

SamTrans

CORRESPONDENCE

January 3, 2020

From: MICHAEL HARRIS
To: [Marc Hershman](#)
Cc: [Rios, Rona](#); [Simon, Mark](#); [Board \(@samtrans.com\)](#); [Helen Fiscaro](#); [john.goodwin@colma.ca.gov](#); [David Canepa](#); [Pine, Dave \[dpine@smcgov.org\]](#); [Sheri Boles](#); [Rosa Acosta](#)
Subject: SMDJ: Samtrans to lower fares (Samtrans should have put out Press Release)(article has errors)
Date: Wednesday, January 01, 2020 8:48:49 AM

[SamTrans set to lower ride fares](#)



SamTrans set to lower ride fares

Zachary Clark Daily Journal staff

Public transportation is about to get cheaper in San Mateo County.

Youth fare \$2 day pass includes disabled & seniors.
This article has errors.

I requested this when Samtrans considered \$2.20 for a day pass.

I have requested senior status be reduced to age 60.
Reno has age 60 for their bus system.

I will next request Samtrans install video displays at Serramonte Transit Center, like are at Colma BART.
These are really helpful. Sometimes I catch the 122 to Seton MC.
Sometimes I must walk up front hill.

I have requested for years that bus stops in Daly City, Colma, SSF be upgraded.
There are no shelters at several Colma & SSF stops.
We get more rain in North County. Bus stops on El Camino near HD are marginal.

The McClellan bus stop should be moved south a few feet.
There is an offset from the sidewalk for it.
I requested the Alta Loma stairs bus stop be moved off the road.
With the new sidewalk, this will be impossible.
Who think this one up??

I think it will take state legislature to reduce the senior age to 60. Contact Jerry Hill's office.

SSF has a war against seniors, disabled people, veterans, disabled veterans (& all other residents).

We need a Senior's Bill of Rights at the State / National level.

SSF needs Charter City conversion, 9 districts, at large Mayor, 2 year terms for all.

We are likely to convert San Bruno first. SB falls into 9 neat districts, but not 7.

SB already has an at large Mayor, 2 year term.

Petition state legislature for reduction from 15% to 5% for charter city conversion.

Petition legislature to change from 7 to 9 General Law Cities & mandate 2 year terms too.

The legislature gave us the Voting Rights Act & even year elections. With 483 cities, only 112 are Charter Cities.

Mike

From: [Dubost, Tina](#)
To: "MICHAEL HARRIS"; [Board \(@samtrans.com\)](#)
Cc: [De La Torre, Andria](#); ["dcanepa@smcgov.org"](#); [Pine, Dave \[dpine@smcgov.org\]](#); ["marc.hershman@sen.ca.gov"](#); [Rios, Rona](#); [Simon, Mark](#)
Subject: RE: Thanks fare reduction (age reduction to 60 better at state level???)
Date: Tuesday, December 31, 2019 12:10:00 PM

Hello Mr. Harris:

You might want to consider applying for a Senior Clipper card. You will be able to use it on BART when they stop issuing paper tickets. Senior Clipper cards are free.

This link has information on how to apply for a senior clipper card.

<https://www.clippercard.com/ClipperWeb/discounts/senior.do>

You can also call the SamTrans Customer Service Center at 1-800-660-4287 and they will be able to provide information to you.

I will pass along your request for a route change to the appropriate staff.

Thank you and happy new year

Tina

From: MICHAEL HARRIS [mailto:usmmmh@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 31, 2019 11:53 AM
To: Board (@samtrans.com); Dubost, Tina
Cc: De La Torre, Andria; 'dcanepa@smcgov.org'; Pine, Dave [dpine@smcgov.org]; 'marc.hershman@sen.ca.gov'; Rios, Rona; Simon, Mark
Subject: Re: Thanks fare reduction (age reduction to 60 better at state level???)

Thank you Tina,

I did not know the Senior Age was set regionally.

Maybe Jerry Hill could introduce a bill to reduce this at the state level to 60.

I do not carry a C/F around. I live very frugally. My VA \$627.62 disability check came yesterday.

The 122 now goes to Stonestown. Would Samtrans consider making the 130 end there?

BART will cease using paper tickets soon. I take BART to Powell Street to visit the Dugoni Dental School.

I have a few green tickets left. When I exhaust them, I will take Samtrans to SF State & Muni to Powell Street.

I learned yesterday from Jeff Tong that when he campaigned for 2 CC members in Nov that many volunteers were seniors who gave up driving. I did not realize this was a trend.

