



SFMTA

Train Control Upgrade Project

SFMTA Board of Directors
Subcommittee
November 3, 2023





 **Background**

 **Project Overview**

 **Risk Management**

 **Contracting Strategy**

 **Budget and Funding**



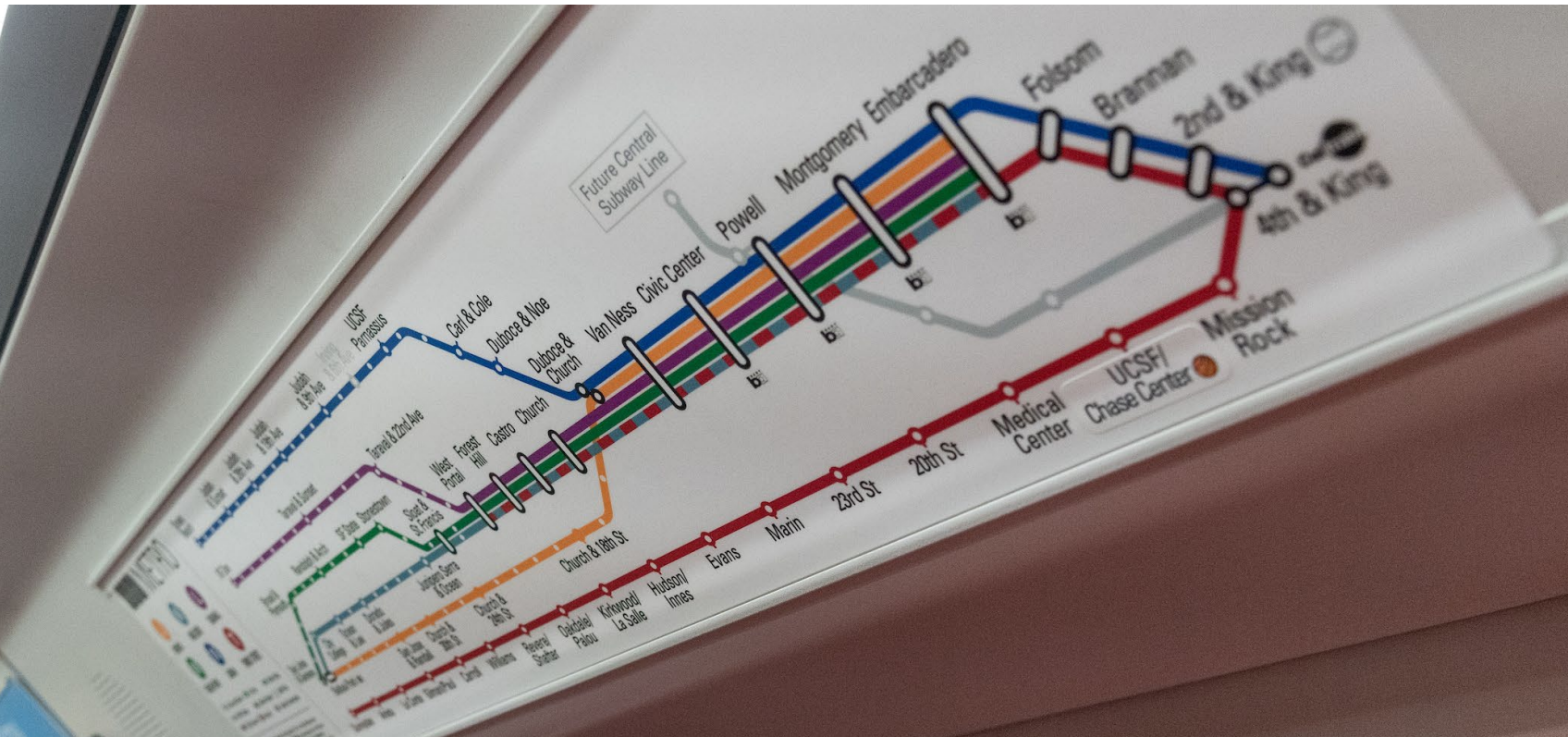
Muni Metro challenges

The Muni Metro subway has yet to live up to its potential. Challenges include the design of the subway and age of the current train control system.

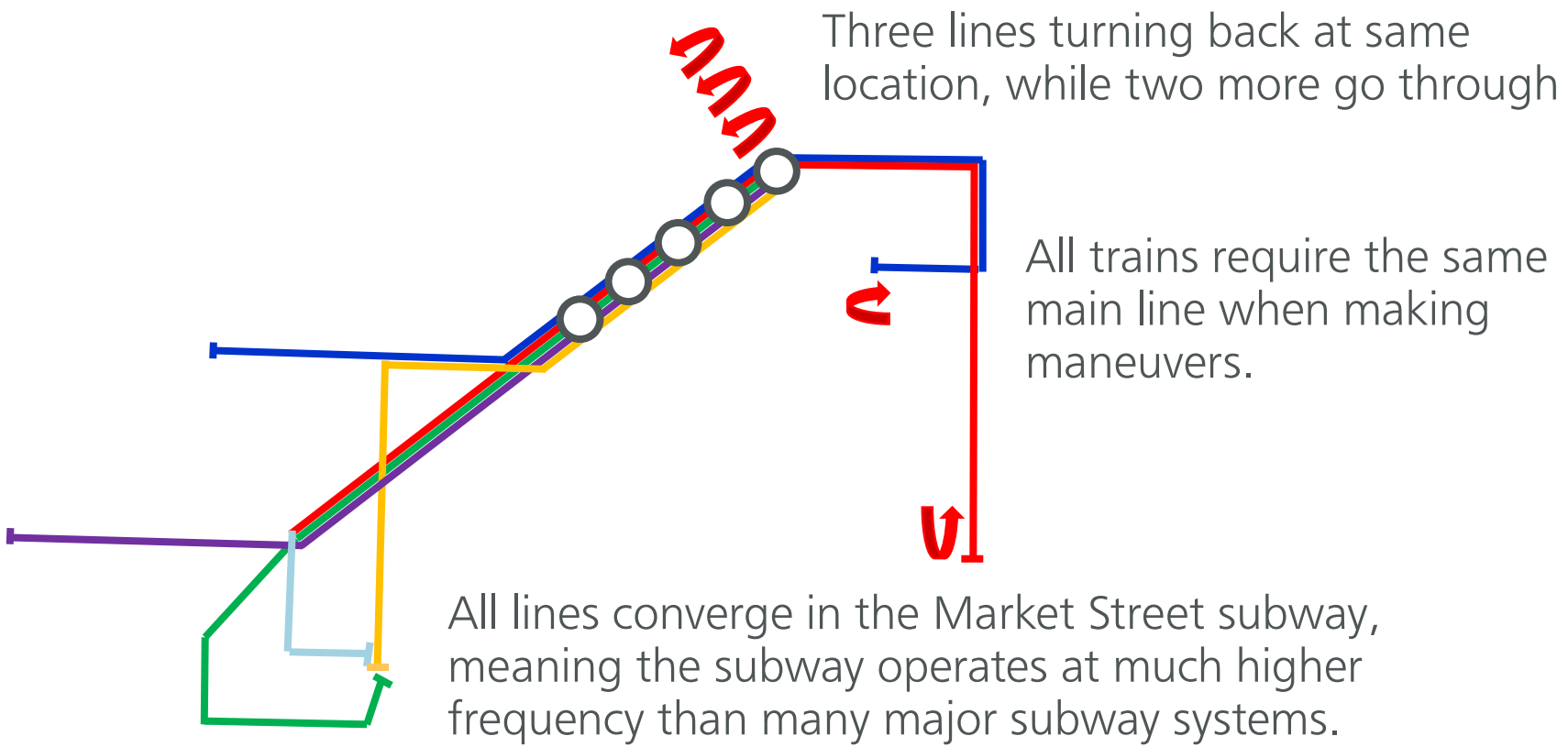


Muni Metro structural design

*Second busiest light rail in the U.S. and the last to use only one tunnel for operations. **Five lines operating mostly in one tunnel requires a high-performing system for more reliable operations.***



