



BART January 2026 Fare Increase

BART Accessibility Task Force

April 24, 2025



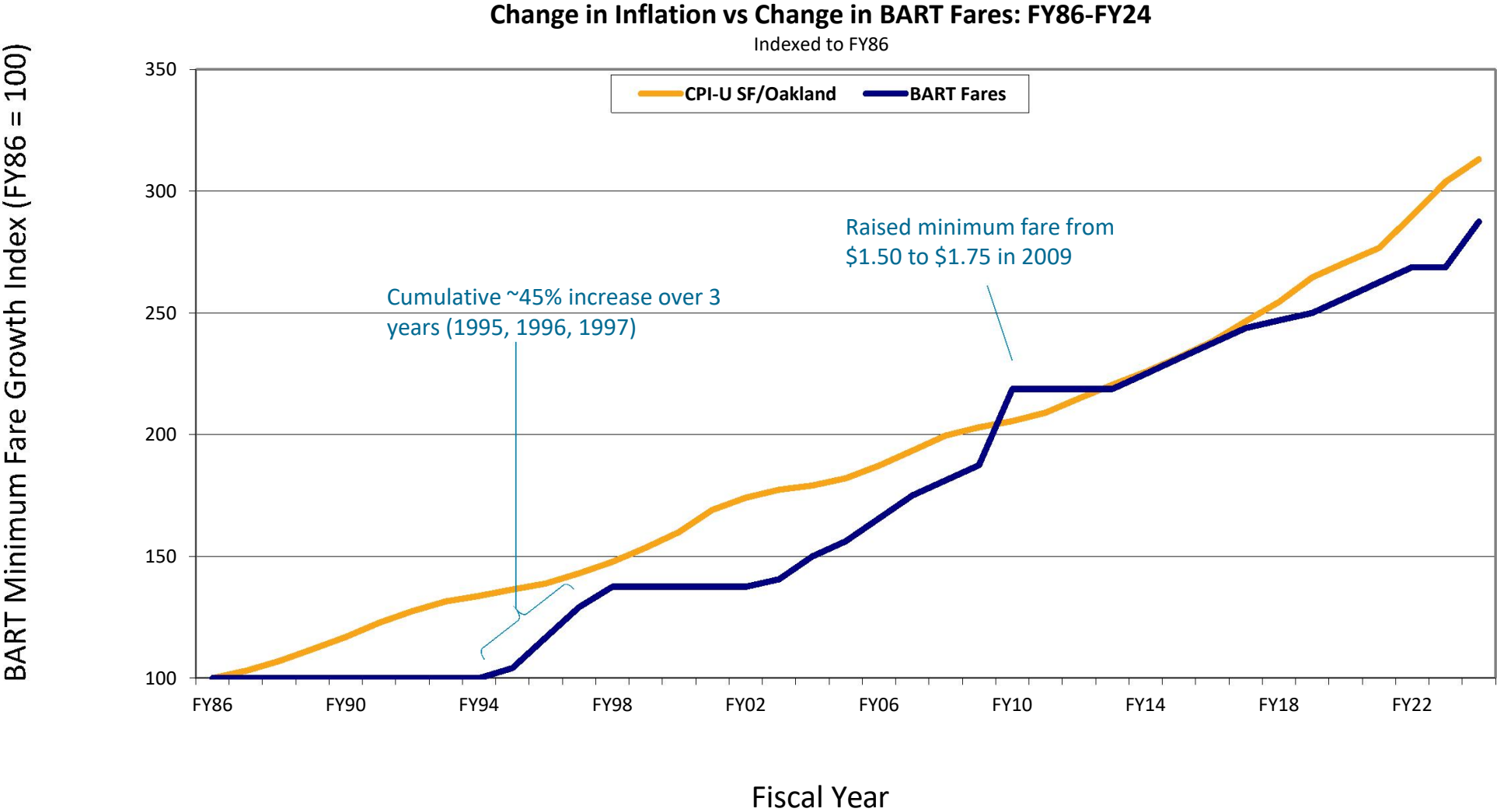
Agenda

1. Update on Less-than-CPI Fare Increase for 2026
2. Title VI Analysis and Report Process
3. Discussion and Questions

What is the Productivity-Adjusted Inflation-Based Fare Increase Program?

