

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA**

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
MINUTES OF MEETING – May 30, 2018**

(Revised 6-29-2018)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: S. Appenrodt, J. Baker, M. Buzbee (Chair), J. Galisatus, B. Gomez, A. Juarez, S. Koya (Vice Chair), M. Lewis, F. Liu, R. Pico, R. Surlles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: A. Barnes, N. Lacsamana, G. Wilson

SAMTRANS STAFF PRESENT: M. Ross, R. Motroni

Chair Michelle Buzbee called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SAMTRANS CAC MEETING FROM APRIL 28, 2018

Motion/Second: S. Koya/J. Baker

Ayes: S. Appenrodt, J. Baker, M. Buzbee (Chair), J. Galisatus, B. Gomez, A. Juarez, S. Koya (Vice Chair), M. Lewis, R. Pico, R. Surlles.

Absent: A. Barnes, N. Lacsamana, F. Liu, G. Wilson

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW SAMTRANS CAC MEMBERS

Public Comment

Peter Ratto, SamTrans Board of Directors member, welcomed the new members of the SamTrans CAC.

Chair Buzbee welcomed four of the five new members (Nancy Lacsamana was unable to attend). Each new member took a moment to introduce themselves to the Committee.

Steve Appenrodt said that he is a realtor who lives in Burlingame and takes SamTrans on a daily basis. Richard Pico said that he was born in Walnut Creek, is retired, and regularly takes SamTrans. Renita Surlles said that she is a homemaker and was born and raised in San Bruno. Michelle Lewis said that she works for a veteran service agency, is a 15-year volunteer with the San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program, and is a long-time SamTrans rider.

The following incumbent members then briefly introduced themselves to the new members: Sonny Koya, John Baker, Allie Juarez, Jason Galisatus, Bob Gomez, and Chair Buzbee.

PRESENTATION – GET US MOVING (GUM) UPDATE

Jessica Epstein, Government and Community Affairs Officer, gave the new Committee members a brief background on the Get Us Moving (GUM) project. She said that GUM is the outreach and education effort that both the District and the Board of Supervisors started in January 2018 to understand community priorities around transportation and transit funding. She stated that since January 2018, there have been over 100 public presentations, eight local town halls, a telephone town hall, and numerous television appearances and mailed-out flyers.

Ms. Epstein said that one of GUM's biggest efforts was implementing two rounds of online surveys. The first survey allowed the public to review a list of 12 potential priorities and narrowed it down to five, from which budget categories were created. She said that the survey asked the public if they had \$2.4 billion, how would they spend it on transit, within the goal of the SamTrans Board placing a half-cent sales tax on the November ballot. She noted that should the ballot pass, the half-cent sales tax is estimated to generate \$80 million per year and \$2.4 billion over 30 years.

She said that a draft plan was posted on June 1 with the SamTrans Board agenda for the June 6 meeting and the final plan will be considered for adoption at the Board's July 11 meeting. She said that the plan also required the approval of the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Gomez asked if SamTrans would receive funds from Measure 3. Ms. Epstein concurred, noting that San Mateo County will be one of the larger beneficiaries of the measure, with \$130 million dedicated to the Dumbarton Rail Corridor project alone.

Mr. Galisatus said that the budget tool has been well received by the public.

Mr. Appenrodt said that he answered a telephone survey a few months ago and that it is interesting to hear more perspectives on GUM.

Chair Buzbee announced Frank Liu's arrival at 6:45 pm.

Ms. Juarez asked about the survey response. Ms. Epstein said that they had about 800 responses from the second, more detailed survey.

ORGANIZATION OF A SUBCOMMITTEE (Informational)

At the April 25 meeting, the Committee discussed forming a subcommittee to work on ways to engage with the community and encourage members of the public to attend CAC meetings, and decided to continue the discussion with the newly appointed members.

Mr. Baker said the purpose of having a subcommittee is to draft a couple of ideas to discuss with both Committee and staff members with the goal of developing effective ideas.

Ms. Lewis noted how she first heard about the CAC while riding the bus with Vice Chair Koya. Mr. Liu suggested working with Marketing to develop a bus advertising campaign for the CAC. Mr. Pico said that he discovered the CAC on a poster inside a SamTrans bus. Mr. Appenrodt said that he also found out about the CAC after seeing a poster on a bus. He said he thought that posters would be the best low-cost advertising option.

Mr. Gomez suggested the idea of having a SamTrans CAC booth at local city events. The Committee decided to vote on forming the subcommittee at the June 27 meeting.