Muni Metro structural limitations



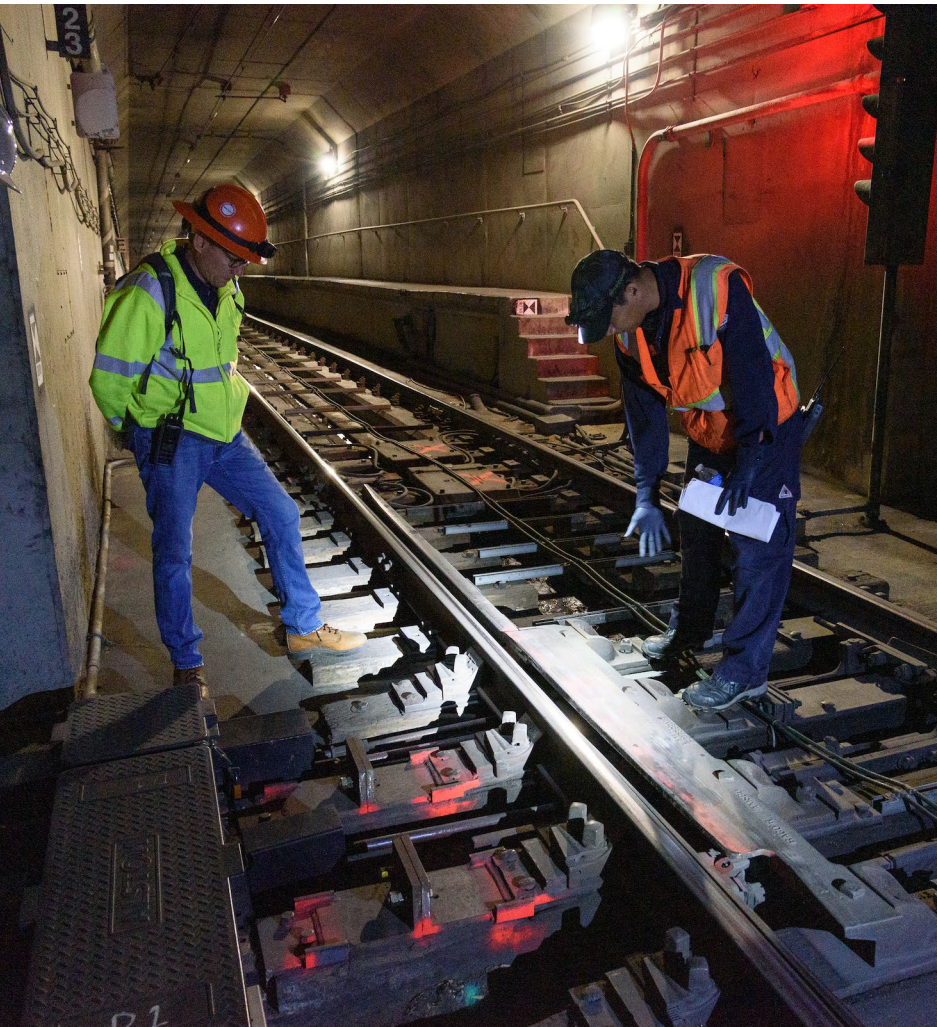
Max trains on a single track per hour, peak hour

SF Muni	40
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BART	22
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WMATA	26
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Impacts on Service



5 Metro lines in 1 tunnel causes frequent delays and congestion.

Good service requires 1- to 2-minute headways in the tunnel, or about 45 trains per hour. **This is beyond the capacity of the existing train control system.**

We have compensated by running a reduced service plan to reduce congestion delays.

Benefits of a modern train control system



Tracks the locations of all trains in the system at all times



Prevents collisions and enforces safe spacing between trains



Controls the trains' braking (and acceleration in auto mode)



Sets the train's routing through the system



Maintains consistent train spacing system-wide



Ensures reliability of train service and frequency



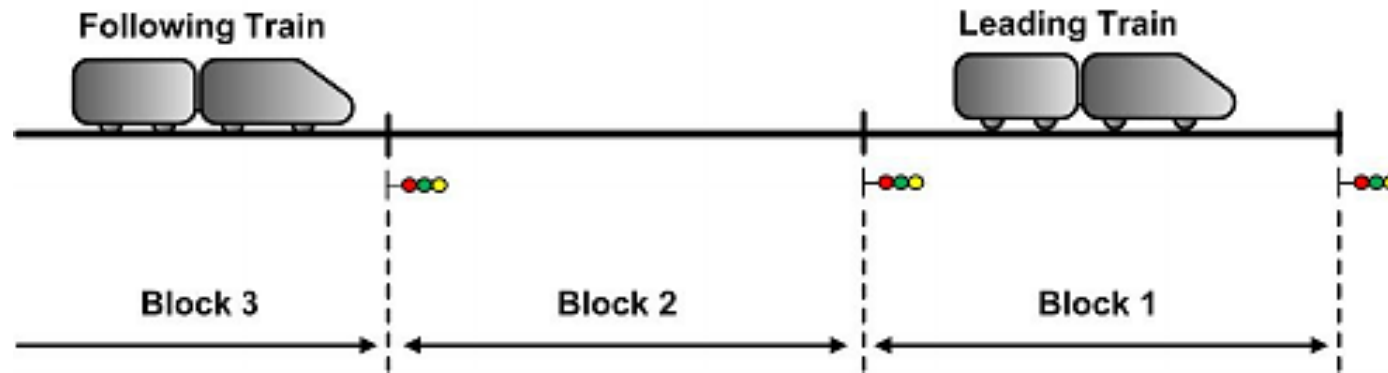
Allows greater flexibility of service plans and service during disruptions



