



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** John Ristow

**SUBJECT: MTC HORIZON INITIATIVE  
CALL FOR TRANSFORMATIVE  
TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

**DATE:** August 24, 2018

Approved

Date

8-24-18

## INFORMATION

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform the Mayor and City Council of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Horizon Initiative Call for Transformative Projects, and to provide the opportunity for City Council Offices to suggest additional ideas and potential projects beyond the draft list of projects in the Attachment to this memorandum.

The MTC and Association of Bay Area Governments are initiating the process of developing the next Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy, known as Plan Bay Area 2050. As part of this process, MTC put out a request "for thoughtful transportation projects that would have a transformative impact on the future of Bay Area communities - projects that truly change how we get around the region." This request is open to all public agencies and the general public at large. This MTC Horizon Initiative offers the opportunity for the City of San José to put forward visionary transportation project ideas for consideration.

MTC's Plan Bay Area 2050 team has requested only conceptual level information on projects to allow an unconstrained flow of transformative ideas. The ideas collected through the request will constitute a regional brainstorming on transformative transportation projects. A select few ideas will be incorporated into the final Plan Bay Area planning and analysis process. MTC's guidelines for submission are as follows:

- Transit projects that improve capacity, frequency or coverage; have a lifecycle cost exceeding \$1 billion; and were not evaluated in Plan Bay Area 2040
- Roadway projects that improve capacity; have a lifecycle cost exceeding \$1 billion; and were not evaluated in Plan Bay Area 2040
- Projects that make existing transportation infrastructure more resilient to rising sea levels or seismic hazards [no cost threshold]
- Operational strategies with transformative regional impacts, such as all-lane tolling or transit fare simplification [no cost threshold]

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
August 24, 2018  
Subject: MTC Horizon Initiative  
Page 2

**Process for Developing and Submitting List of Ideas/Projects to MTC**

The Department of Transportation's Planning Team, working with other City departments, select neighboring cities, regional transportation agencies, and transportation partners brainstormed potential large transportation ideas and transformative projects, that from the City's perspective, would help advance our land use, economic, environmental, transportation and quality of life goals and initiatives. Based upon that information and input, a preliminary list of transit, roadway, bike/trail and other ideas/projects were assembled. The attachment to this report represents the current preliminary list of ideas/projects, for which staff is developing the conceptual level project descriptions required for the submittal to MTC.

If City Council Offices have questions about the list, or have ideas/projects that they would like to be considered, they should contact Ramses Madou, Interim Division Manager in the Department of Transportation at 408-975-3283 by Friday, August 31. Staff can verify if an idea/project was previously evaluated in Plan Bay Area 2040. Submissions are due to the MTC by September 6, 2018.

Staff will present the final submitted list to MTC at the September 10, 2018 Transportation and Environment Committee as part of the Regional Transportation Quarterly Activities Report.

/s/  
JOHN RISTOW  
Acting Director of Transportation

For questions, please contact Ramses Madou, Interim Division Manager for the Department of Transportation, at 408-975-3283.

Attachment





**DRAFT**

<b>MTC Horizon Initiative Project Ideas</b>	
<b><u>Transit - New Services</u></b>	
<b>Stevens Creek Rapid Transit Line - Downtown to De Anza College/Apple</b>	High speed, high capacity, grade separated system from the Diridon Station area to De Anza College along the West San Carlos-Stevens Creek Corridor. Coordinating with Cities of Cupertino, Santa Clara and VTA to jointly submit this project.
<b>South Bay Subway System</b>	Extensive expansion of county high capacity transit system with new routes serving major destinations throughout San Jose and the county. Concept also includes improvements to current system such as undergrounding the existing Downtown and 1 <sup>st</sup> St. light rail corridors.
<b>Diridon Station</b>	Implementation of the Diridon Integrated Station Concept Plan, including rebuilt station and shared rail maintenance facility.
<b>Super Levee with Integrated Transportation</b>	Levees along the Bay to address sea level rise, built to accommodate commuter rail services, and bike super highways.
<b>Regional Autonomous Connected Electric Shared (ACES) Transit Service</b>	Point to point, fully autonomous public transportation service including special treatments along congested corridors such as enhanced express tunneling system and AV only lanes. Also includes operational supports such as electric charging infrastructure, maintenance facilities, etc.
<b>Rail to the Sea</b>	Rail link between Downtown San José and Santa Cruz.
<b>Bay Area Mega-Regional Commuter Rail Network</b>	Consolidated commuter rail network centered on San José incorporating Caltrain, Capital Corridor and ACE systems and new services to Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties with all-day, frequent, electrified train service.
<b>Alviso Ferry Port</b>	Develop a port capable of accommodating ferry service with connections throughout the Bay.
<b><u>Transit – Service Upgrades and Integration</u></b>	
<b>Caltrain Station Capacity and Grade Separations, Salinas to San Francisco</b>	Expand all station platforms to accommodating longer trains. Grading separating all current roadway crossings.
<b>Regional Transit Integration</b>	Creating a coordinated Bay Area wide transit operations and management system through a federated or conglomerated model.

<b><u>Roadways</u></b>
<b>Complete Streets Program</b> Regional design and construction program to upgrade all collector and arterial roads to multi-modal complete streets.
<b>Undergrounding Highway 87 through Downtown</b> Construct a tunnel for highway 87 through Downtown San José; this will revitalize Guadalupe River and knit together the historic and western portions of Downtown.
<b>Automated Dynamic Highway Lane Allocation</b> System to allow for highway lanes to operate in peak period direction based on traffic flow needs.
<b>Highway Interchange Consolidation and Completion (Downtown San José)</b> Improve traffic flow through the Downtown area through interchange consolidation and completion.
<b>Freeway Caps</b> Create neighborhood connections and public or developable space over highways by building caps. Potential locations: 280/Winchester, 280/Bascom, 280/Bird, and 101/Santa Clara
<b>Regional Highway and Expressway Pricing Program</b> Regional system to enable pricing on all lanes of highways and expressways.
<b><u>Bikes and Trails</u></b>
<b>Completion of the Bay Trail</b> Complete the regional bike and walking trail around the Bay, allowing for recreational commuter travel.
<b>Bike Super Highways Program</b> Develop a regional grade separated bike super highway system such as those seen in Denmark, Holland, and Belgium.
<b>Complete San José Trail Network</b> Complete the City's trail network with priority for transportation supportive bikeways.
<b>Protected Bikes Lanes on All City Connector, Main Street, and Grand Blvds</b> Building physically protected and separated bikeways on all non-neighborhood city and county roadways.
<b><u>Other</u></b>
<b>Transit Value Capture Program</b> Public funding for transit-oriented development with value capture strategies.
<b>Aerial Drone and Personal Mobility Device Management System</b> Regional drone and personal aerial mobility device air control system. Designing the "streets in the sky" before the drones and other flying systems start taking off.