

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

**Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Minutes of August 27, 2025**

Members Present: M. Adler, J. Baker, H. Estalilla, J. Ganner, B. Mangiafico, D. Rabinovich, D. Seibert, A. Madrid (Chair)

Members Absent: A. Chang, D. Finch, M. Mautner (Vice Chair)

Staff Present: T. Dubost, C. Espiritu, D. Harbour, L. Lumina-Hsu, A. Rivas

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

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

2. New CAC Member Introduction – James Ganner

3. Roll Call

CAC Secretary Loana Lumina-Hsu called the roll and noted that a quorum was present.

Request to Change Order of Business to hear Item 7 before Item 6.

Motion/Second: Mangiafico / Baker

Ayes: Adler, Baker, Estalilla, Ganner Mangiafico, Rabinovich, Seibert, Madrid

Noes: None

Absent: Chang, Finch, Mautner

4. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda – There were none.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes for June 25, 2025

Motion/Second: Baker / Rabinovich

Ayes: Adler, Baker, Estalilla, Ganner Mangiafico, Rabinovich, Seibert, Madrid

Noes: None

Absent: Chang, Finch, Mautner

Item 7 was heard prior to Item 6.

6. Presentation: Bus Stop Amenity Refresh Project Update

Chris Espiritu, Principal Planner, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Review existing amenities for accessibility and maintenance standards and alignment with SamTrans branding
- New amenities refreshed with SamTrans branding, align with industry best practices, and responsive to bus stop site conditions
- Configurable amenities that are easily replaced, maintained, and installed

The Committee members had a robust discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Committee comments and questions, which included the following:

- Bus stop real-time information board visibility improvements
- Locations identified as potential bus islands inclusive of bicycle lanes
- Bus stop design guidelines
- Bus boarding islands
- Provide additional information about the locations routes service at bus stops
- Pilot survey open until December 13; the bus stops will stay up until removed by facilities

7. Presentation: Zero-Emissions Fleet Transition

David Harbour, Director, Maintenance, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Zero-emission buses (ZEB) fleet transition with battery electric buses (BEBs) and hydrogen-fuel buses including those in service and on order; SamTrans has largest order for hydrogen buses in California
- Bus deployment is based on base infrastructure; South Base will be BEB dominate fleet; addressing recharging buses in balance with peak times and peak loads; and base capacity for buses and infrastructure
- Fleet replacement progress

The Committee members had a robust discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Committee comments and questions, which included the following:

- Clarification of hydrogen buses being fully zero-emissions; life-cycle of bus including initial transportation
- Next battery buses brand is to be determined
- Complete diesel fleet phase out of 135 remaining buses by 2027 Quarter 3
- Equipment removal and installation on new buses
- Hydrogen supply
- Zero-emissions alternatives and transportation of hydrogen currently via diesel vehicles
- Disposal of diesel buses process in compliance with California Air Resources Board
- Interest from another agency that retrofits buses into BEBs being explored
- Budget for ZEBs and tariff concerns; current piggyback contract language states SamTrans is exempt from tariffs but amendments going through between bus manufacturers and contract owner which may effect that exemption

Alex Madrid left the meeting at 7:24 pm.

8. Report of the Chair – Deferred.

9. SamTrans Staff Update

Ana Rivas, Director, Bus Transportation, reviewed the report that included the following:

- Average weekday ridership increased 33.5 percent, total ridership increased 26.7 percent
- Ridership recovery is at 98.6 percent of pre-pandemic levels
- Safety campaign “Rock-n-Roll” with bus operators
- Previously reported Route 398 still displaying connection announcements was addressed and Information and Technology (IT) made the corrections
- Started Runbook 151; changes include time adjustments to improve on-time performance; restarted school-oriented routes

The Committee members reported buses that continue to announce transfers to no longer existing Route 256.

10. CAC Member Comments/Requests

- Investigate viability of free bus passes for all youth; application for free youth ride card consideration as currently free and reduced meal application may not be filled out by qualified families as more schools are providing free meals for all students
- Youth riders encourage transit use which continues when riders become adults and begin paying for fares
- Safety presentation in September
- Bus shelter needs attention on Gillert North Bound direction in Daly City
- Bus Number 842 has an item rolling around within light fixture
- Requested Clipper 2.0 presentation

11. SamTrans Board Liaison Report

- Clipper 2.0 launch by end of year
- July Clipper outage estimated \$650,000 fare lost for transit operators
- SamTrans Board of Directors opted-in to Senate Bill 63
- Service update in August; adjustment for Big Sync with other transit agencies

12. Date / Time / Location of Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 6:30 pm at via Zoom and in person at the San Mateo County Transit District, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA.

13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.