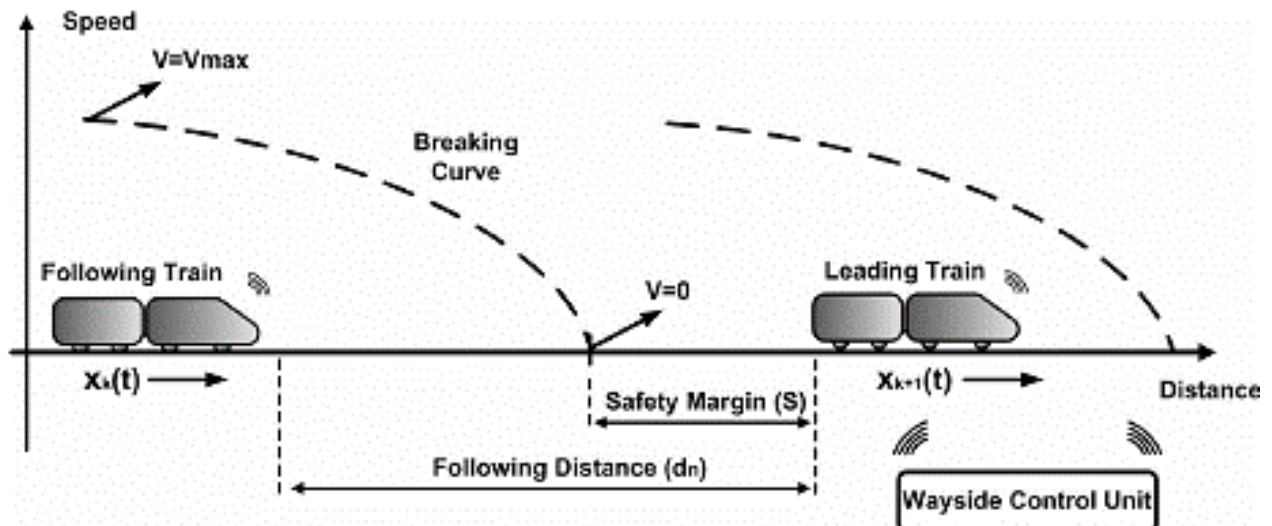
Prevents delays due to train congestion, traffic signals, or junction delays

Benefits of a modern train control system

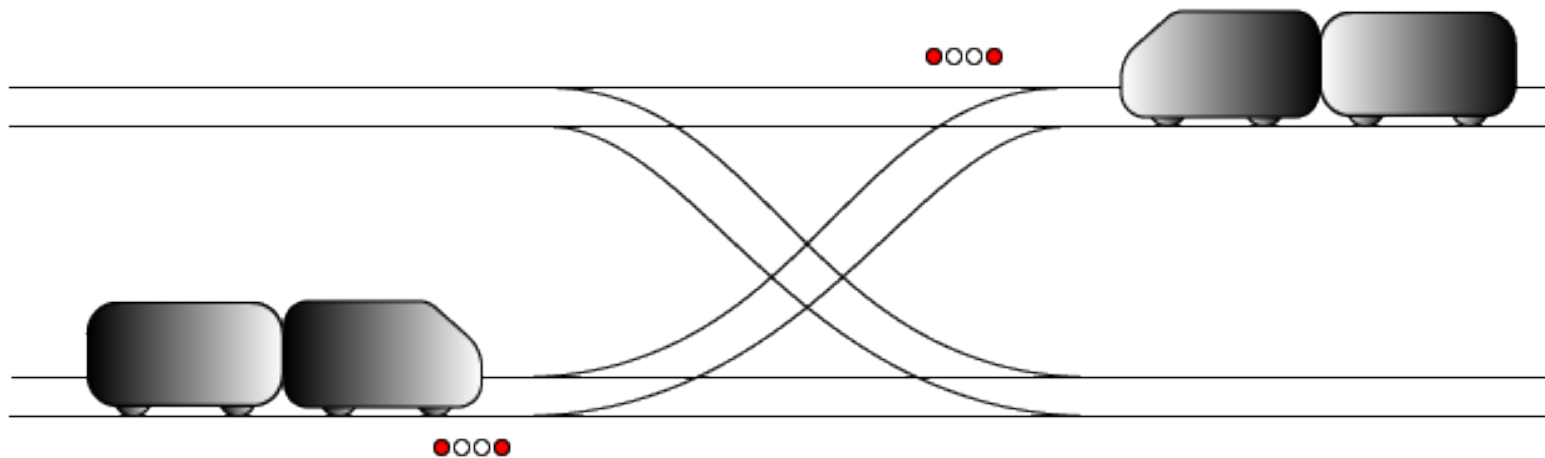
Fixed block



Moving block



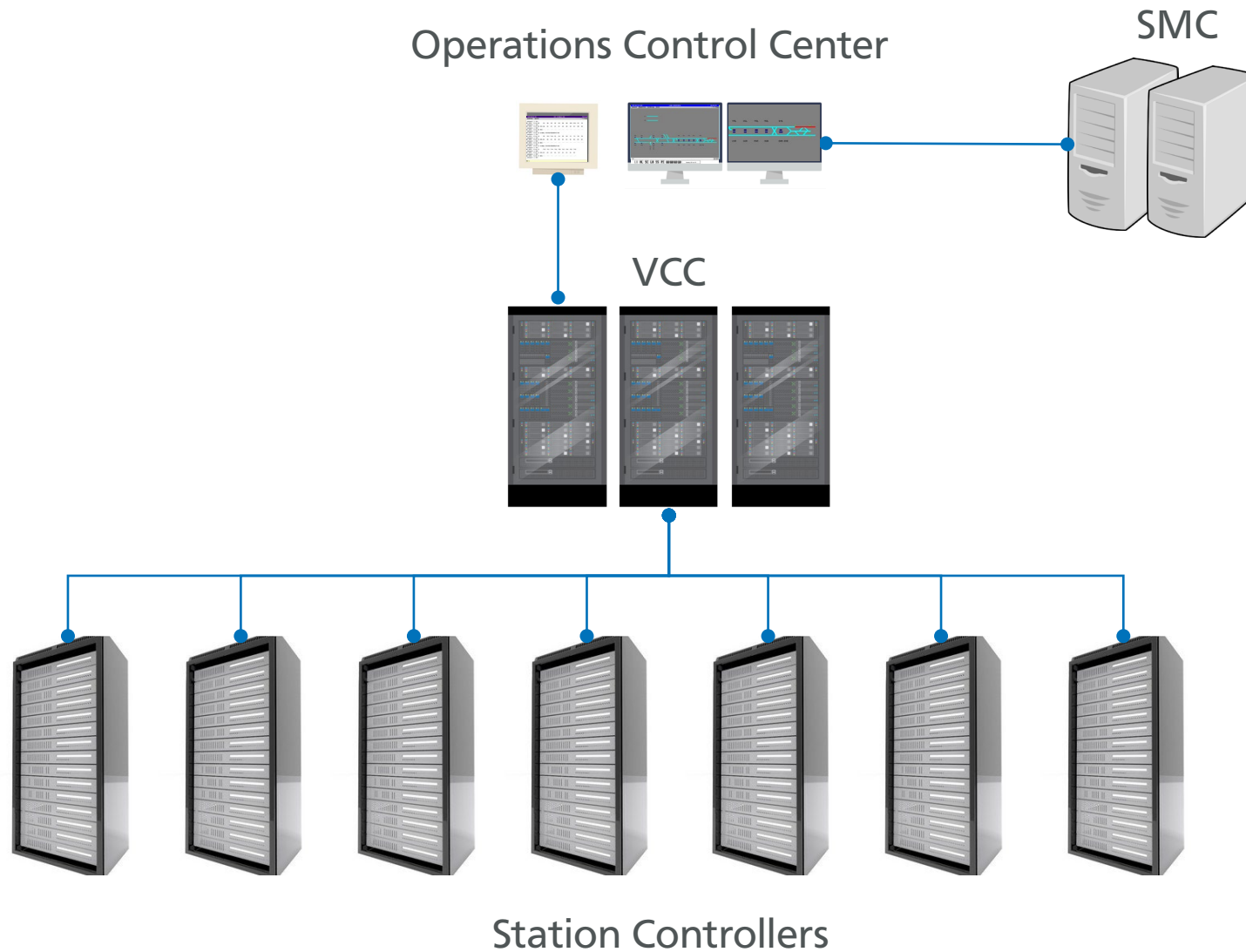
Benefits of a modern train control system



