

**San Mateo County Transit District (District)
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California**

**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
November 6, 2024**

Members Present: M. Chuang, B. Esser, M. Fraser (Chair), J. Gee (Vice Chair), R. Mueller
(In Person) (arrived at 2:04 pm), J. Powell, P. Ratto

Members Present: R. Medina
(Via Teleconference)

Members Absent: D. Canepa

Staff Present: A. Chan, K. Jordan Steiner, D. Santoro, D. Olmeda, J. Cassman,
S. van Hoften, J. Brook, M. Tseng

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Marina Fraser called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Acting District Secretary Margaret Tseng confirmed that a Board quorum was present.

3. Report from Closed Sessions at October 9 Board Meeting

3.a. Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Claim of Lilian Padua

3.b. Closed Session: Conference with Real Property Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

Property: 166 N. Rollins Road, Millbrae

Agency Negotiator: April Chan, District General Manager/CEO

Negotiating Party: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Lease

Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, stated no action was taken on either of the closed sessions.

4. Consent Calendar

4.a. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of October 9, 2024

4.b. Acceptance of Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending September 30, 2024

4.c. Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook

4.d. Acceptance of Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2025

4.e. Adopting the Amended Conflict of Interest Code – Approved by Resolution No. 2024-35

Motion/Second: Esser/Gee

Ayes: Chuang, Esser, Fraser, Gee, Medina, Powell, Ratto

Noes: None

Absent: Canepa, Mueller

5. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Fraser reduced the public comment time to one minute each.

- Jim Lindsay, International Vice President, ATU, stated workers were paid \$12 per hour behind mechanics at VTA (Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority) and \$6 per hour behind the operators.
- Seth Thompson, Mechanic, South Base, stated wages fell behind SamTrans' two competitors.
- Bruce Jenson commented on the wage differences for various positions at SamTrans and VTA.
- Olivier Salles, mechanic at South Base, stated he hoped the negotiations would be resolved quickly.
- Chris Dawson, Bus Operator, requested a fair wage comparable to Muni (San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency) and VTA.
- Tim McDaniel commented on the safety concerns of the bus operators.
- Arnold Balotro, Bus Operator, South Base, expressed concern for the safety of both operators and riders and the need for competitive wages.
- Stacy Monroe expressed concerns for operator safety after the COVID barriers were removed.
- Lukas Hruska, Bus Operator, commented on the cost of living in the Bay Area and the need for increased wages.
- Josue Hernandez, Bus Operator, commented on the cost of living and the safety concerns in his request for fair compensation for operators.
- Rudy Chavez expressed concern a strike would create more traffic, road rage, pollution, and aggravation for cyclists, pedestrians, seniors, children, and people with disabilities.
- Harish Dullabh, Customer Service, stated the Customer Service Department be included in any equity pay adjustment.
- Miguel Navarro Jr., Bus Operator, commented on the importance of operators as frontline workers in the community.
- Yan Wang commented on reinstating stops on Mission Street in San Francisco on Route FCX.
- Charles Ding commented on reinstating stops on Mission Street in San Francisco on Route FCX as the rerouting added one hour and 20 minutes to his commute.
- Geoff S. spoke in support of the transit workers' request for increased wages.

6. Report of the Chair

Chair Fraser congratulated Director Rico Medina on his re-election to the San Bruno City Council.

6.a. Proclamation Honoring National Native American Heritage Month

Tasha Bartholomew, Manager, Media Relations, summarized the proclamation.

Motion/Second: Gee/Esser

Ayes: Chuang, Esser, Fraser, Gee, Medina, Mueller, Powell, Ratto

Noes: None

Absent: Canepa

6.b. Declaring the Uncertainty of Compensation for the General Manager/CEO as of November 1, 2024 – Approved by Resolution No. 2024-36

Ms. Cassman reported the General Manager/CEO Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee convened and the evaluation process has begun. Ms. Cassman explained a consultant was retained to assist in the evaluation. Ms. Cassman stated the purpose of the resolution is to declare uncertainty during the period of the evaluation until the ad hoc committee brings a report to the full Board, likely in January 2025, regarding appropriate adjustments to General Manager/CEO April Chan's salary, if any, and to consider the General Manager/CEO's goals for the coming year.

