

# Downtown Congestion Pricing Study



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Spring 2021

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## SF traffic in April 2020

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# Coronavirus has dramatically changed our daily lives



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# SF traffic in 2019

## Congestion in San Francisco had reached record levels



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# Congestion affects everyone



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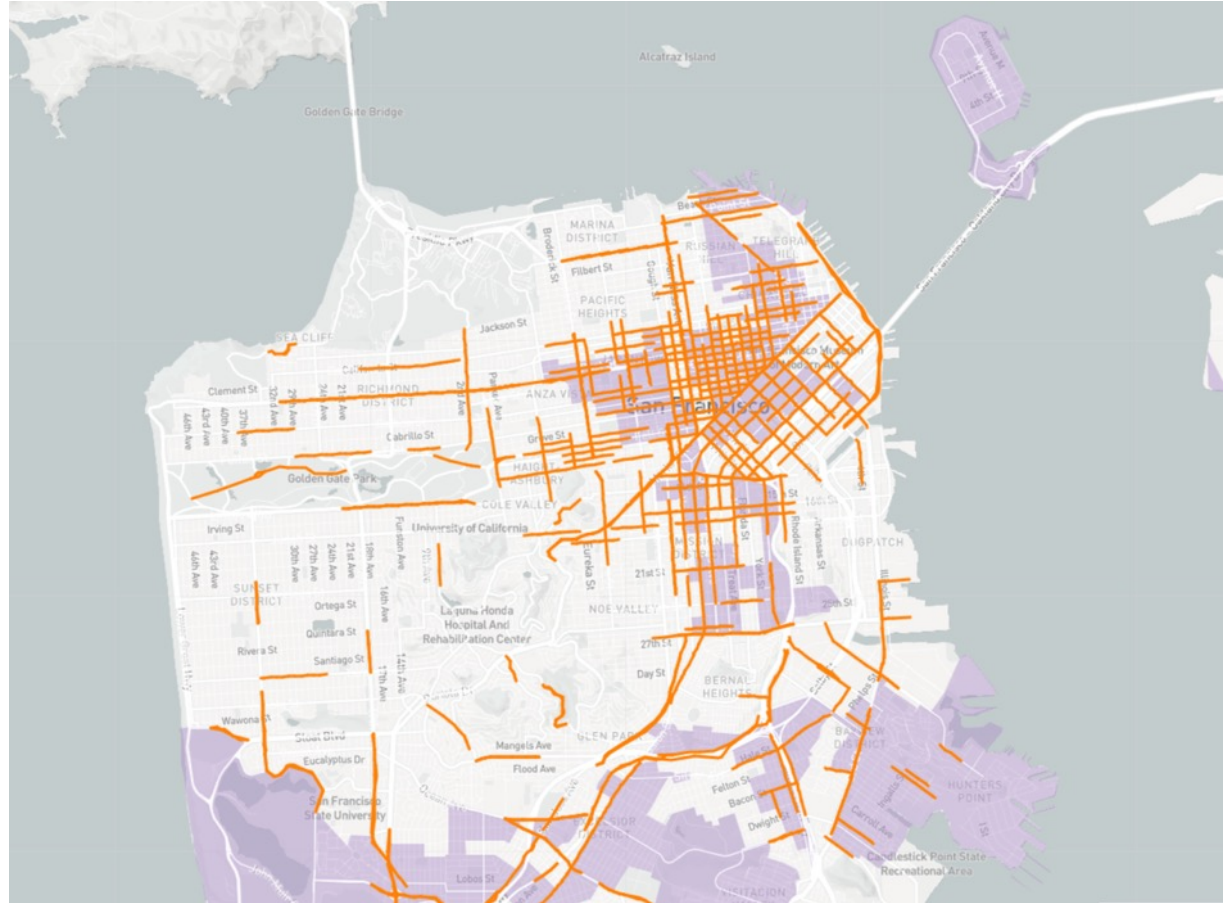