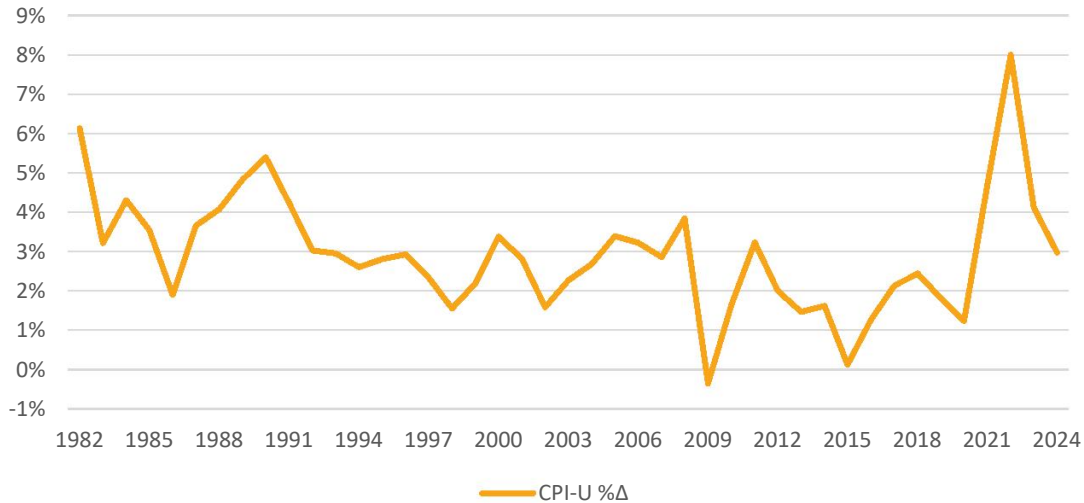
- CPI-based fare increase policy adjusts fares **every other year by inflation less 0.5%**
 - Inflation is defined as the average of CPI-U (national) and CPI-W (local)
 - Last approved increase: January 2024 & January 2025 (5.5% each)
 - Board approved two smaller increases due to anomalously high 11.4% inflation
 - Next increase pending approval scheduled for **January 2026**; final increase in Series 3
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- For nearly 20 years, CPI-based fare policy has allowed fares to keep up with the cost of providing reliable and safe service
 - Allows for stable fare adjustments as required by the District's 2003 Financial Stability Policy
 - Keeping fares in line with inflation is critical for restoring District financial sustainability

