



MARIE CHUANG, CHAIR
BROOKS ESSER, VICE CHAIR
DAVID J. CANEPA
MARINA FRASER
JEFF GEE
RICO E. MEDINA
JOSH POWELL
PETER RATTO
JACKIE SPEIER

APRIL CHAN
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

AGENDA

San Mateo County Transit District

Board of Directors – Special Meeting

Board Workshop

February 12, 2026, 9:00 am

Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070

Members of the public may attend in-person or participate remotely via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86310974053?pwd=5IAyesYf1uEp7ZcLNPaXikMzSJ8Wpr.1> or by entering Webinar ID: **863 1097 4053**, Passcode: **650759** in the Zoom app for audio/visual capability or by calling 1-669-900-9128 (enter webinar ID and press # when prompted for participant ID) for audio only.

Public Comments: Written public comments may be emailed to publiccomment@samtrans.com or mailed to 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070, and will be compiled and posted weekly along with any Board correspondence. Any written public comments received within two hours prior to the start of the meeting will be included in the weekly Board correspondence reading file, posted online at: <https://www.samtrans.com/meetings>.

Oral public comments will also be accepted during the meeting in person and through Zoom* or the teleconference number listed above. Public comments on individual agenda items are limited to one per person PER AGENDA ITEM. Participants using Zoom over the Internet should use the Raise Hand feature to request to speak. For participants calling in, dial *67 if you do not want your telephone number to appear on the live broadcast. Callers may dial *9 to use the Raise Hand feature for public comment. Each commenter will be recognized to speak and callers should dial *6 to unmute themselves when recognized to speak.

Each public comment is limited to two minutes or less. The Board and Committee Chairs have the discretion to manage the Public Comment process in a manner that achieves the purpose of public communication and assures the orderly conduct of the meeting.

The video live stream will be available after the meeting at <https://www.samtrans.com/about-samtrans/video-board-directors-cac-and-measure-w-coc>.

Note: All items appearing on the agenda are subject to action by the Board. Staff recommendations are subject to change by the Board.

Thursday, February 12, 2026

9:00 am

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. San Mateo County Transit District 10-Year Operating and Capital Financial Outlook Informational
4. Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) Current Status and Next Steps Informational
5. Regional Transit Measure (Senate Bill 63) Outreach and Local Investment Plan Discussion Informational
6. Adjourn

Note: All items appearing on the agenda are subject to action by the Board. Staff recommendations are subject to change by the Board.

Information for the Public

If you have questions on the agenda, please contact the District Secretary at 650-551-6108. Agendas are available on the SamTrans website at: <https://www.samtrans.com/meetings>. Communications to the Board of Directors can be emailed to board@samtrans.com.

Free translation is available; Para traducción llama al 1.800.660.4287; 如需翻译 请电 1.800.660.4287

Date and Time of Board and Citizens Advisory Committee Meetings

San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) Board and Committees: First Wednesday of the month, 2:00 pm; SamTrans Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC): Last Wednesday of the month, 6:30 pm. Date, time and location of meetings may be changed as necessary. Meeting schedules for the Board and CAC are available on the website.

Location of Meeting

This meeting will be held in-person at: San Mateo County Transit District, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA. Members of the public may attend in-person or participate remotely via Zoom as per the information provided at the top of the agenda.

*Should Zoom not be operational, please check online at: <https://www.samtrans.com/meetings> for any updates or further instruction.

Public Comment

Members of the public may participate remotely or in person. Public comments may be submitted by comment card in person and given to the District Secretary. Written public comments may be emailed to publiccomment@samtrans.com or mailed to 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070, and will be compiled and posted weekly along with any Board correspondence. Any written public comments received within two hours prior to the start of the meeting will be included in the weekly Board correspondence reading file, posted online at: <https://www.samtrans.com/meetings>.

Public comments will also be accepted during the meeting through Zoom or the teleconference number listed above. Online commenters will be automatically notified when they are unmuted to speak. Public comments on individual agenda items are limited to one per person PER AGENDA ITEM. Each public comment is limited to two minutes or less. The Board Chair shall have the discretion to manage the Public Comment process in a manner that achieves the purpose of public communication and assures the orderly conduct of the meeting.

Accessible Public Meetings/Translation

Upon request, SamTrans will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in and provide comments at/related to public meetings. Please submit a request, including your name, phone number and/or email address, and a description of the modification, accommodation, auxiliary aid, service or alternative format requested at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting or hearing. Please direct requests for disability-related modification and/or interpreter services to the Title VI Administrator at San Mateo County Transit District, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070; or email titlevi@samtrans.com; or request by phone at 650-622-7864 or TTY 650-508-6448.

