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Van Ness Improvement Project

Bus Rapid Transit is coming to San Francisco

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Van Ness Improvement Project

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website&body=I am sharing a page from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

(SFMTA) website with you.%0D%0A%0D%0AVan Ness Improvement



Project%0D%0Ahttps://www.sfmta.com/eml/projects/van-ness-improvement-
 project%0D%0A%0D%0AI hope you find this useful.)

Major upgrades are underway on Van Ness Avenue. This massive civic improvement project is bringing San Francisco its first **Bus Rapid Transit (/project-updates/what-van-ness-bus-rapid-transit)** system, a much-needed and globally-proven solution to improve transit service and address traffic

congestion on Van Ness Avenue, a major north-south arterial. To maximize the benefits during construction, the project also includes extensive utility maintenance, civic improvements and safety enhancements that will revitalize this historic corridor.

VIDEO: Learn more about the Van Ness Improvement Project (<https://youtu.be/JbnEgagntE>)

Cost Estimate	Current Phase or Stage	Predicted Completion
\$309.3 million	Construction	2021

Project Status :  Implementation / Construction,  Current

Bus Routes and Rail Lines

30X Marina Express (</routes/30x-marina-express>), 47 Van Ness (</routes/47-van-ness>),
 49 Van Ness/Mission (</routes/49-van-nessmission>),
 76X Marin Headlands Express (</routes/76x-marin-headlands-express>),
 90 San Bruno Owl (</routes/90-san-bruno-owl>)

Neighborhoods

Western Addition (</neighborhoods/western-addition>),
 Pacific Heights (</neighborhoods/pacific-heights>), Marina (</neighborhoods/marina>),
 Russian Hill (</neighborhoods/russian-hill>), South of Market (</neighborhoods/south-market>),
 Downtown/Civic Center (</neighborhoods/downtowncivic-center>),
 Nob Hill (</neighborhoods/nob-hill>)

Streets

Van Ness Avenue, Lombard Street, Mission Street

CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

- Construction at a Glance (</project-updates/construction-van-ness-glance>)
- Temporary blue curb parking for people with disabilities and loading zones (https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1_-EnlyVfmJhvN2m0U-ijIjYOG7E&ll=37.789353206282435%2C-122.4184857227234&z=15) (Google map)
- Navigating without left turns from Van Ness (</project-updates/how-get-around-without-turning-left-van-ness>)
- Construction sequence animation (<https://youtu.be/igD5taBiubM>)
- Sign up for project updates (https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CASFMTA/subscriber/new?topic_id=CASFMTA_186)

Community Drop-In Office Hours

Have a question about construction or the Van Ness Improvement Project? Stop by our **Construction Office** (</places/van-ness-improvement-project-field-office>) to get assistance from project staff during our Community Drop-In Office Hours:

Van Ness Improvement Project Field Office

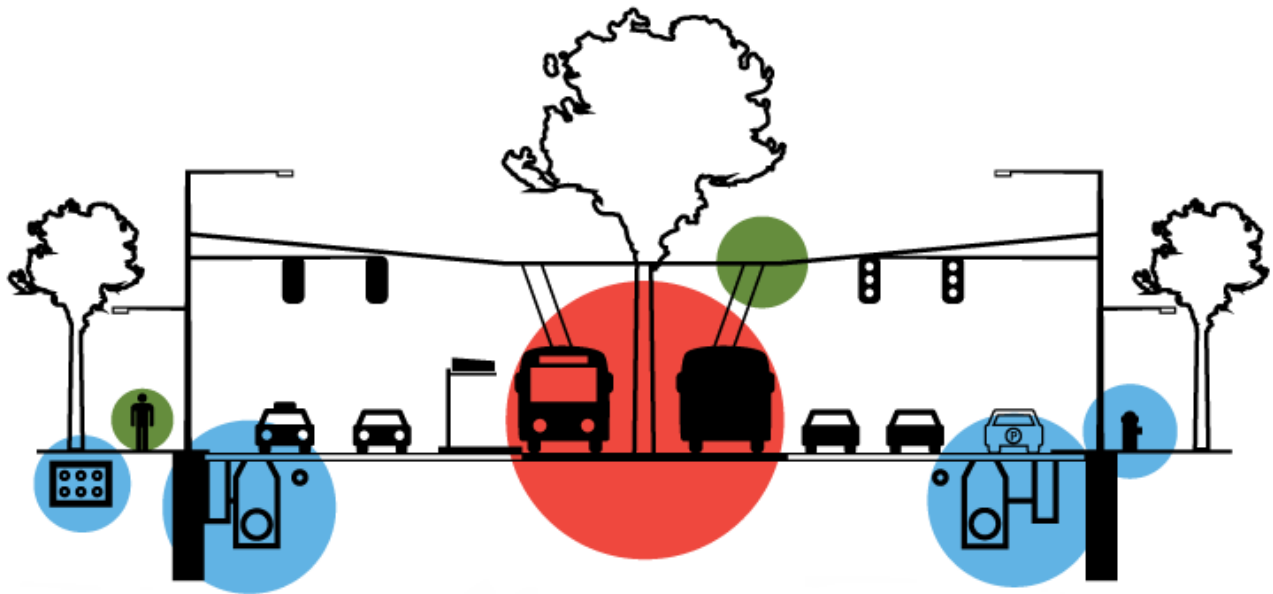
180 Redwood Street, 3rd Floor (<https://www.sfmta.com/van-ness-improvement-project-field-office>) (near Van Ness and Golden Gate)