# Impacts on underinvested communities

- VISION ZERO  
HIGH-INJURY NETWORK
- COMMUNITIES  
OF CONCERN



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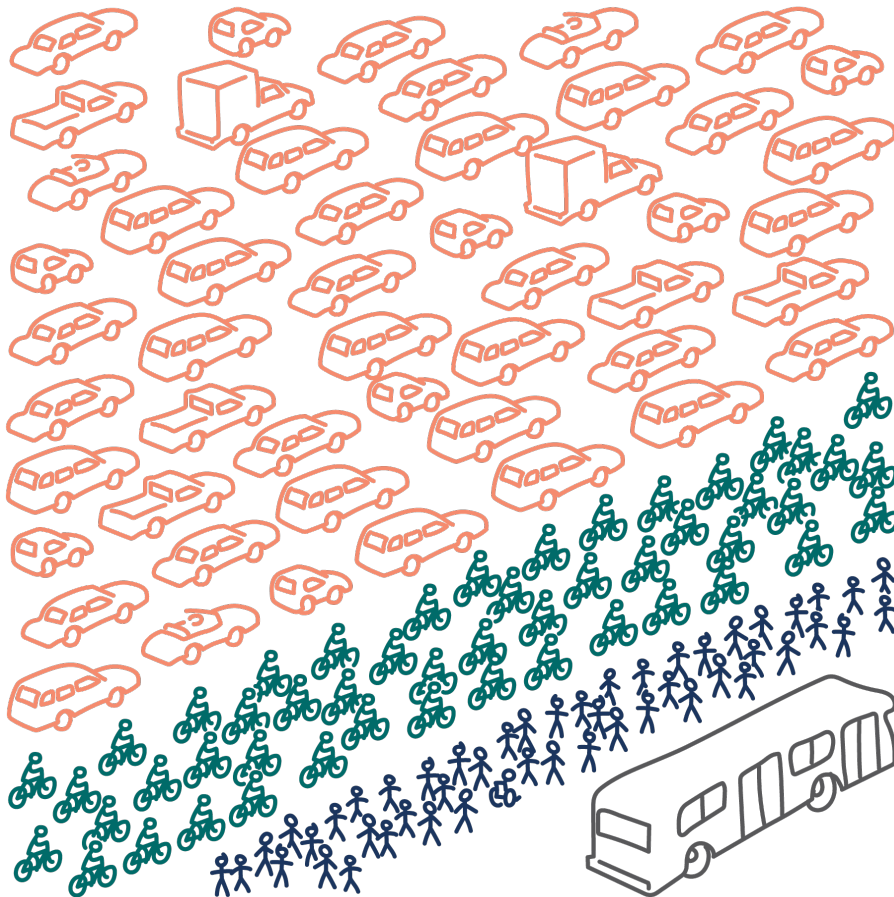
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# Our challenge: move more people in fewer vehicles