Public Comment

Director Ratto suggested that Committee members could also encourage more community engagement by attending other public meetings such as town halls and introduce themselves as members of the CAC. He said that some members of the public may be more inclined to talk to someone from the CAC than a Board or staff member. He said that Marketing could notify the CAC about future public events.

CAC RETREAT (Informational)

The Committee continued their discussion of having a CAC retreat. Mr. Baker mentioned when he was a member of the TA CAC, they held a goal-setting session on the fifth floor of Central. Vice Chair Koya supported this idea for the SamTrans CAC.

Margo Ross said that she could facilitate room reservations for the retreat. The Committee agreed to vote on the time and location at the June meeting.

SAMTRANS STAFF UPDATE

Ms. Ross, Director of Bus Transportation, gave a presentation on the new ECR Rapid route. She said that there have been issues with the regular ECR Local route along El Camino Real from Daly City to Palo Alto, including low operating speeds, long running time, and poor on-time performance. She said that because of the timing problems, the route is losing ridership at a faster rate than the system as a whole.

Ms. Ross said that for the deployment of ECR Rapid, SamTrans used automatic passenger counter data to identify limited stopping locations. She said the new route will run from 7:00-11:00 am and 4:00-8:00 pm. She noted that there are no plans to terminate the ECR local.

Mr. Appenrodt asked what the travel time was for the length of the ECR Rapid route. Ms. Ross said the time is estimated to be one hour and 40 minutes.

Mr. Baker asked about transfers between the Rapid and Local ECR routes. Ms. Ross said that transfer issues were still being worked on.

Vice Chair Koya said he hoped the two routes would run side by side.

Ms. Juarez asked if ECR Rapid was part of the Express Bus study. Ms. Ross said that the Express Bus study is a separate project.

Mr. Pico asked if ECR passengers had been surveyed. Ms. Ross said customer surveys indicated that the riders thought the ride was too long. She said a new ECR survey would be done in June, with results available in October.

Mr. Liu asked about breaking the ECR route in the middle. Ms. Ross explained that the Rapid bus will run from Redwood City to Daly City and Local service will run from Daly City to Palo Alto. Mr. Liu said he supported getting rid of the Mission/Wellington stop and said that it is now inconvenient for BART riders to transfer to ECR on El Camino.

Mr. Galisatus said he supported the new ECR plan and Ms. Ross said the on-time goal for all routes is now 85 percent. He asked if the dissatisfied former ECR riders had been identified. Ms. Ross said that the District is looking to new and inventive routes such as the Millbrae to SFO bus service to lure riders back.

SamTrans Performance Statistics for April 2018

Average Weekday Ridership – 35,645
On-Time Performance – 80.57%
Complaints – 124
MBSC – 23,514
Tokens – 27,234 (Adult)/20,230 (Youth)
Did Not Operate – 21

CAC MEMBER COMMENTS/REQUESTS

Mr. Baker asked about the changes in ridership of school-timed routes over the summer. Ms. Ross said that drivers receive different route assignments.

Vice Chair Koya noted that MV Transportation is running smoothly despite some challenges.

Ms. Juarez shared an email from SamTrans News that talked about the Express Bus study and that the District is collecting feedback from various counties at five community events in June: San Mateo Farmers Market, Sunday Street, Farmers in Palo Alto, Facebook Festival, and Community Open House.

Ms. Lewis said that outreach to increase ridership should extend beyond social media to seniors and people in residential and nursing homes. Ms. Ross said that type of outreach is already in place.

Mr. Liu noted that Foster City ridership has fallen considerably since 2010 and requested that the District look into it. Ms. Ross said that all routes are being re-evaluated and that she would get back to him.

LIAISON REPORTS

SamTrans Board

Chair Buzbee reported that she attended the GUM town hall in Half Moon Bay on May 24. She said that residents raised issues around local developments not accurately taking into account the traffic they would bring in. She said they requested pothole repairs, express buses, and shuttle services through all neighborhoods, particularly between Linda Mar park and Daly City BART. Ms. Ross said that Route 118 serves Linda Mart to Daly City BART.

SamTrans Accessibility Advisory Committee

Ms. Ross discussed assigning a Committee member to attend and report on the Board meetings since the member formerly assigned to that task is no longer with the CAC. Mr. Baker said he felt it wasn't critical to receive liaison reports about Board activities. Mr. Liu said that he would be willing to provide a brief report on any Board meeting he attends.

SamTrans CAC Meeting
May 30, 2018

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held June 27, 2018 at 6:30 pm, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, San Carlos, CA.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.