

WALNUT CREEK

PLANNING The City of Walnut Creek is in the process of updating its General Plan. The Draft EIR was released in August 2005 and the Planning Commission is scheduled to make a final recommendation in winter 2005/06. A Comprehensive Station Plan (CSP) was prepared for the Walnut Creek BART station in preparation for the transit village project.

DEVELOPMENT In 2000, BART's Board of Directors authorized initiation of exclusive negotiations with Transit Village Associates to create a mixed-use development including apartments, retail, a BART Zone Command Police Facility, and office space. The Transit Village Associates project includes development of 440 apartments, 33,000 square feet of retail, 8,700 square feet of office space, and 1,373 parking spaces. In May and June of 2002, the developer made presentations to the City of Walnut Creek's Planning Commission and City Council. In December 2002, the BART Board approved an Option Agreement for a long-term ground lease. In 2005, the City, developer, and BART initiated discussions to reconfigure the proposed project to address improved station access and more effective connectivity between the project and surrounding land uses. The next steps include formal approval from the City and environmental clearance.

ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS In 2004, BART reinstated the parking validation program at the Walnut Creek Station. The program was necessary to deter non-BART users from using the parking garage.

In March 2005, the BART Board approved the institution of parking fees at stations which had sold 15% of the parking spaces at the stations for reserved parking, or where the local jurisdiction had requested the a daily parking fee be established. The daily parking fees are or will be at ten East Bay stations including the Walnut Creek station. The initial starting daily parking fee at the station will be \$1 per day. Monthly, single day, and airport/long-term parking permits can also be used at the station

The District is installing accessible fare gates to accommodate the access needs of customers in wheelchairs, bicyclists, and others with luggage.

REINVESTMENT This station is had new energy-efficient lighting fixtures and lamps installed throughout the surface parking lot, the parking garage, and within the station in 2005. This station platform canopies were re-roofed and the parking lot re-paved in 2005. This station has had upgraded replacement, ADA-compliant platform edge tiles installed.