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50 PEOPLE  
in CARS

50 PEOPLE  
on BIKES

50 PEOPLE  
on FOOT

50 PEOPLE  
on a BUS

# Downtown Congestion Pricing Study



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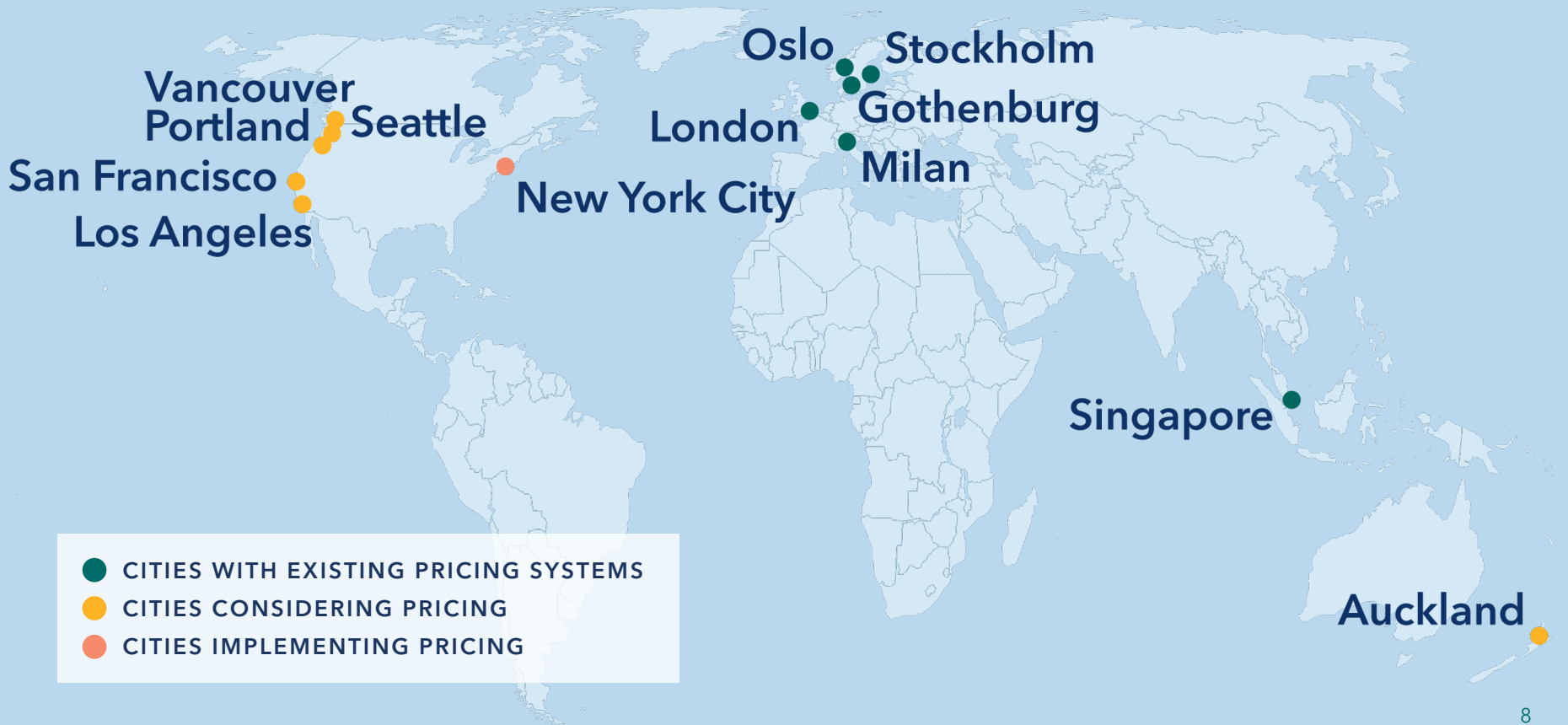


Photo by Sergio Ruiz, [flic.kr/p/TcdmM8](https://flic.kr/p/TcdmM8)

# Congestion Pricing Around the World



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# Background



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# Downtown Travel Patterns

75% of people  
driving to Northeast  
San Francisco came  
from within the city

Source: SFCTA, San Francisco  
Chained Activity Modeling Process



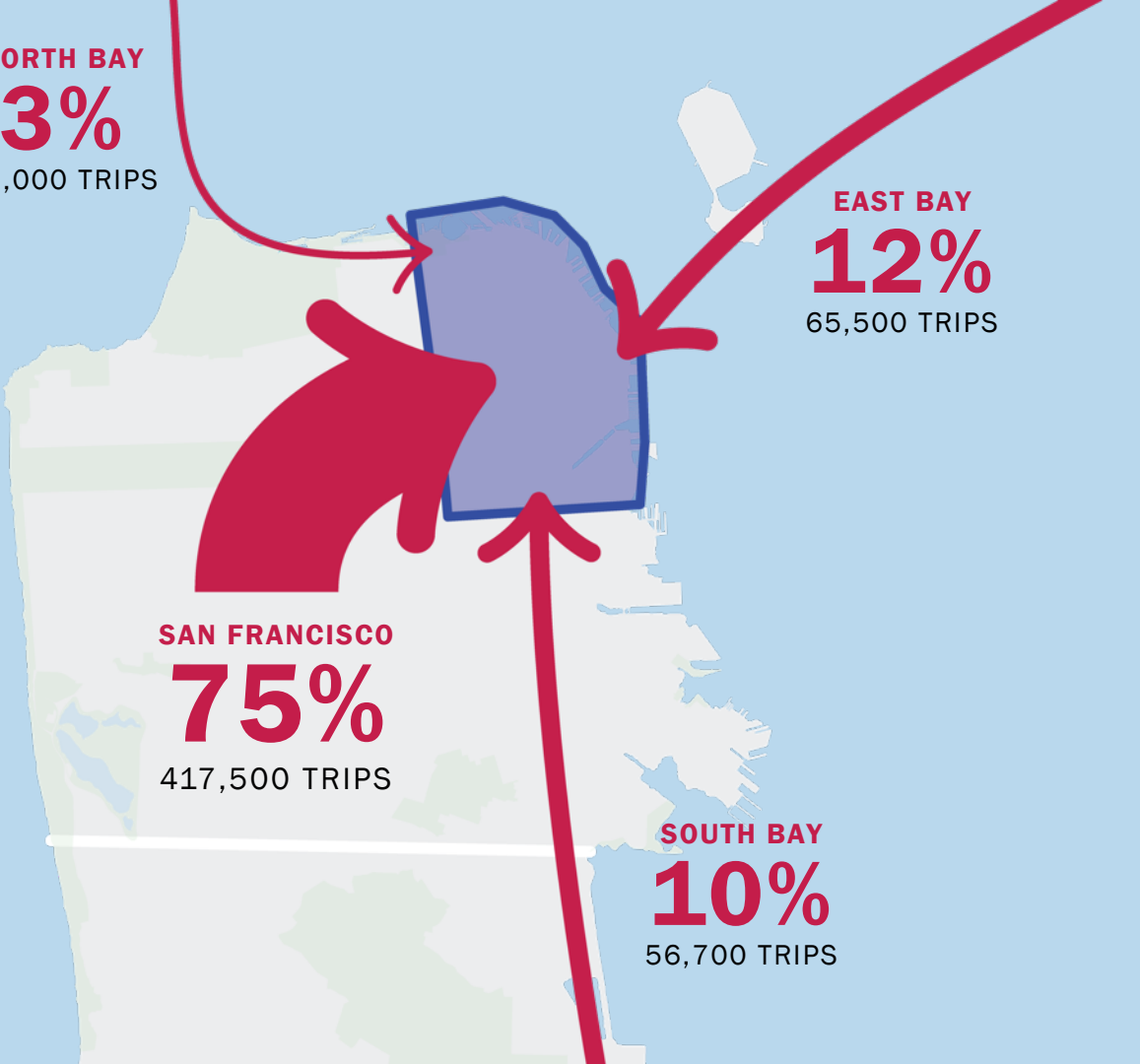
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NORTH BAY  
**3%**  
22,000 TRIPS

