Balboa Avenue Station Mobility Hub

The Balboa Avenue Trolley Station is located east of I-5, south of Balboa Avenue, and west of Morena Boulevard. The station connects employees, residents, and visitors from all over the region to nearby employment areas, residential complexes, and commercial centers. Balboa is a key gateway for passengers traveling to destinations along Grand, Garnet, and Balboa avenues.

What do riders need?

RESIDENT

I work 8 to 5 during the week. On weekends, I hang out at my local coffee shop or head downtown. I want comfortable and reliable travel options so I don't spend time in traffic or searching for parking. *#reliable*

BEACH GOER

I love going to the beach, especially to surf. Other times, I meet up with friends for beach volleyball, a picnic, or to watch the sunset. I need a service where I can easily and comfortably transport my beach gear. *#beachvibes*

How can a mobility hub help?

The Balboa Avenue Station Mobility Hub is more than just a transit station. It's a place where people can make seamless connections between public transit and other travel options using an integrated suite of services, amenities, and technologies. Leveraging both empirical analysis and community outreach, the mobility hub was designed to provide options for residents, employees, and visitors to travel from home to work and a wide variety of destinations in between.

Micromobility Drop-off Zones

Dedicated Pooled Lane

Neighborhood Electric Vehicles

Microtransit

Mobile Retail Services

Multi-Use Trail

Photos courtesy of SANDAG, Rick Sforza (The Sun/SCNG), The Free Ride, and City of Chula Vista

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ENHANCING ACCESS

The Balboa Avenue Station Mobility Hub identifies a variety of services and amenities within a 5 minute walk, bike, or drive. Some strategies may be concentrated within a short walk or bike to transit, while others may leverage motorized shared services to reach their desired destination:

TRANSIT AMENITIES
Located in the immediate transit station area to help riders plan trips and make connections while waiting in a safe and comfortable place

PEDESTRIAN AMENITIES
Located within a 5 minute walk from the station and may include safe and convenient walkways and crossings

MICROMOBILITY SERVICES & AMENITIES
Located within a 5 minute bike or scoot from the station and may include safe travel paths, secure parking, and geofenced designated drop zones for micromobility vehicles

MOTORIZED SERVICES & AMENITIES
Located within a 5 minute or more drive from the station and may include on-demand, pooled rides and infrastructure improvements to support efficient operation

SUPPORT SERVICES & AMENITIES
Located throughout the mobility hub including multimodal wayfinding, mobile retail services, and integrated trip planning and payment options

Proposed mobility hub strategies are listed below. Each icon's colored outline corresponds to one of the five mobility hub access categories above. All icons are interactive - click to learn more about a strategy using the *Mobility Hub Features Catalog*.