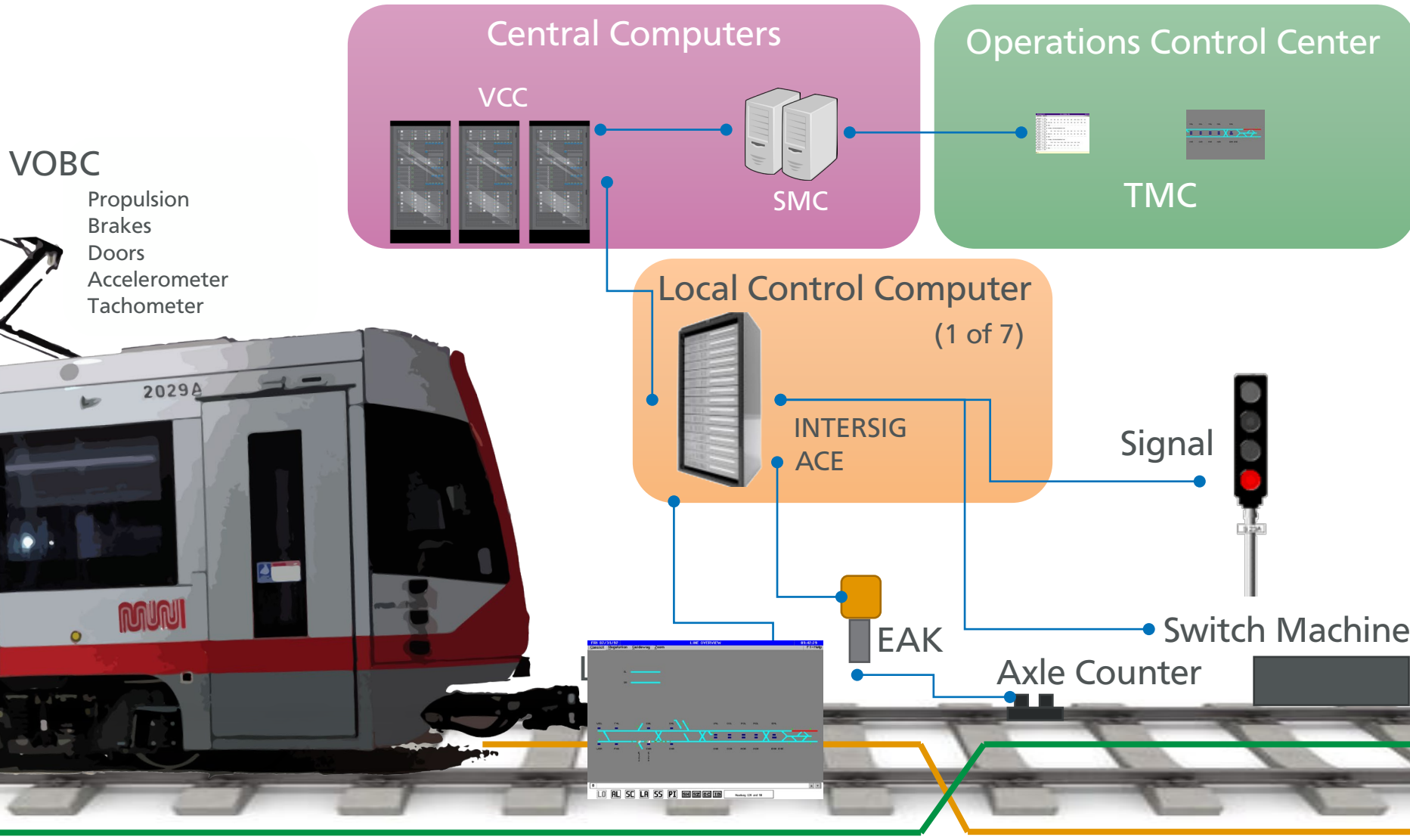
Need to control movement through junctions (called 'interlockings').

This includes occupancy control (fixed block and moving block) as well as switch position.

Current system: ATCS



Current system: ATCS



Current system limitations

The Automatic Train Control System (ATCS) is almost 30 years old with 1980s technology and 1990s components.

2019 Muni Reliability Working Group recommended **replacing the ATCS as the top priority.**

**Aging train control
infrastructure**

+

**Outdated train control
technology**

Computer failures

Communication failures

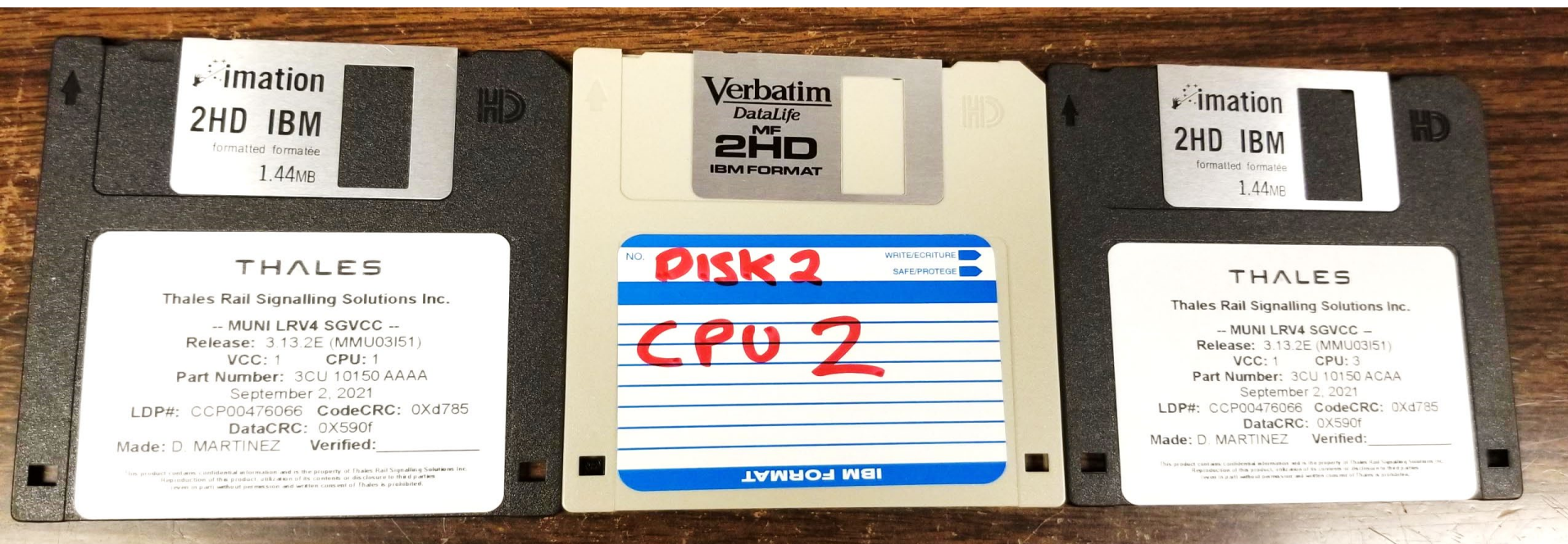
Lack of parts and expertise

No surface train control

Why upgrade Muni Metro's train control?