EAST BAY  
**12%**  
65,500 TRIPS

SAN FRANCISCO  
**75%**  
417,500 TRIPS

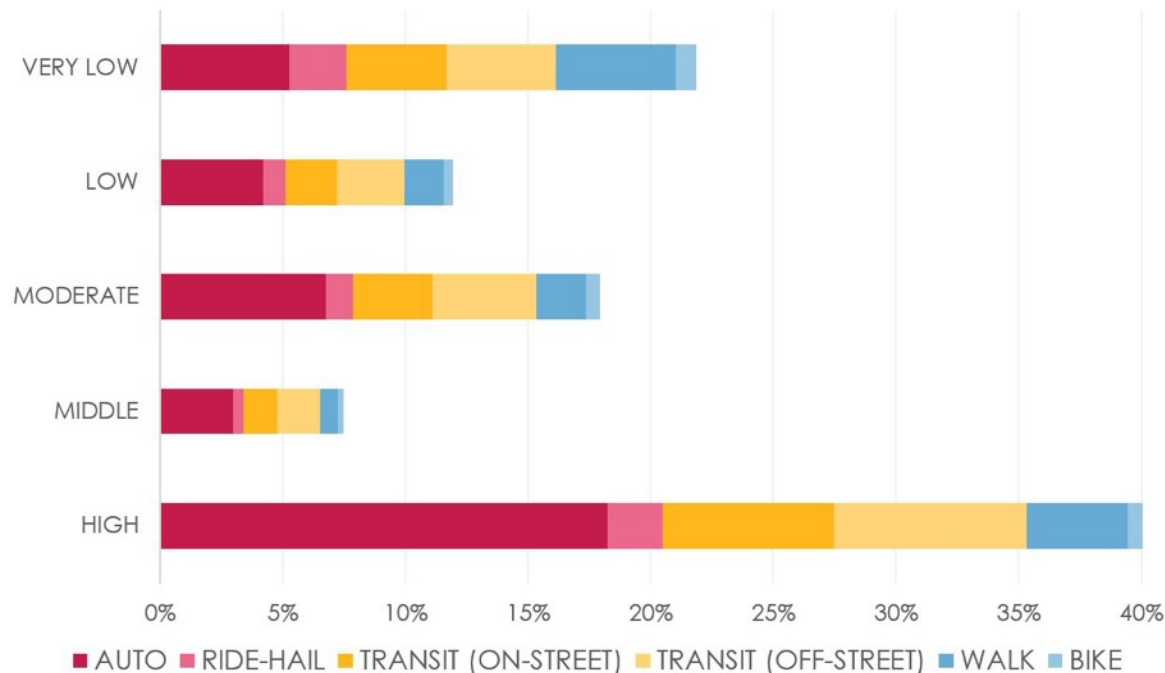
SOUTH BAY  
**10%**  
56,700 TRIPS





Of all downtown trips during morning peak, only 13% were low-income drivers

Percent of Weekday Morning Trips To, From, Within Northeast SF



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## Goals of congestion pricing

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By reducing peak car trips  
downtown by at least 15%,  
we could...

