2021 Regional Plan

FLEXIBLE FLEETS



# What are Flexible Fleets?

Flexible Fleets are shared, on-demand transportation services that provide convenient and personalized travel options. While they build on the popularity of services such as rideshare, bikeshare, and scootershare, fleets can also include neighborhood shuttles and delivery services. These fleets provide services for all types of trips, 24/7, which can reduce the need to own a car. They also provide important connections between high-speed Transit Leap services and key destinations such as work or home, making it easier for commuters to choose transit. Flexible Fleets are primarily accessible through mobile apps and can be operated by public and private agencies or through partnerships.

# What are the five Flexible Fleet categories?



### Micromobility

Small, low-speed vehicles and services support short trips around a community and are a healthy alternative to driving. Micromobility can be personally owned or part of a shared fleet and can include bikes, scooters, and other rideables.



#### Rideshare

Multi-passenger vehicles can provide shared trips for people with a common origin and destination. Technology enabled pooled ridehailing services such as uberPOOL and Lyft Shared to thrive in addition to traditional carpools and vanpools.



#### Microtransit

Smaller transit vehicles can carry up to 15 passengers and use technology to provide the most efficient route between your doorstep and destination. Microtransit includes smaller, allelectric vehicles known as neighborhood electric vehicle shuttles, which are sustainable and convenient for short trips within a community.



### Ridehailing

On-demand vehicles are available for short- or long-distance trips, such as Uber, Lyft, or taxi services. Ridehailing and carshare services will be automated in the future and could operate as subscription-based services, allowing users to reserve any type of vehicle for their trip.



### **Last-Mile Delivery**

Semi- or fully automated vehicles, e-bikes, drones, and bots could deliver a range of goods to homes and smart lockers at Mobility Hubs. Shared vehicles can make efficient trips by carrying passengers and goods at the same time.



### Future microtransit vehicle

- Driverless vehicles link while in motion for added passenger capacity
- 2. Cleaning bot
- 3. Holographic travel display
- Interior privacy screens ensure a comfortable experience while sharing the ride
- On-demand passenger pickup
- 6. Optional folding rack for larger rideables
- 7. Real-time seat availability
- 8. Space for personal belongings, rideables, and groceries
- 9. Accessible boarding
- 10. WiFi and mobile device charging













Photos courtesy of FedEx, Cruise, Via, Amazon, BusBot, Lyft

# **How is SANDAG planning for Flexible Fleets?**

Flexible Fleets would operate within and between Mobility Hubs. They could travel using priority treatments on Complete Corridors and require dedicated infrastructure to help make it safe and convenient to walk, bike, scoot, and ride transit. In the future, the Next OS would integrate Flexible Fleets into trip-planning tools, making booking and paying for services easier. SANDAG is developing regional policies to proactively plan for these services and to ensure they are deployed equitably

so that people without credit cards or smartphones can access them.

Future fleet vehicles may be autonomous and look different than what we're used to today. Without the need for a driver, vehicles will have space to accommodate mobility ambassadors to assist passengers and could feature amenities like real-time travel information, cleaning bots, and privacy screens that ensure a comfortable experience while sharing the ride.

# How could the San Diego region benefit?

### Better access to transit

Flexible Fleets like bikes, scooters, and shuttles provide easy and convenient connections to transit.

#### Convenience

The on-demand nature of Flexible Fleets let people book a ride anywhere and anytime, regardless of the trip's purpose.

### Improved air quality

Shifting some drivers to Transit Leap services and Flexible Fleets could lead to more shared trips, which will help reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions.

# **Reduced congestion**

Flexible Fleets reduce reliance on driving for everyday trips, which can decrease the number of cars on our roads.

# Affordability

Flexible Fleets can provide a low-cost alternative to driving a personal vehicle. Public agencies can partner with private operators to provide subsidies or trip incentives to ensure Flexible Fleet services are affordable or free when riding transit.

### **Equity**

Flexible Fleets offer a variety of personalized travel services such as car seats, wheelchair lifts, and accommodations for the visually impaired. These features help Flexible Fleets serve everyone.