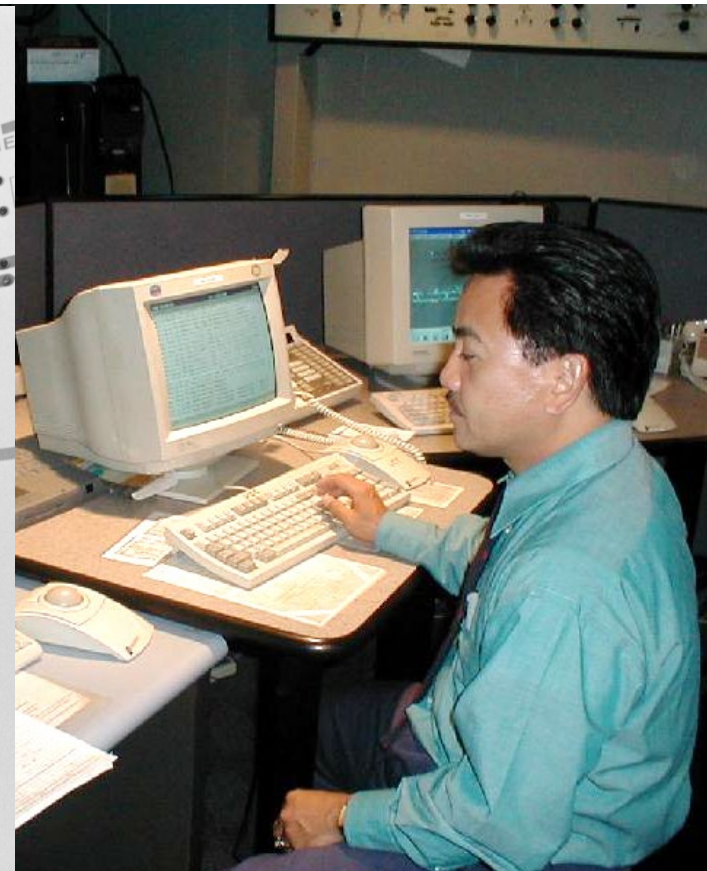
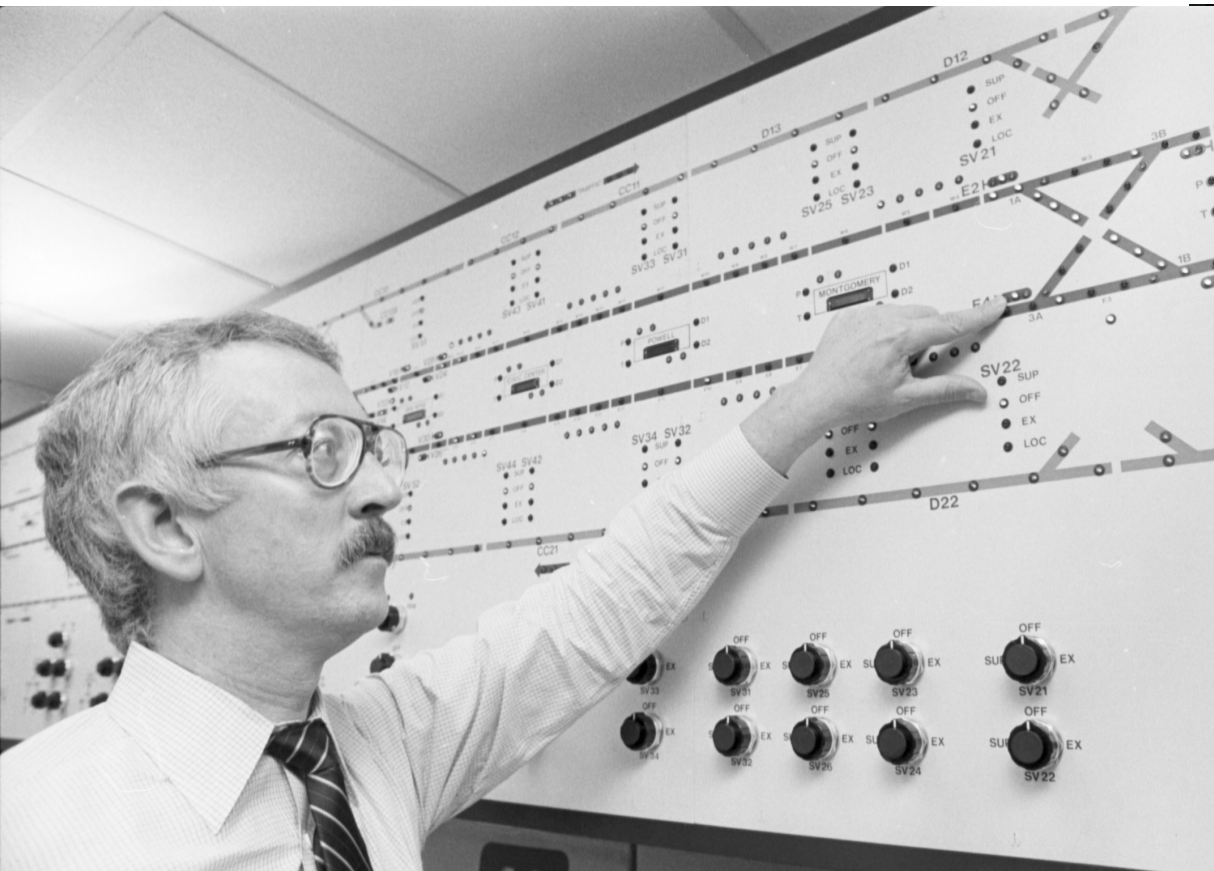
Critical need: Prevent critical equipment failure and ensure ongoing Muni Metro operations.

Unique opportunity: Centerpiece of subway renewal to modernize and grow Muni Metro for decades to come.



Critical Need

Replace the outdated Automatic Train Control System soon to prevent critical failure and keep Muni Metro running.



Unique Opportunity

Modernize the systems that make Muni Metro work to fundamentally improve service and enable future Metro growth.



Key Take-Aways

- Because of the physical layout of our rail system, Muni needs to **push as many trains as possible** through the Market Street subway.
- Train control systems are primarily designed for safety, but **our ATCS plays a critical role in subway performance**.
- Muni operates a moving block ATCS, but when there is a failure it reverts back to a fixed block system (half-speed, half the throughput).
- **We are asking for much more** throughput on a single track in our subway than other major world metros.
- Our ATCS is over 20 years old and we have not significantly upgraded it, so **components are becoming obsolete** and more prone to failure.
- Because of the older design and technology, **recovery from a failure is slower** with our ATCS than it would be with a modern train control system
- ATCS failures and subway congestion contribute to the subway's unreliability.



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Project Overview



Train Control Upgrade Project (TCUP)

10+ year, phased upgrade to Communications-Based Train Control (CBTC) to modernize Muni Metro operations, expand service, capacity and reliability.