- Get traffic moving
- Increase safety
- Clean the air
- Advance equity



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# Potential boundaries

Communities of Concern 2017



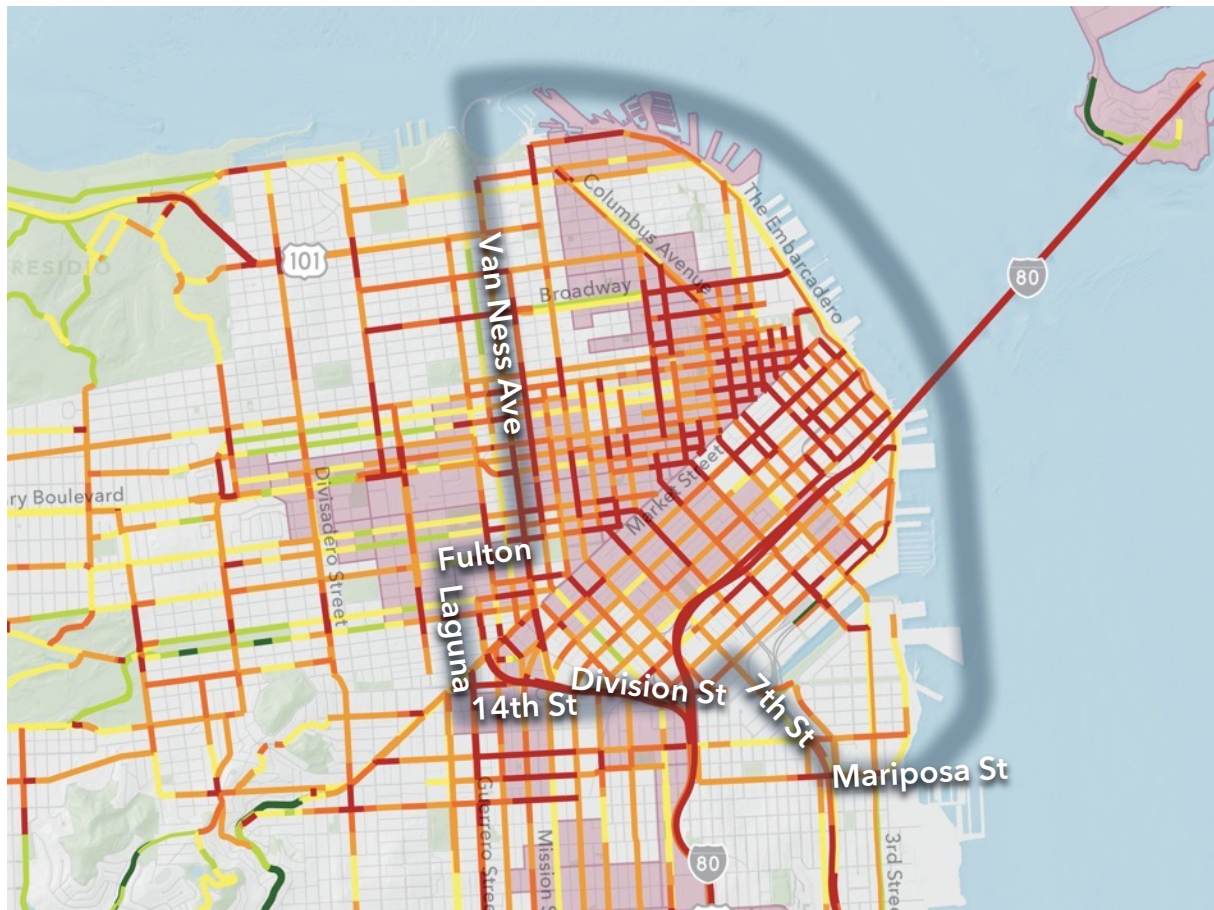
Level of Service during PM Peak

A B C D E F

Source: SFCTA, San Francisco  
Chained Activity Modeling Process



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# Potential Discounts, Exemptions, Fees