BART Minimum Fares vs. Inflation



Inflation, 2022 to 2024

CPI Annual Average Growth



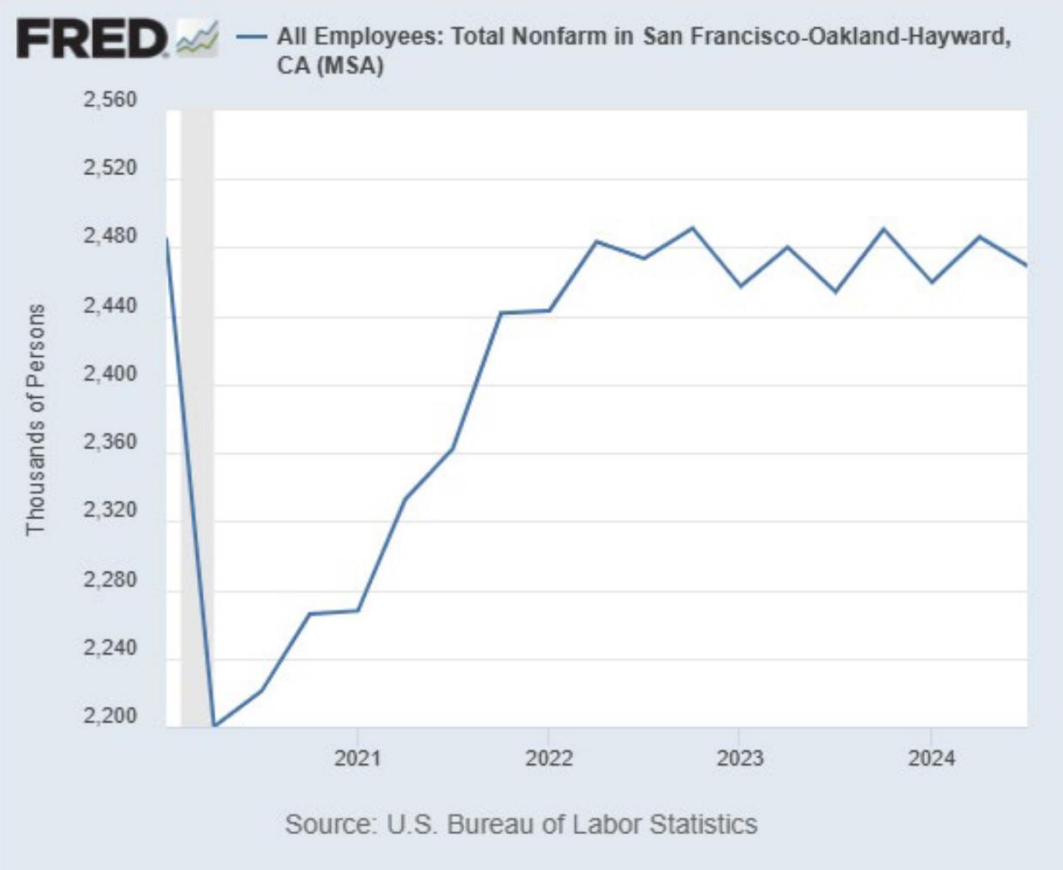
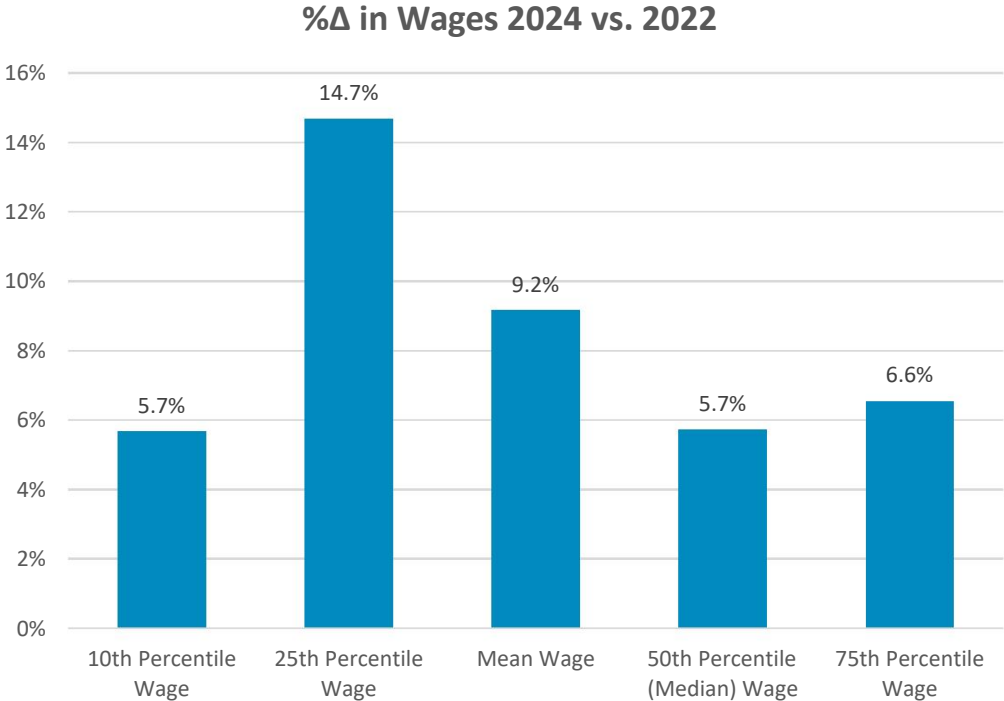
	CPI-W Local	CPI-U National
	Annual Increase	
2023 / 2022	3.3%	4.1%
2024 / 2023	2.8%	2.9%
Cumulative	6.2%	7.2%
Average		6.7%
Less Productivity Factor		0.5%
Fare Increase Eff. 1/1/26		6.2%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

- During the period assessed for this increase (Jan 2022 to Dec 2024),
 - Local inflation was 6.2% and national inflation was 7.2%
 - Annual average is 6.7%
- The resulting fare increase for January 2026 is 6.2%

Wages and Employment, 2022 to 2024

- Wages in the BART service area increased 9% on average
- Total employment remains close to pre-pandemic levels
- Local legal minimum wages increased by an average of 8%



Source: CA EDD Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics for Oakland and San Francisco Metro Division