Key TCUP Objectives



Increase Muni Metro system capacity



Extend high safety standards system-wide



Enable shorter, more consistent train spacing and travel times



Support Muni Metro operations and service at all times, system-wide



Provide greater flexibility to service and contingency operations



Build in continual system upgrades to keep hardware and software current

TCUP Muni Metro Rider Benefits

Modern Communications-Based Train Control (CBTC) offers better coverage, reliability, efficiency, flexibility to boost Muni Metro performance.

Fewer delays

20-25% fewer subway delays due to fewer train control failures and less train congestion.

Consistent trip times

Expanding system to street-level and integrating with traffic signals means more consistent trip times.

More capacity

More consistent, reliable operations means more trains can move through the system smoothly.

Modern technology

Wi-Fi and cellular connections track and communicate with every train, continually and precisely.

Better maintainability

System monitors redundant components for faults so preventative action can be taken before service is affected.

TCUP Muni Metro Rider Benefits

In addition to maintaining the excellent safety record of the previous system, following the project, customers will see:

Fewer delays

Customers no longer “stuck” on trains between stations due to subway congestion or slow-moving trains with a communication failure.

Faster trips and less time waiting

Trips on Muni will be faster with better timed traffic signals on the surface. The CBTC system will tell signals a train is coming well in advance.

More reliable service

More consistent wait times that match the advertised frequency of trains, making trip-planning more reliable.

Better service management

CBTC will give train controllers more flexibility to manage bunching and gaps.