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THREE  
SCENARIOS:

**1**

means-based  
focus

**2**

means-based,  
resident,  
toll-payer  
discounts

**3**

means-based  
focus

# Incorporating Feedback: Fee structures

THREE  
SCENARIOS:

1

means-based  
focus

2

means-based,  
resident,  
toll-payer  
discounts

3

means-based  
focus

Fee Direction

Inbound only

Inbound only

Two-way

# Incorporating Feedback: Fee structures



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| SCENARIO  | 1<br>inbound with<br>means-based focus | 2<br>Inbound with means-based,<br>resident, toll-payer discounts | 3<br>Two-way with<br>means-based focus |
|---|--|--|--|
| Fee Direction   | Inbound only                           | Inbound only   | Two-way                                |
| <b>Very Low Income</b><br>0 – 55% AMI<br>Family of four: \$65k  | <b>100% discount (\$0)</b>             | <b>100% discount (\$0)</b>                                       | <b>100% discount (\$0)</b>             |
| <b>Low Income</b><br>55 – 80% AMI<br>Family of four: \$65 – 95k | <b>67% discount (\$4.25)</b>           | <b>50% discount (\$7.00)</b>                                     | <b>67% discount (\$2.25)</b>           |
| <b>Moderate</b><br>80 – 120% AMI<br>Family of four: \$95 – 142k | <b>33% discount (\$8.50)</b>           | <b>0% discount (\$14.00)</b>                                     | <b>33% discount (\$4.75)</b>           |
| <b>Middle &amp; High</b><br>120% AMI<br>Family of four: \$142k+ | <b>0% discount (\$12.50)</b>           | <b>0% discount (\$14.00)</b>                                     | <b>0% discount (\$7.00)</b>            |



# Incorporating Feedback: Fee structures



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| <b>W/ Disability</b>  |                                     |  |                                     |
| <b>Bridge Toll Payer</b>  |                                     |  |                                     |
| <b>Zone resident</b>  |                                     |  |                                     |
| <b>Daily Cap</b>  |                                     |  |                                     |
| <b>TNC (Uber/Lyft)</b>  |                                     |  |                                     |
| <b>Transit subsidies</b>  |                                     |  |                                     |

# Incorporating Feedback: Fee structures



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| <b>TNC (Uber/Lyft)</b>  | Fee charged for each trip           | Fee charged for each trip  | Fee charged for each trip           |
| <b>Transit subsidies</b>  |                                     |  |                                     |

# Incorporating Feedback: Fee structures



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| <b>Transit subsidies</b>  | Yes                                 | No   | Yes                                 |

# Incorporating Feedback: Fee structures



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| <b>Transit subsidies</b>  | <b>Yes</b>                          | <b>No</b>  | <b>Yes</b>                          |

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# New Baseline Assumption

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1. The new baseline reflects Covid impacts for year 2025. The new baseline assumption include:
  - a. Updated population and job growth
  - b. Updated transit service
  - c. Updated travel behavior – telecommuting, transit avoidance and activity participation
2. This will be the new baseline for the study. The three recommended scenarios will be compared to this baseline.



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# Investments

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## **Minimum transit investment:**

20 - 25% transit service increase to accommodate ridership increase

## **Top investment priorities from outreach:**

1. Additional transit investments  
(e.g. more service, capacity, access)
2. Pedestrian, bicycle safety upgrades

## **Additional options under consideration:**

3. Street repaving
4. Transit ambassadors
5. Improved paratransit
6. School buses



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# Schedule (subject to change)



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# Potential path to implementation



- Transportation Authority Board vote
- State legislation
- Detailed policy and system design
- Community outreach
- Program implementation

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# How to get involved

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- Share your feedback with us by emailing [congestion-pricing@sfcta.org](mailto:congestion-pricing@sfcta.org)
- Visit [sfcta.org/downtown](https://sfcta.org/downtown) to:
  - Learn more about congestion pricing
  - Request a presentation
  - Sign up for email updates

# Thank you.

[sfcta.org/downtown](https://sfcta.org/downtown)  
[congestion-pricing@sfcta.org](mailto:congestion-pricing@sfcta.org)



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