AREAS OF INTEREST

1. Grand/Garnet Corridors
2. Balboa Specific Plan Area
3. Clairemont
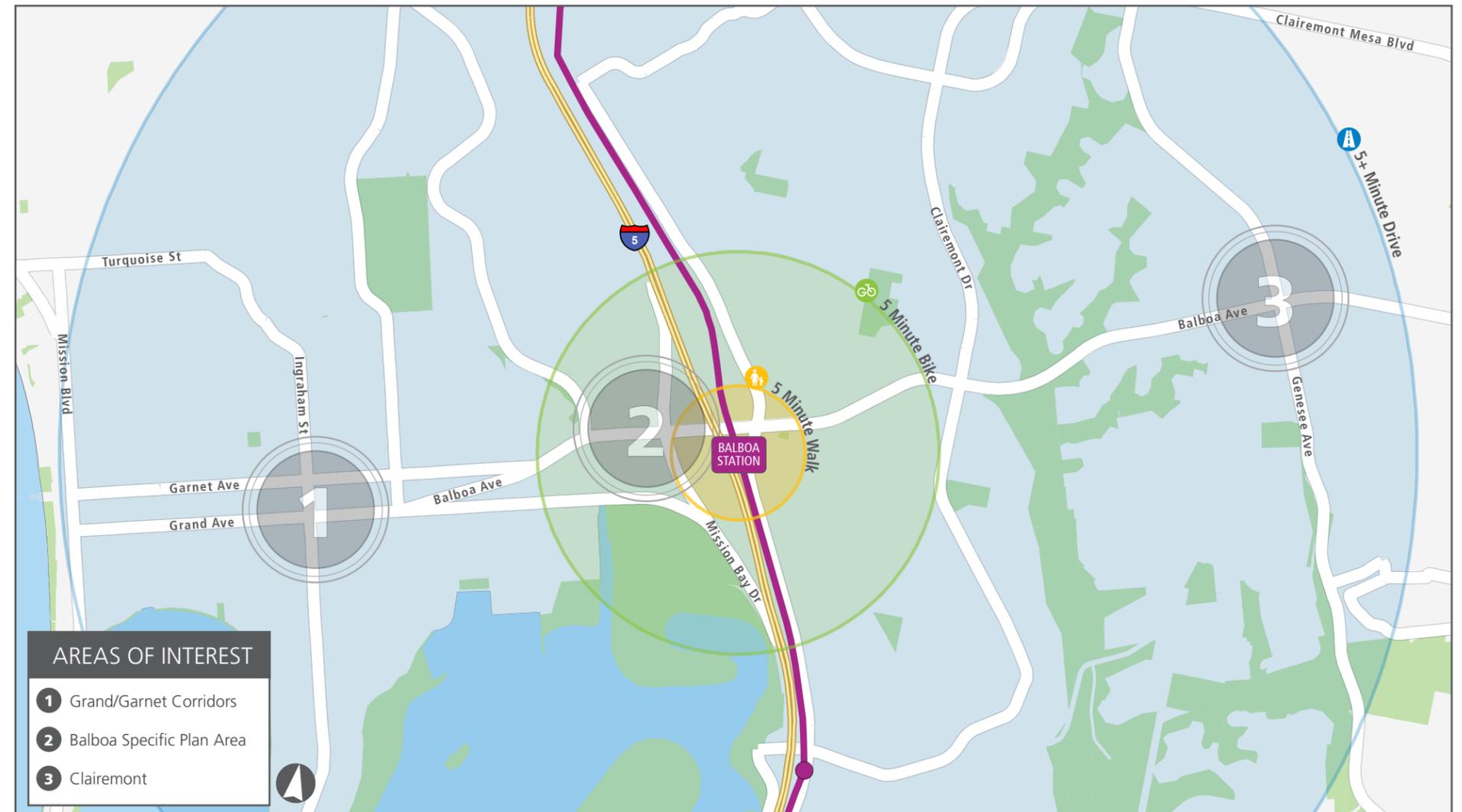
Enhancing the Travel Experience - *Below are proposed strategies within walking, biking, or driving distance of the station that can extend travel to the areas of interest, above; potential locations are identified with:* STATION #

ENHANCED TRANSIT WAITING AREAS STATION 1 2 3
Provide WiFi and USB charging ports at station and bus stops to help passengers use their mobile devices to connect to NEV shuttle service, on-demand rideshare, and shared bikes/scooters.

REAL-TIME TRAVEL INFORMATION STATION 1 2 3
Provide real-time information and availability of mobility options via a mobile app, website, or kiosks at the station and key destinations such as the beach and commercial areas.

WALKWAYS STATION 1 2 3
Enhance pedestrian environment along major roads with widened sidewalks, pedestrian-scale lighting, and landscaped buffering (where possible).

CROSSINGS STATION 1 3
Improve pedestrian mobility by upgrading crosswalks at freeway on/off ramps along Balboa Ave and Morena Blvd and at key intersections along Garnet Ave and Grand Ave.

BIKEWAYS STATION 1 2 3
Improve access for bikes and scooters along Garnet Ave, Balboa Ave, and Grand Ave by providing low stress multi-use paths that are consistent with the Balboa Avenue Station Area Specific Plan.

BIKEWAYS STATION 1 3
Implement a two-way separated cycle track along the west side of Morena Blvd with 2-stage turn boxes at the intersections to facilitate safe north-south travel for bikes and scooters.

MICROMOBILITY SERVICES STATION 1 2 3
Provide convenient, geofenced designated drop zones for shared dockless bikes and electric scooters at the station and nearby destinations to make effective use of the bike network.

MICROMOBILITY PARKING STATION 1 2 3
Provide secure parking options for personal bikes, scooters, hoverboards, and other rideables at the Trolley station and nearby residential and employment complexes.

DEDICATED TRANSIT LANES STATION 1 2
Explore adding a dynamic flexible lane during peak commute periods for transit and shared mobility services along Grand Ave coupled with transit signal priority to improve service reliability.

TRANSIT SIGNAL PRIORITY STATION 1 2 3
Provide a queue jump at Morena Blvd to minimize delay for transit and microtransit heading into and out of the station to increase reliability and on-time performance for users.