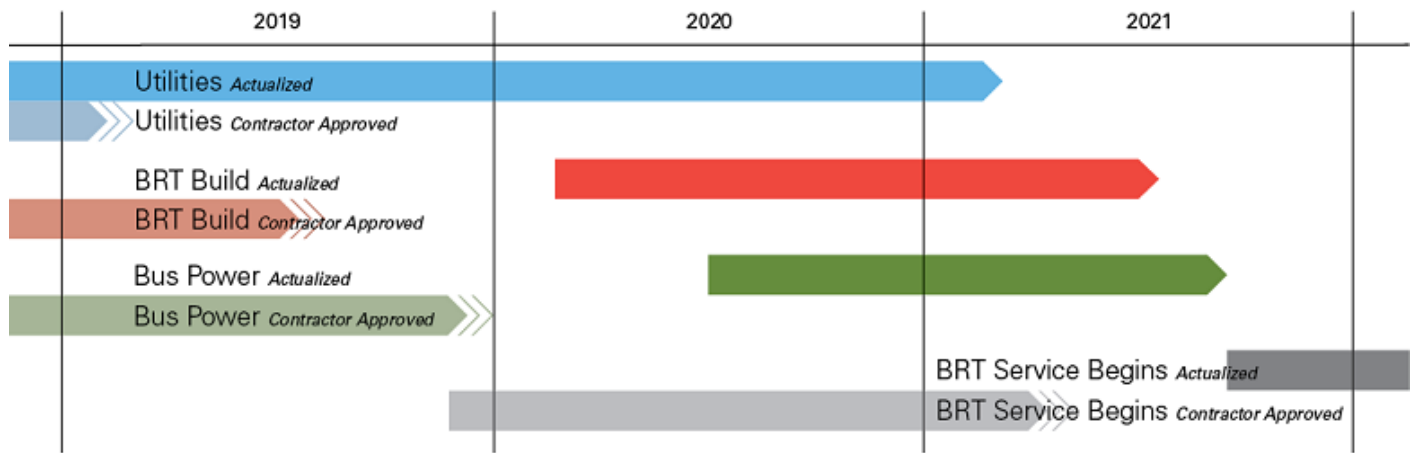
- Tuesdays 2:00-4:00 p.m
- Fridays 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Excluding holidays

You may also contact project staff directly by emailing VanNessBRT@SFMTA.com (<mailto:vannessbirt@sfmta.com>) or calling 415.646.2310.

CONSTRUCTION PHASES

The illustration below shows the three construction phases and work you can expect to be conducted in each phase.





The Van Ness Improvement Project schedule above shows each phase of construction, with the darker projected schedule above the lighter approved baseline schedule. Project staff is working to get the project back on schedule.