I wish the dangerous stretch of road between Arlington & Hickey could be fixed.

I would have to write Elaine Chao & request funding. I expect that would take \$20+ million.

Happy New Year,
Mike

On Tuesday, December 31, 2019, 10:21:53 AM PST, Dubost, Tina <dubostc@samtrans.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Harris:

I received your letter to the SamTrans Board. Thank you for taking the time to write to us.

I'm pleased that the changes the SamTrans Board made (including reducing the cost of an eligible discount day pass to \$2.00 and offering free transfers with Clipper or the SamTrans mobile app) will benefit you and others.

I will pass along your request to lower the "senior" age from 65 to 60. Please be aware that the age for the senior fare is determined regionally.

I'm sorry to hear about the trouble you had using our service and the long walk.

If you have questions or concerns, please call the SamTrans Customer Service Center at 1-800-660-4287.

Thank you for taking the time to contact us. We appreciate your feedback and comments.

Tina Dubost

Manager, Accessible Transit Services

From: MICHAEL HARRIS <usmmmh@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 10:38 PM

To: Rios, Rona <riosr@samtrans.com>

Cc: Simon, Mark <simonm@samtrans.com>; De La Torre, Andria <delatorrea@samtrans.com>; msimon@samtrans.com; Board (@samtrans.com) <Board@samtrans.com>; Conger, Jean <congerj@samtrans.com>; David Canepa <dcanepa@smcgov.org>; Pine, Dave [dpine@smcgov.org] <dpine@smcgov.org>; Marc Hershman <marc.hershman@sen.ca.gov>

Subject: Thanks fare reduction

I saw the sign at Kohl's ECR bus stop in Colma today on the senior fare reduction.

Please consider my other request to reduce the senior age 60.

Today I took the 130 Costco > Serramonte. I just missed the 122 to Seton MC.

I walked up front hill, empty stomach for blood tests.

I just missed 122 by few minutes going down hill also.
It would have been a 30 minute wait.

I walked down to Target, Dollar Tree, Kohl's.

I boarded ECR there to Grocery Outlet on Hickey & El Camino.

It should be a free ride from Colma just before Arlington to Hickey.

When I do not have a day pass, I walk along Old Mission Road to McClellan, turn right to TJ, Chase Bank, Costco, Grocery Outlet.

It takes me 3+ hours to walk home, shopping along the way.

Mike Harris (age 73)

From: Jeffrey Tong
To: [Board \(@samtrans.com\)](mailto:Board@samtrans.com)
Cc: [Rios, Rona](#); [Simon, Mark](#); [De La Torre, Andria](#); msimon@samtrans.com; [Pine, Dave \[dpine@smcgov.org\]](mailto:Pine, Dave [dpine@smcgov.org])
Subject: Thanks for fare reduction in 2020
Date: Tuesday, December 31, 2019 4:52:53 PM

Dear Samtrans Board of Directors

Thank you for lowering the fares in 2020. **Would you also consider lower the Senior Citizen age from 65 to 60?**

I am a senior citizen now, but not according to your current definition. As a senior citizen, there is widespread discrimination that seniors will COST the employer more money if hired. So, once a person reaches age 50, it is very difficult to find employment... and once we've reach age 60, it becomes almost impossible. So I am acutely aware of what it means to be on fixed income. It is also very difficult to get around after age 60, which is exacerbated by Samtran policy.

Currently, **Samtran policy bans "competition" by requiring local shuttle grant applicants to obtain a letter of support from Samtrans.** Local Shuttles dont compete with Samtrans - they complement you! If people find Samtrans inconvenient, and Samtrans mandates no competition, you give people ZERO OPTIONS and force them to drive a car! Agree?

Samtran serves fewer than 5% of the county's population. Instead of fearing competition and losing part of that 5%, Samtrans should make itself MORE ATTRACTIVE to the other 95% This can be accomplished in two ways: (1) reducing the fare, and/or (2) serving the community better.

#2 involves buying smaller buses that are capable of entering residential neighborhoods, designing the routes strategically (based on terrain and normal pedestrian travel routes), and operating them more frequently.

If you believe #2 is too costly or too much labor, then I recommend that you implement #1. **Attract those most likely to use Samtrans - seniors who are between 60-65, and can not or prefer not to drive.** Thank you, and Happy New Year!

Jeffrey Tong, founder
NWF Community ildlife Habitat
Colinas.Costeras.org