

BART Historical Timeline

Achievements Over the Years

January 1947
Joint Army-Navy report recommends action for underwater transit tube beneath San Francisco Bay to help address growing bridge and freeway congestion.

June 4, 1957
California Legislature approves creation of five-county Bay Area Transit District.

November 6, 1962
\$792 million General Obligation Bond issues approved by District voters for construction of 75-mile system, including 3.5-mile Muni Metro line.

January 24, 1966
Construction begins in Oakland subway.

August 1969
Transbay Tube structure complete.

July 25, 1967
Construction begins on Market Street subway in San Francisco.

June 19, 1964
President Lyndon B. Johnson presides at official start of construction in Concord.

September 11, 1972
OPENING DAY OF REVENUE PASSENGER SERVICE.
BART opens with Fremont to Oakland service including 28 miles of tracks and 12 stations. BART carries 100,000 during the first week of service with eight two- and three car trains.

January 29, 1973
Opening of Oakland to Richmond service, the second segment of the BART system to go into operation. This extends the operating system to 39 miles and 18 stations.

May 21, 1973
Concord line opens, adding 17 miles. The system now has 56 miles and 24 stations.

September 16, 1974
Passenger revenue Transbay service begins, representing a major milestone in placing the full 71.5-mile system in operation.

August 10, 1973
First test train travels through the Transbay Tube to Montgomery Station.

November 5, 1974
Nine-member Board of Directors is elected to replace the 12-member appointed board.

January 1, 1976
Permanent night service goes into effect. Hours of train operation are extended from 6 am to midnight.

October 17, 1989
7.1 earthquake rocks the Bay Area. BART continues to operate, providing critical service during the Bay Bridge closure. Thousands of commuters switch to BART, breaking records for weekday ridership. On November 16, 1989, ridership reaches a new record high of 357,135. The Bay Bridge re-opens on November 17, 1989.

February 24, 1996
Colma Station and SamTrans Transit Center open with a community celebration. The three-track, two-platform station is the second largest of BART's 36 stations.

December 7, 1996
Pittsburg/Bay Point Station opens, four months earlier than scheduled. The opening completes a 7.8-mile segment of the Pittsburg/Antioch Extension from Concord Station.

December 16, 1995
First day of revenue service at North Concord/Martinez Station.

May 10, 1997
The Dublin/Pleasanton line opens. A community celebration is held at both the Castro Valley and Dublin/Pleasanton stations featuring entertainment, raffles, giveaways and tours.

November 3, 1973
7.5-mile San Francisco line with eight stations opens. Patronage doubles within the first two weeks.

July 1, 1975
Fare discount is adopted for people with disabilities—an industry first.

May 27, 1976
Embarcadero Station officially opens for revenue service.

August 31, 1994
The first of a new generation of transit cars arrive. The new cars offer maximum operating flexibility and are part of an 80-car order.

November 5, 1974
BART opens a new line to the San Francisco International Airport. The line includes South San Francisco Station, San Bruno Station and Millbrae Station.

October 15, 2005
Caltrans shuts down all eastbound lanes on the Bay Bridge for seismic retrofitting. BART runs trains around the clock to make sure Bay Area residents and workers can travel between the East Bay and San Francisco.

June 22, 2003
BART opens a new line to the San Francisco International Airport. The line includes South San Francisco Station, San Bruno Station and Millbrae Station.

April 29, 2007
A burning tanker truck carrying 8,600 gallons of gasoline melts the MacArthur Maze. BART moves into action to keep Bay Area residents moving between San Francisco and the East Bay by offering free transit and running longer trains.

May 10, 2012
The BART Board of Directors votes unanimously to award an \$896 million contract (plus applicable taxes and escalation contingencies), to Bombardier Transit Corporation for design and construction of 410 train cars. The cars will be 100% assembled in America, with at least 66% American-made parts.

October 31, 2012
All-time highest ridership record of 568,061 is set, due to the Giants' World Series victory parade and Halloween celebrations.

September 27, 2012
BART teams with UC Berkeley seismologists on an earthquake early warning system.

October 28, 2009
BART morning transbay ridership is up 49% due to an emergency Bay Bridge closure. In the days that follow, ridership records are shattered as BART runs longer service and overnight service while the bridge is shut down.

November 21, 2013
BART Board of Directors authorizes the purchase of an additional 365 new rail cars.

November 22, 2014
First day of service for BART to OAK. The people mover transports travelers from the Coliseum Station to Oakland International Airport in eight minutes.

March 25, 2017
First day of service to Warm Springs/South Fremont Station, paving the way for BART to Silicon Valley—a ten mile, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority project.

May 26, 2018
eBART/BART to Antioch opening day. This rail system connects BART to Pittsburg and Antioch in Contra Costa County using Diesel Multiple Unit vehicles on standard-gauge track.

June 13, 2020
Two new stations built in cooperation with the Silicon Valley Transportation Authority open in Milpitas and Berryessa. These represent the next step in taking BART to San Jose.

November 5, 1971
Delivery of first production car for revenue service.

September 27, 1972
President Nixon rides BART.

November 5, 1973
Service begins between Montgomery Street and Daly City Stations, bringing 63.5 of the 71.5 miles into operation.

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November 8, 2016
Measure RR, a \$3.5 billion infrastructure bond, is passed by well over two-thirds of Bay Area voters.

January 19, 2018
First passengers ride new Fleet of the Future trains from MacArthur Station. Trains are quiet, more comfortable, and have better temperature control.

March 16, 2020
An area-wide shelter-in-place order goes into effect in response to COVID-19 causing an over 90% drop in ridership, early weekday closing (9 pm), and 30 minute commute service.

MAINTAIN DISTANCE
Protect Yourself and Others

BART Measure RR FUNDS AT WORK