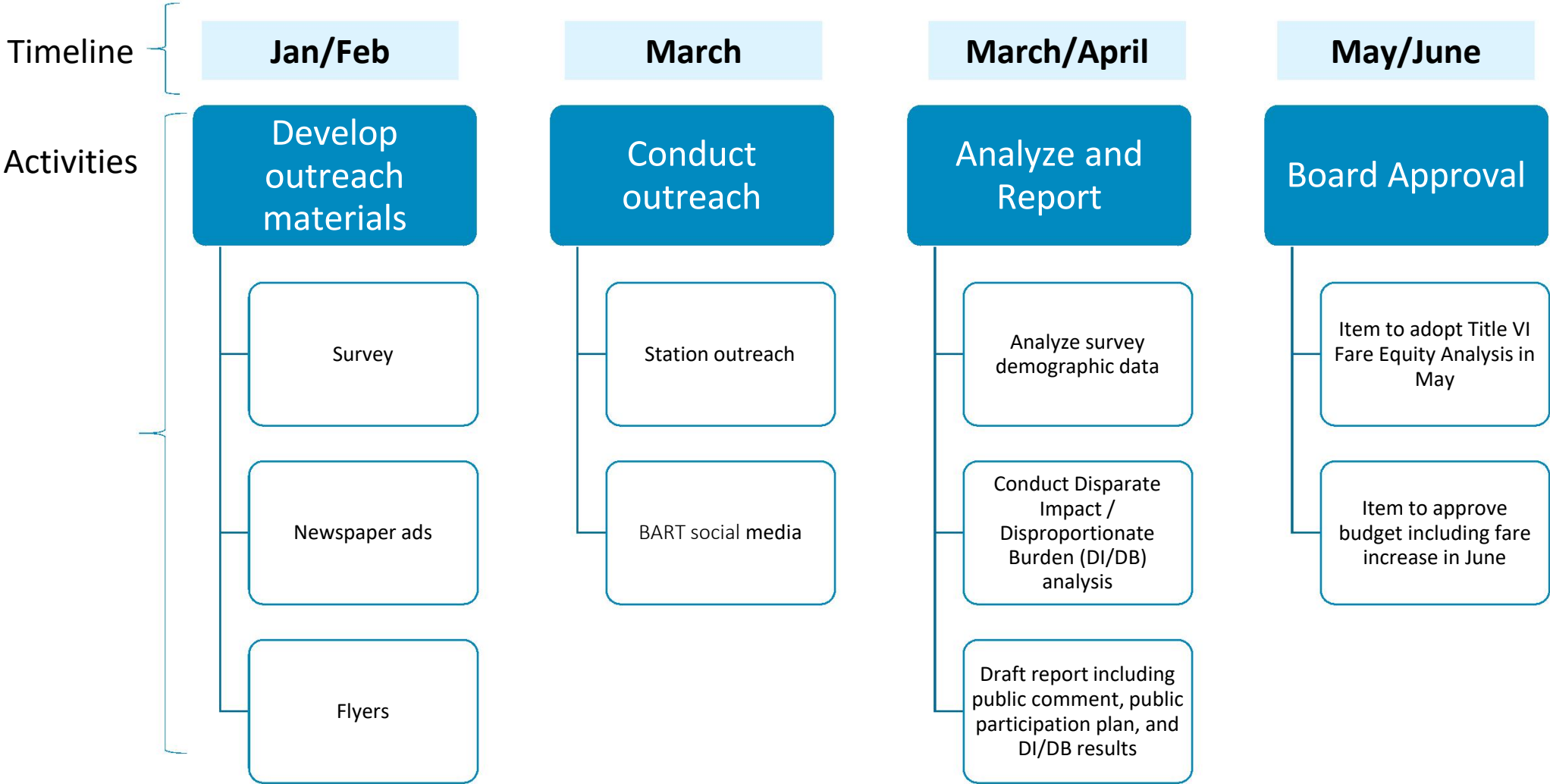
Net fiscal impact of fare increase

- Expected to increase annual fare revenue by \$8M in FY26 and \$16M in FY27 and after
- Fares remain a critical funding source for BART to provide safe, frequent, and reliable service

\$ In Millions

<u>FY26</u>	<u>FY27</u>	<u>FY28</u>
7.6	15.7	16.2

Title VI Analysis and Report Process



What next?

- Complete Title VI analysis for disproportionate burden/disparate impact
- May 22 – Board Action Item to adopt Title VI Fare Equity Analysis
- June 12 – Board Action Item to approve budget, which contains inflation-based fare increase

Discussion and questions