Roadway and Utility Work Phase:

- Preparing the roadway for construction
- Replacing more than 22,000-feet of 1800's-era water main
- Building an underground sewer system that could sustain a major earthquake and the impacts of climate change
- Overhauling the emergency firefighting system that supplies water to over 1,200 fire hydrants
- Updating streetlights with brighter, more efficient lights and adding sidewalk lighting
- Installing an electrical duct bank that will power the traffic signals and overhead contact system

Once the utility work is completed, the sidewalk and roadway will be restored to begin the next phase of construction.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Build Phase

- Building red center-running Bus Rapid Transit lanes (see features of Bus Rapid Transit below)
- Building station platforms and new medians

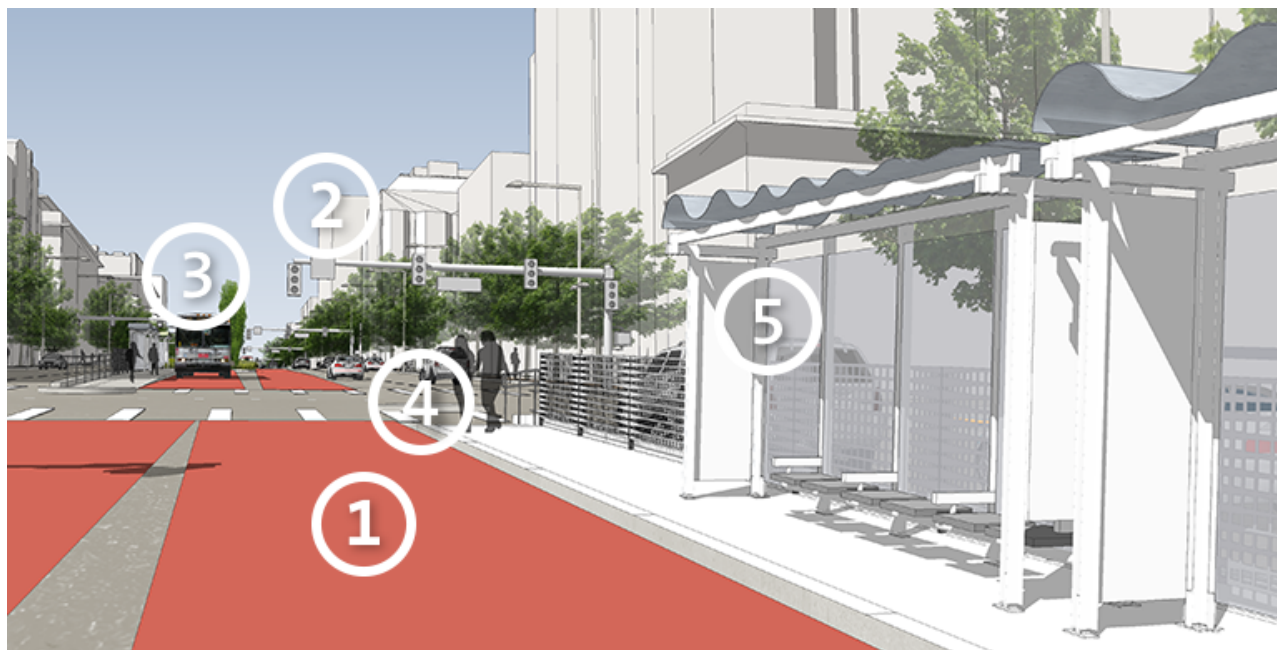
This BRT Build phase will begin as the Roadway and Utility Work phase is wrapping up and will last about six months.

Bus Power, Safety Enhancements and Beautification Phase

- Replacing the aging overhead wire system that powers the buses
- Installing new landscaping and rain gardens
- Repaving Van Ness Avenue for a smoother ride
- Building sidewalk extensions and painting crosswalks that will make streets safer for people walking
- Training operators on the new system

Construction of the Van Ness Improvement Project is underway. The project received final environmental certification from the Federal Transit Administration on **December 20, 2013** (<https://www.sfcta.org/van-ness-avenue-bus-rapid-transit-home>). The SFMTA Board made the final legislative approval of the transit and safety improvements on **November 18, 2014** (</reports/item-11-traffic-modifications-vn-brt-and-28-line>). After construction is completed, Bus Rapid Transit service is expected to begin 2021.

