve reliability and system performance
- Build ridership and mode share



Promote Equity and Livability

- Connect people and places
- Improve safety, health, and air quality
- Advance equity and protect against community instability and displacement



Support Economic Opportunity and Global Competitiveness

- Improve access to opportunity and employment
- Connect major economic, research, and education centers
- Enable transit-supportive and equitable land use



Advance Environmental Stewardship and Protection

- Increase climate change resilience
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Conserve resources

Our Commitment to Equity

We are committed to equitable engagement and seeking input from historically marginalized communities to inform the development of a future Link21 Program to provide enhance train service. We will collaborate with communities to understand the lived experiences of community members, and work toward beneficial Program processes and outcomes. Link21 commits to:

- Implementing a process that advances equity through all Program aspects
- Investing in accessible and accountable community engagement
- Partnering with communities that have been marginalized to minimize impacts and maximize benefits
- Ensuring disadvantaged and small businesses are key participants in Link21's development

Link21 is sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) and the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (Capitol Corridor). The Link21 Team is also working closely with our Northern California rail partners and the state of California to ensure an integrated rail program.



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