Enabling Technology



Centralized Network Management



Wireless Communications



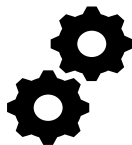
Modern Computers



Traffic Signal Integration



Service Management Tools



Data and Diagnostics

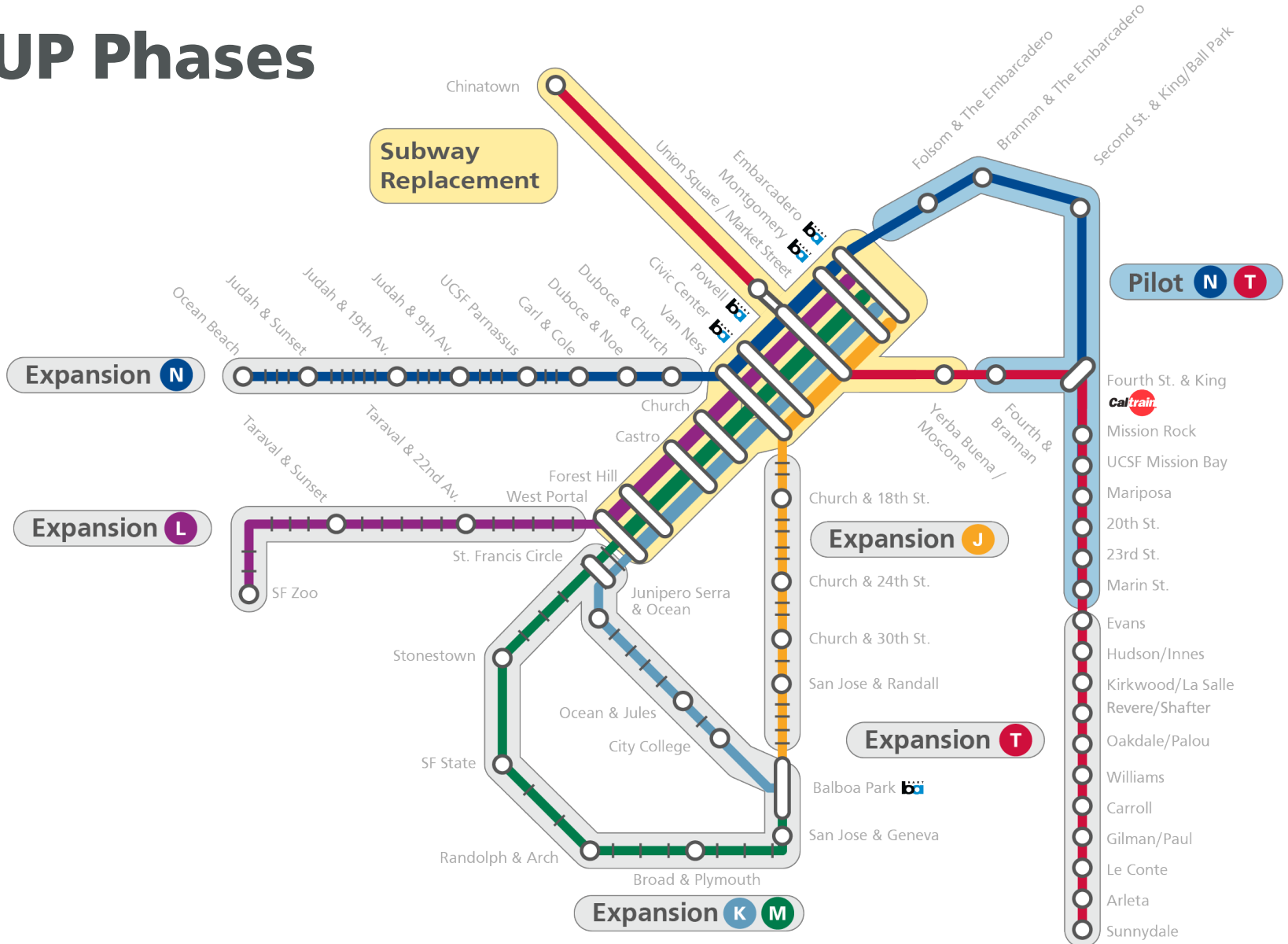


Spare parts and technical support

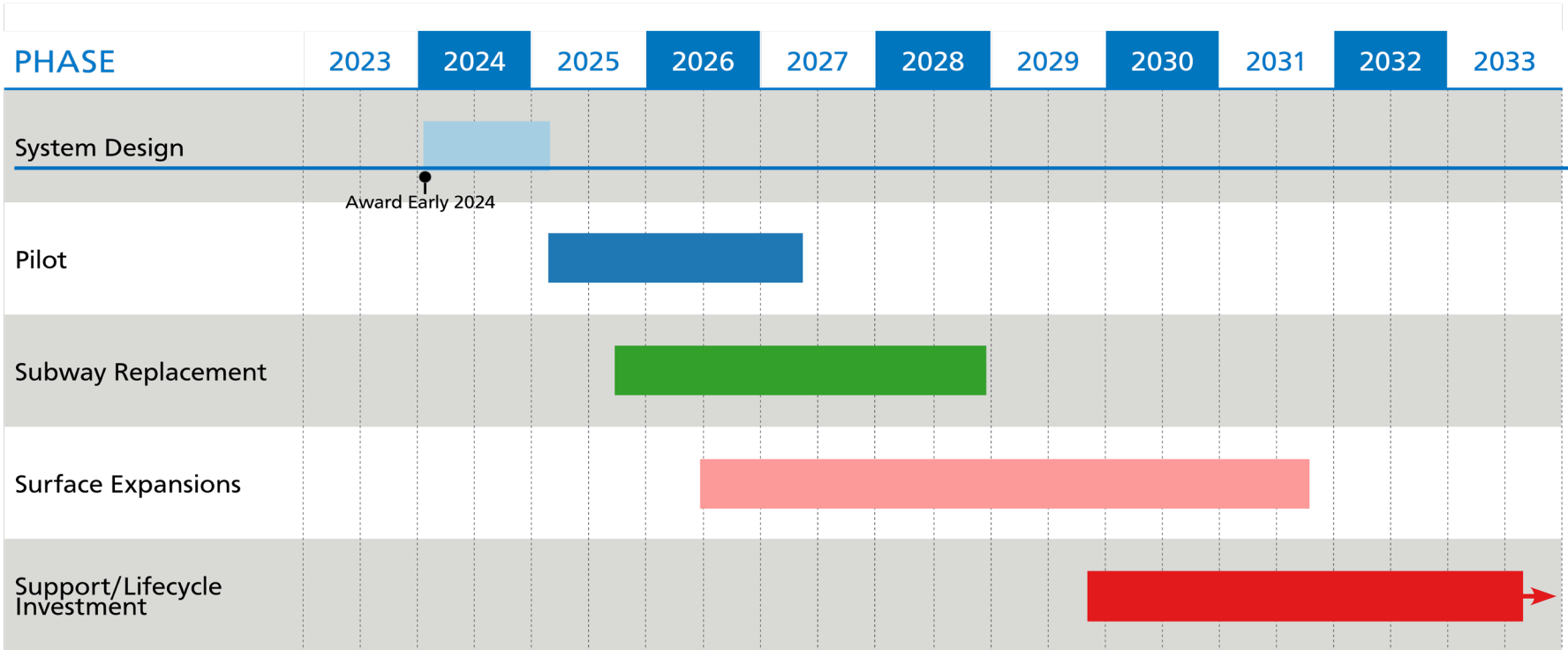


Software Upgrades

TCUP Phases



TCUP Schedule and Budget



Total Project Budget: \$608 million
Support Costs: \$100 million over 10 years



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Project Budget and Funding



Funding Approach

Carefully planned funding commits to project and prioritizes discretionary sources.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) FY23-27 Funding Plan: **\$290M**
Full Project Estimate: **Over \$600M**

Funding Highlights:

- TCUP has been successful in competitive grants and discretionary funding sources.
- 10-year funding plan shows commitment to the project necessary to compete for funding, but without adjustment will siphon formula funds for SOGR.
- Staff anticipate the strength of this project will continue to attract competitive discretionary funding sources and local opportunities.



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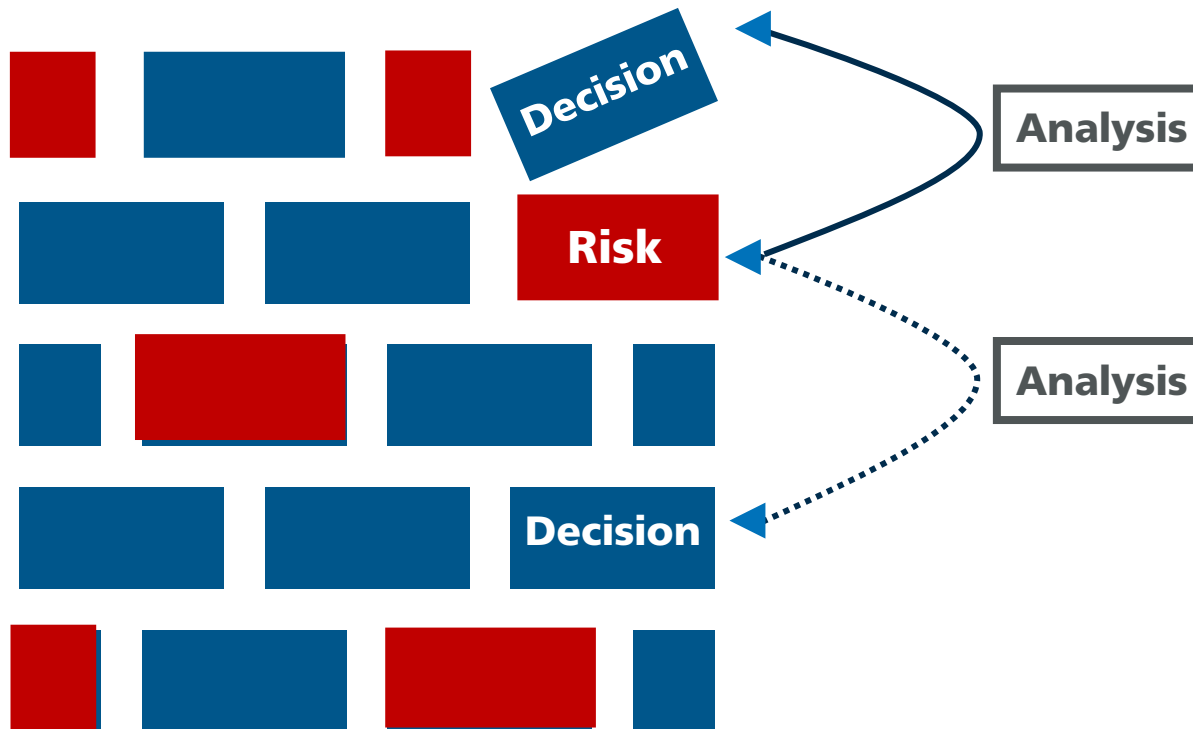
Risk Management



TCUP Risk Management Ethos

Proactive risk management early and often to minimize challenges.

Decision → Analysis → Risk → Analysis → Decision ...



A project of this magnitude has many unavoidable risks including cost overruns and project delays.

Each decision carries potential risk that the team analyses carefully before choosing a path.

Learning from Peers and Past Projects

The SFMTA has drawn from multiple sources of lessons learned to set the Train Control Upgrade Project up for success.



Major SFMTA capital projects like Central Subway and Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit



Peer agencies in North America and Europe



Past SFMTA technology projects



Current Automatic Train Control System (ATCS)

Harnessing International Expertise

AMERICAN PEERS

MBTA Green Line
BART
New York City Subway



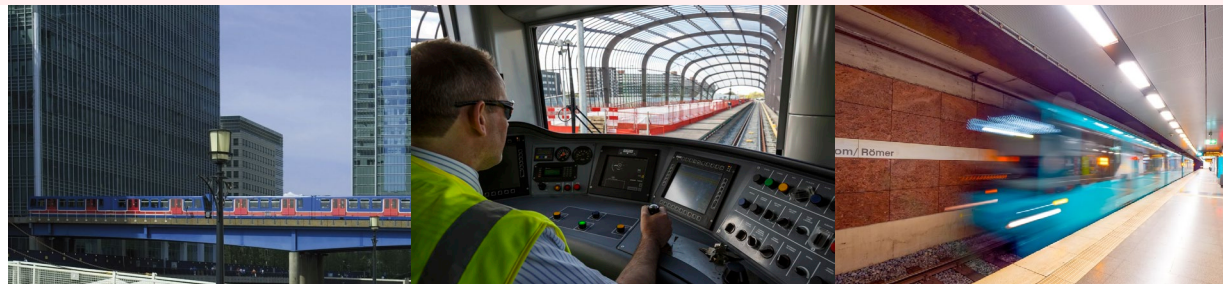
CANADIAN PEERS

Vancouver SkyTrain
Edmonton
Toronto (Eglinton LRT)



INTERNATIONAL PEERS

London (LU and DLR)
Amsterdam
Frankfurt VGM



Applying Lessons to Risk Management

Procurement Method

Based on product quality and expected long-term performance.

Harness Opportunities

Negotiate support terms while supplier is in competition with its peers.