VAN NESS BUS RAPID TRANSIT FEATURES

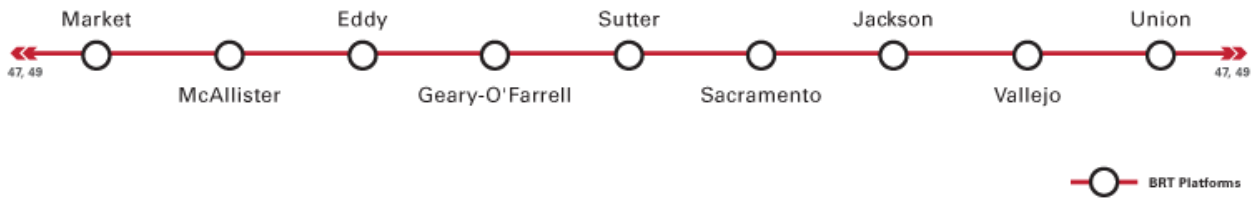


Bus Rapid Transit on Van Ness will be a part of Muni's Rapid Network, prioritizing frequency and reliability for customers. The planned improvements are expected to cut travel times for Golden Gate Transit and the 47, 49 and 90 Muni routes by 32 percent.

Some features of Bus Rapid Transit on Van Ness will include:

1. Dedicated transit-only lanes that are physically separated from the other traffic lanes, for use by Muni and Golden Gate Transit buses only.
2. Enhanced traffic signals optimized for north-south travel with Transit Signal Priority, which gives buses the green light as they approach an intersection.
3. Low-floor vehicles and all-door boarding, which will make it quicker and easier for passengers to load and unload at each stop.
4. Safety enhancements for people walking like sidewalk extensions, median refuges, high visibility crosswalks and audible countdown signals.
5. Fully furnished boarding platforms that include shelters, seating and NextMuni prediction displays located at key transfer points.

VAN NESS BUS RAPID TRANSIT STOP LOCATIONS



The new Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit corridor will feature nine northbound and nine southbound boarding islands along the red, center-running transit-only lanes. These locations for station platforms are key transfer points in **Muni's Rapid Network** (<https://www.sfmta.com/projects/muni-forward-rapid-network>).

Project video(s)

The Van Ness Improvement Project



Keeping Van Ness Moving



Deconstructing Construction on Van Ness



Plan for Construction on Van Ness



Project Details, History or Features

FUNDING

Funding for the core **Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit** (<https://www.sfmta.com/news/project-updates/what-van-ness-bus-rapid-transit>) project comes from a variety of sources including FTA Small Starts, San Francisco Prop K funds and developer contributions.

Projects associated with the Van Ness Improvement Project, including repaving Van Ness Avenue, new traffic signals, hardware and software, new transit vehicles and streetlight/pole replacement are funded by FTA Formula Funds, San Francisco Prop K funds and regional and statewide sources.

VAN NESS AVENUE HISTORY



When it was first surveyed in 1856, Van Ness was intended to be the City's spine. Mansions of prominent families populated the northern end while the southern had dense working-class housing. Serving as a firebreak after the 1906 earthquake, Van Ness saved the western part of the city. By the 1920s, grand auto showrooms peppering the corridor made Van Ness the west coast's largest Auto Row. Once the Golden Gate Bridge was built, it shifted toward regional auto travel. Since the '90s, transportation plans prepared by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority and Muni recognized the need to establish rapid transit service on Van Ness Avenue. In 2003, 75 percent of voters approved the sales tax to plan rapid transit service on Van Ness Avenue. In

September 2013, the Board of Supervisors, acting as the San Francisco County Transportation Authority Commission, unanimously approved the **Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit Project** (<http://www.sfcta.org/van-ness-avenue-bus-rapid-transit-home>), the core of the Van Ness Improvement Project.

Today, the Van Ness Avenue corridor serves as a vital connector of neighborhoods and a regional link for travel between Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo Counties. Van Ness Avenue is one of the busiest north-south corridors in the city, serving over 16,000 Muni customers daily on the **47 Van Ness** (<https://www.sfmta.com/getting-around/transit/routes-stops/47-van-ness>), **49 Mission/Van Ness** (<https://www.sfmta.com/getting-around/transit/routes-stops/49-missionvan-ness>) and **90 San Bruno Owl** (<https://www.sfmta.com/getting-around/transit/routes-stops/90-owl>) bus routes as well as Golden Gate Transit customers. It is part of the California State Highway System and of US Route 101, a primary artery that connects Interstate Highways 280 and 80 with the Golden Gate Bridge.

OTHER PROJECTS IMPACTING CORRIDOR

The Polk Streetscape Project and Van Ness Improvement Project team meet regularly to coordinate project work. Please visit the **Polk Streetscape Project construction information page** (<http://sfpublicworks.org/polk>) for details. For a description of the project, project renderings and past meeting materials, please visit the **Polk Streetscape Project** (<http://sfmta.com/projects-planning/projects/polk-streetscape-project>) page.