Motion/Second: Chuang/Esser

Ayes: Chuang, Esser, Fraser, Gee, Medina, Mueller, Powell, Ratto

Noes: None

Absent: Canepa

7. Report of the General Manager/CEO

Ms. Chan stated the report was in the packet and provided the following highlights:

- Reflected on the election results and stated the District will continue to work at all levels to advocate for project funding
- Announced the new Day of the Dead bus wrap debuted at the recent celebration in Redwood City
- Announced the relaunch of the Grand Boulevard Initiative to transform El Camino Real to improve multimodal access for all users including transit in the corridor. SamTrans is engaging with stakeholders for the program including 13 San Mateo County cities along El Camino Real, advocacy groups, Caltrans (California Department of Transportation), and MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission). MTC recently announced SamTrans will receive a \$2 million grant to support such efforts on El Camino Real.
- Provided a brief update on the regional transportation measure; MTC considering other revenue frameworks; letter sent to MTC Select Committee Chair Jim Spering regarding concerns raised by SamTrans and the Transportation Authority regarding the revenue options currently on the table; and more Board discussions on these proposals will be at the Legislative Committee later in the meeting.

8. Board Member Requests/Comments

There were no requests or comments.

9. Recess to Committee Meetings

The Board meeting recessed to Committee meetings at 2:30 pm.

10. Reconvene Board of Directors Meeting

Chair Fraser reconvened the Board meeting at 4:33 pm.

11. Matters for Board Consideration: Community Relations Committee

Chair Fraser reported on the following items:

- 11.a. Accessible Services Update**
- 11.b. Citizens Advisory Committee Update**
- 11.c. Paratransit Advisory Council Update**
- 11.d. Annual State of the Service Report | Fiscal Year 2024**
- 11.e. Monthly State of the Service Report | September 2024**

12. Matters for Board Consideration: Finance Committee

Chair Fraser led the Board in voting on the following items:

- 12.a. Authorizing an Amendment to the Contract with Allied Universal for Security Services to Extend the Term by 18 Months and Increase the Contract Amount by \$4,570,985 – Approved by Resolution No. 2024-37**
- 12.b. Authorizing an Amendment to Redi-Wheels Paratransit Service Contract to Increase the Amount by \$2,190,021 for the Current Term, and Extend the Contract by One Year at an Additional Cost of \$14,524,291 – Approved by Resolution No. 2024-38**
- 12.d. Amending to Increase the Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget by \$26,665,192 and the Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Budget by \$82,847,997 – Approved by Resolution No. 2024-39**

Motion/Second: Chuang/Powell

Ayes: Chuang, Esser, Fraser, Gee, Medina, Mueller, Powell, Ratto

Noes: None

Absent: Canepa

Chair Fraser reported on the following item:

- 12.c. Quarterly Financial Report: Fiscal Year 2025, Quarter 1**

13. Matters for Board Consideration: Strategic Planning, Development, and Sustainability Committee

Chair Fraser led the Board in voting on the following item:

- 13.a. Adopting the San Mateo County Transit District Fiscal Years 2026-2035 Strategic Plan – Approved by Resolution No. 2024-40**

Motion/Second: Ratto/Powell

Ayes: Chuang, Esser, Fraser, Gee, Medina, Mueller, Powell, Ratto

Noes: None

Absent: Canepa

14. Matters for Board Consideration: Legislative Committee

Chair Fraser reported on the following item:

14.a. Legislative Update

15. Communications to the Board of Directors

Chair Fraser noted that the correspondence was in the agenda packet (available online).

16. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting

Chair Fraser announced the time and location of the next meeting as Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 2:00 pm, in person at the SamTrans Auditorium and via Zoom teleconference.

17. General Counsel Report

17.a. Closed Session: Conference with Labor Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency-designated Representatives: Pat Glenn and David Olmeda

Employee Organizations: Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1574 (Bus Operators and Maintenance, and Customer Service Employees)

17.b. Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): SC Transit Village, LLC, et al. v. San Mateo County Transit District, et al., Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo, Case No. 22-CIV-04642

17.c. Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4): Initiation of Litigation: One Case

17.d. Closed Session: Conference with Real Property Negotiators pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

Property: 166 N. Rollins Road, Millbrae

Agency Negotiator: April Chan, District General Manager/CEO

Negotiating Party: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Lease

Ms. Cassman announced the closed sessions and stated that she anticipated reconvening to report out following the closed sessions.

The Board adjourned to closed session at 4:36 pm.

Director Ray Mueller left the meeting at 5:40 pm.

Vice Chair Jeff Gee left the meeting at 6:00 pm.

The Board reconvened into open session at 6:00 pm.

Ms. Cassman provided the following report on the closed sessions:

- 17.a. No action was taken by the Board.

- 17.b. The Board gave authority to staff and General Counsel to settle the case.
- 17.c. The Board gave authority to staff and General Counsel to settle the case.
- 17.d. The Board gave the General Manager/CEO the authority to enter into a lease with Caltrain contingent upon the Caltrain Board's approval of the lease term sheet at their Board meeting on November 7.

18. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at <https://www.samtrans.com/about-samtrans/video-board-directors-cac-and-measure-w-coc>. Questions may be referred to the District Secretary's office by phone at 650-551-6108 or by email to board@samtrans.com.