

# Central El Camino Multimodal Plan



## Frequently Asked Questions

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### What is the Central El Camino Real Multimodal Plan (Central El Camino Plan)?

Led by SamTrans and the cities of San Mateo, Belmont, San Carlos, and Redwood City, the Central El Camino Real Multimodal Plan (Central El Camino Plan) is a planning project that will improve transportation and safety along an eight-and-a-half mile stretch of El Camino.

Phase one, which will take place between May – July 2025, will assess current corridor gaps and needs.

Phase two, which will take place between January – February 2026, will include corridor options and highlight trade-offs for community and stakeholder input.

In the third and final phase taking place in spring 2026, the preferred alternative will be presented as well as the implementation plan.

### How does this project relate to the Grand Boulevard Initiative (GBI)?

SamTrans is leading the Grand Boulevard Initiative (GBI) which is a collaborative effort between 14 local jurisdictions and three countywide agencies in San Mateo County, including the four cities included in the Central El Camino Plan. The design options developed via the Central El Camino Multimodal Plan will be advanced to implementation through the GBI. For more information on the Grand Boulevard Initiative, please visit:

<https://www.samtrans.com/gbi>

### What are the goals of the Central El Camino Plan?

Originally designed as a state highway for high-speed auto travel, El Camino Real (El Camino) now faces challenges in providing a safe and efficient trip for the many people using it every day. As the main roadway that connects San Mateo County, El Camino needs essential improvements to better connect people to key downtowns, businesses, schools, transit stations, and other destinations.

The Central El Camino Plan builds on local and countywide efforts and the Grand Boulevard Initiative (GBI), to create a clear vision of the corridor that meets both local and countywide needs for all types of transportation. The design alternatives that will be identified as part of the Central El Camino Plan will be used to start the Caltrans project development process that is being led by SamTrans through GBI, which is the first step towards implementation.

### Why is SamTrans leading the effort?

SamTrans is leading the Central El Camino Plan as a collaborative effort with the cities of San Mateo, Belmont, San Carlos and Redwood City to develop a cohesive vision for the roadway.

Why did SamTrans select the cities of San Mateo, Belmont, San Carlos, and Redwood City for this effort? How are the cities involved in the process?

SamTrans applied for and received a grant through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission with support from these cities to conduct a transportation planning study of El Camino Real in Central San Mateo County and will fill a corridor planning gap for El Camino Real. These four cities are project partners and will guide planning efforts and decision making throughout the project.

As Caltrans owns and maintains El Camino Real, how will you coordinate with them?

Caltrans is an active partner and will be consulted throughout the Plan.

How can I get involved as a member of the public?

All phases of work for the Central El Camino Plan will incorporate feedback from residents, businesses, transit riders and other stakeholders. You can share your thoughts by submitting written comments via email. at [grandboulevard@samtrans.com](mailto:grandboulevard@samtrans.com) or check the project website for upcoming outreach events at [samtrans.com/CentralElCamino](https://samtrans.com/CentralElCamino).

How is this project funded?

This project is funded in part through a Transit Performance Initiative (TPI) grant through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) awarded in early 2023, with a local match from SamTrans.