CPMC's Van Ness and Geary Campus (<http://vng.cpmc2020.org/>) is currently under construction. Please visit CPMC's website for a description of the project and to sign up for their project updates.



San Francisco
County Transportation
Authority

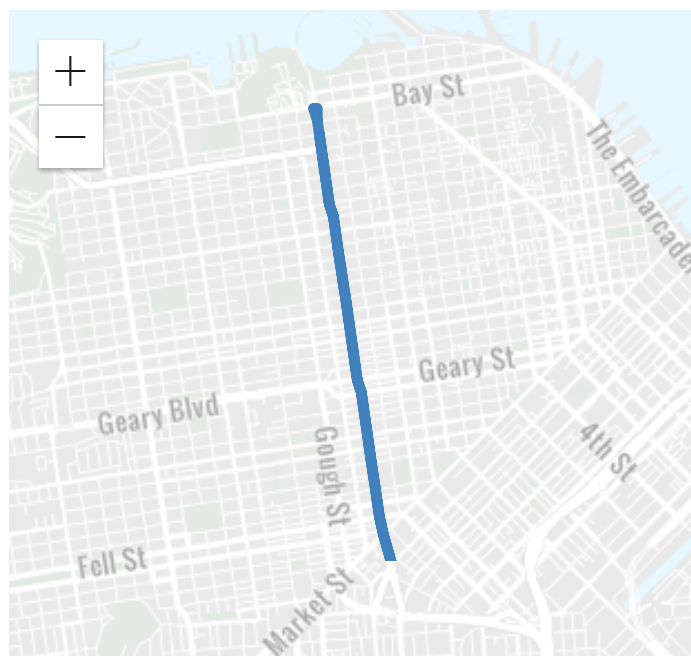


Contact Information

Van Ness Improvement Project

VanNessBRT@SFMTA.com (<mailto:VanNessBRT@SFMTA.com>)

415.646.2310



Upcoming Meetings & Events for this Project

18**JUL****Van Ness Business Advisory Committee Meeting - July 18, 2019**[\(/node/17952\)](/node/17952)**25****JUL****Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee Meeting - July 25, 2019**[\(/node/18038\)](/node/18038)**15****AUG****Van Ness Business Advisory Committee Meeting – August 15, 2019**[\(/node/17953\)](/node/17953)

View all upcoming Meetings & Events >

Past Meetings & Events for this Project

27**JUN****Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee Meeting - June 27, 2019**[\(/node/18037\)](/node/18037)**20****JUN****Van Ness Business Advisory Committee Meeting - June 20, 2019**[\(/node/17951\)](/node/17951)

23

MAY

Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee Meeting - May 23, 2019[\(/node/18036\)](/node/18036)**View all past Meetings & Events >**

Project Updates

Van Ness Avenue Construction Forecast: July 14 - July 26, 2019[\(/node/19865\)](/node/19865)**Van Ness Avenue Construction Forecast: July 8 - July 19, 2019**[\(/node/19788\)](/node/19788)**Van Ness Avenue Construction Forecast: June 30 - July 12, 2019**[\(/node/19753\)](/node/19753)**View all related Project Updates >**

Related Reports & Documents

Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee Agenda - June 27, 2019 **Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda - June 27, 2019**https://www.sfmta.com/sites/default/files/reports-and-documents/2019/06/van_ness_brt_cac_agenda_19.06.27.pdf**Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - June 27, 2019** **Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - June 27, 2019**https://www.sfmta.com/sites/default/files/reports-and-documents/2019/07/van_ness_brt_cac_agenda_19.06.27_minutes_0.pdf**Van Ness BRT Community Advisory Committee Meeting Presentation Deck - June 27, 2019** **Van Ness Business Advisory Committee Meeting Presentation Deck - June 27, 2019**https://www.sfmta.com/sites/default/files/reports-and-documents/2019/06/van_ness_brt_cac_19.06.27_presentationdeck.pdf**View all related Project Reports & Documents >**

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Related Projects



Lombard Street Vision Zero Project
Safety project with Muni improvements along this Vision Zero Corridor

(/node/848)



Muni Forward
Muni Forward improvements make transit service more reliable and safer.

(/node/784)



Polk Streetscape Project
Improving safety for all road users on Polk Street

(/node/1202)

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11 South Van Ness Avenue

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