MOPED SCOOTERSHARE STATION 1 2 3
Implement a moped scootershare program to provide a low speed mobility option that requires less space to park and helps passengers get to destinations farther than a 5 minute bike ride.

CARSHARE STATION 1 3
Provide dedicated carshare parking spaces at the station, commercial centers, residential communities, and on-street to encourage the use of an area-wide carshare program.

MICROTRANSIT STATION 1 2 3
Provide an on-demand microtransit shuttle service that utilizes clearly marked, dedicated curb space locations to allow users to travel between the beach community and the station.

NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES STATION 1 2
Deploy low speed, zero-emission shuttles that pick up/drop passengers at clearly marked, dedicated curb space around the Pacific Beach community.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION 1 2 3
Site EV charging stations at the station and throughout the mobility hub for neighborhood electric vehicles, personal electric vehicles, electric bike/scootershare, and electric carshare.

SMART PARKING STATION 1 2
Implement smart parking solutions at the station and Pacific Beach community to provide real-time availability, space reservations, and parking priority for carpoolers.

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SO WHAT COMES NEXT?

Recommended mobility hub features for the Balboa Avenue Station could be incorporated into the Pacific Beach and Clairemont Community Plan Updates while helping fulfill Balboa Avenue Station Area Specific Plan and Morena Corridor Specific Plan strategies. However, features should adapt to new mobility innovations.

Successful implementation of the Balboa Avenue Station Mobility Hub will require close collaboration among SANDAG, the City of San Diego, Caltrans, MTS, the private sector (developers, property managers, employers, mobility & technology providers), and other community stakeholders. To make the mobility hub a reality, the following four implementation actions may be considered early on:

Adopt policies that enable mobility hub feature implementation

- Integrate recommended walkways, improved crossings, buffered bikeways, and dedicated lanes for pooled mobility within the community plan update, capital improvement plans, and service operation changes. *(City of San Diego, MTS, SANDAG)*

- Update parking policies for the Trolley station and existing/future developments to integrate dedicated carshare spaces, EV charging stations, carpool spaces, and smart parking technologies. *(MTS, City of San Diego, Developers, Property Owners, SANDAG)*

- Review existing land use policies and assess the potential for TOD housing at and around the station. *(SANDAG, Caltrans, City of San Diego, MTS)*

- Develop and adopt a neighborhood electric vehicle (NEV) transportation plan that enables NEVs to operate on roadways above 35 mph, where needed, and identifies NEV charging and passenger loading zones. *(SANDAG, Caltrans, MTS, Mobility & Technology Providers, SDG&E, City of San Diego)*

Allocate flexible space for mobility hub features

- Allocate space for mobility hub features - dedicated lanes for microtransit and NEV shuttle use, passenger loading curb, dockless micromobility drop zones, and enhanced bikeways for safer micromobility travel. *(SANDAG, MTS, Mobility & Technology Providers, Employers, City of San Diego, Property Owners)*

- Encourage developers and property owners to allocate space for recommended mobility hub features within residential complexes, especially TOD housing sites. *(Developers, Property Owners, SANDAG, MTS, City of San Diego, Mobility & Technology Providers)*

Partner to fund, pilot, & sustain mobility hub features

- Partner with private entities to site passenger loading zones within nearby developments to facilitate safe and convenient pick up/drop off by on-demand rideshare and shuttles services during peak periods. *(City of San Diego, SANDAG, MTS, Employers, Property Owners, Mobility & Technology Providers)*

- Partner with a private operator to pilot neighborhood electric vehicle (NEV) shuttle service in the PB business district. Public and private subsidies may be needed to establish initial ridership. *(Mobility & Technology Providers, Employers, Property Managers, City of San Diego, MTS, SANDAG)*

- Purchase and site real-time travel displays indicating Trolley schedule plus proximity of other shared mobility options. Shared mobility operators sponsor displays in exchange for complimentary marketing. *(Employers, Property Owners, MTS, SANDAG, Mobility & Technology Providers)*

Monitor progress & performance metrics to refine strategies

- Assess performance of micromobility and on-demand shuttle ridership to adjust service model, vehicle supply, and subsidy levels. *(Employers, Mobility & Technology Providers, SANDAG, MTS, City of San Diego)*

- Implement open data policies to better assess ridership, mode shift and travel preferences. Mobility hub implementation hinges on collecting, aggregating, managing, and acting on data from a wide variety of sources. *(SANDAG, Mobility & Technology Providers, City of San Diego, MTS)*