Supplier Partnership & Performance Incentives

Contractual incentives for supplier to partner in the success of the system.

Support-Focused Lifecycle Management

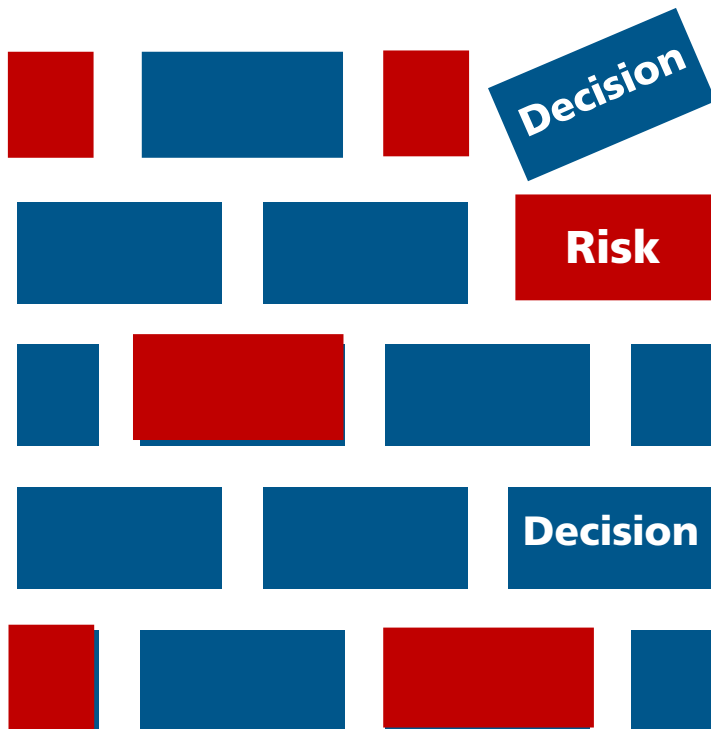
Plan to keep hardware and software up to date.

Risk Assessment

Anticipate risk points early and plan mitigation.

Risk Management: Contract Strategy

Partnering with knowledgeable CBTC consultants is a vital part of the TCUP risk management strategy.



RISK	MANAGEMENT
System quality	One contract for support + procurement
Limited ability to select system/supplier	Separate contracts – supplier, installer
Supplier-installer conflicts	Consultant to hold contractors accountable and mediate disputes



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Contracting





Innovating Contracting

Multiyear contracts and negotiated procurement improve price and terms because firms are in competition with peers

Key elements linked to strategic goals:



Performance-based support fee creates contractual elements for supplier to build reliability into initial design



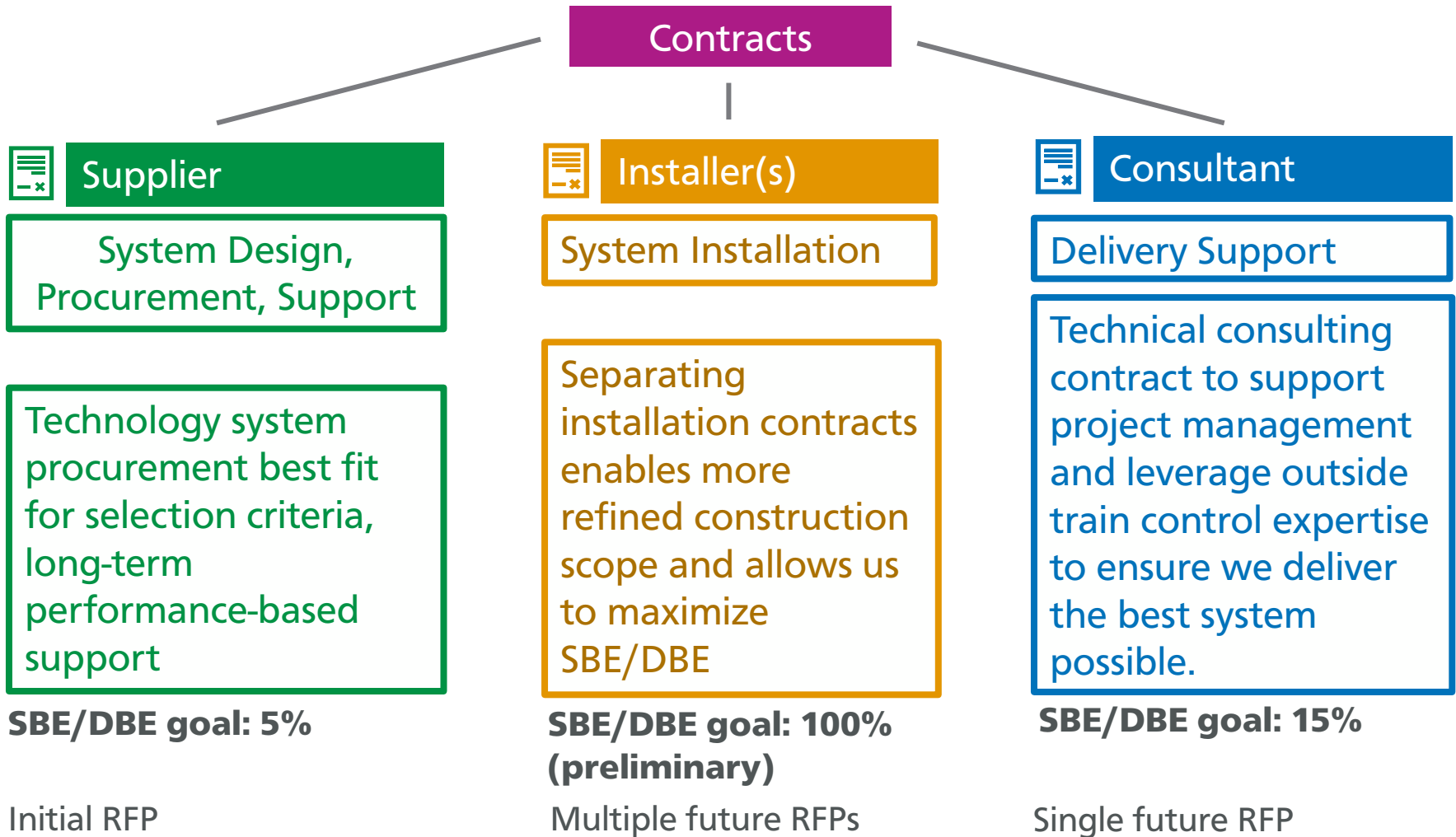
Vendor-Managed Spares Inventory designed to incentivize reduced parts replacement



Regular software updates keeps hardware and software up to date



Contract Diversification



Consultant Request For Proposal (RFP)

As-needed technical services supporting SFMTA not to exceed 10 years and \$36,000,000.

Key rationale for consultant contract:



Consultant helps SFMTA mitigate risks identified in project risk assessment



Consultant augments SFMTA technical staff and grows in-house CBTC knowledge so that SFMTA can self-support in the future



Consultant helps SFMTA hold Supplier & Installer accountable

Services in Consultant RFP



Project Management & Administrative Support



Construction Management Support



Design and Engineering Support



System Integration Support



Quality Assurance Support



Testing & Commissioning



Safety and Security Evaluation



Post-Delivery, Ops & Maintenance Consulting

Questions?