Availability of Public Records

All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda that are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act and that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070 at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body.

San Mateo County Transit District
Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

Through: April Chan, General Manager/CEO

From: Emily Beach, Chief Communications Officer

Subject: **Regional Transit Measure (Senate Bill 63) Outreach and Local Investment Plan Discussion**

Action

Staff will present an informational update and seek San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) Board of Directors (Board) feedback on the Senate Bill (SB) 63 Regional Transit Measure Outreach and Local Investment Plan.

Significance

The Governor signed Senate Bill 63 in 2025 (Wiener/Arreguín) authorizing a new transportation revenue measure for placement on the November 2026 ballot. If successful, this ballot measure will: 1) prevent major transit service cuts on Caltrain, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), Muni, and Alameda-Contra Costa Transit (AC Transit); 2) fund improvements to the transit rider experience; and 3) fund other county priorities, limited to public transit capital or operating improvements and targeted local road repairs on roads served by fixed-route transit service.

The legislation authorizes a 14-year sales tax ballot measure at a rate of 0.5 percent in San Mateo, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara counties and a rate of 1 percent in the City and County of San Francisco. SB 63 limits the ballot measure to only the November 3, 2026, election. In January, the Public Transit Revenue Measure District, established by the bill and governed by Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), voted that it was more appropriate for a citizen's initiative to place the measure on the ballot. Signature gathering is currently underway.

If the measure qualifies for the ballot and is passed by voters, the San Mateo County Transit District (District) will administer approximately \$50 million annually over the 14-year tax period for public transportation investments in San Mateo County. The District is preparing to conduct public and stakeholder outreach to develop the SB 63 Local Investment Plan and seeks Board input on the proposed approach and priorities.

Budget Impact

There is no budget impact associated with this presentation.

Background

Discussions eventually leading to the passage of SB 63 began with the introduction of Senate Bill 1031 in March 2024. The Board has received reports and engaged with various legislative proposals consistently since that time. In August 2025, the Board voted to opt in to SB 63 with a 1/2 cent tax rate.

The SamTrans SB 63 Board Ad Hoc met to provide direction to staff. This feedback is reflected in the Facilitated Discussion part of the Board Workshop presentation. The purpose of the discussion is to provide staff guidance and feedback on the Ad Hoc direction.

Prepared By: Jessica Epstein

Director, Government and
Community Affairs

650-400-6451



Board of Directors Retreat
February 12, 2026

Agenda

- **5 minutes:** Revenue Measure legal guidelines (Shayna VanHoften)
- **15 minutes:** Background and outreach plan (Jessica Epstein)
- **45 minutes:** Facilitated discussion, respond to ad hoc guidance about local investment plan priorities (Eileen Goodwin, Apex Strategies)

Background

- SB 63 signed by Governor in Oct 2025, permitting a shared sales tax measure in San Mateo, Santa Clara, San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa counties
- The measure can be placed on the ballot by either MTC's new five county voting District (2/3 voter threshold) or by a Citizen's Initiative (50% + 1 voter threshold)
- MTC District voted it would not place the measure on the ballot due to polling levels
- There is a signature gathering effort underway; however, there is no guarantee this will be successful

Local Investment Plan

- If the measure qualifies for the ballot and is passed by voters in November, the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) will receive approximately \$50M annually over the 14-year tax period for public transportation investments in San Mateo County.
- Funds may be used for:
 - Public transit operations and capital
 - Public transit components of larger capital projects
 - Targeted local road repairs on roads served by fixed-route transit service

Timeline

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Board Workshop: February 12					
Stakeholder and Agency Advisory Group Meetings: February - April, May if needed					
Public Communications Effort: March - May					
City Council and other presentations: March - May					
Board Information Item: May 6					
Board Action Item: June 3					

Approximately 10 weeks for public engagement

Inputs

- SMCTD Strategic Plan and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
- SMCTD Board of Directors
- SMCTD Board Ad Hoc Committee
- Stakeholders
- City and County partners
- General public

Early Considerations

SamTrans Financial Sustainability:

- Budget inflection point: rate of growth for expenses are faster than rate of growth for revenues
- Protection of existing service
- Insufficient funds for CIP priorities – ZEB, ADA retrofits and other public facing state of good repair, safety and security, bus stop improvements

Early community comments on new projects/service:

- Expand microtransit/Ride Plus neighborhood rideshare service
- Dumbarton and El Camino Real (Grand Boulevard Initiative) large scale investments*
- Pacifica express route
- New local routes

*Named in Strategic Plan

Early Considerations

District priorities (Board, Ad Hoc, Staff, CIP, Strategic Plan):

- Style engagement after Reimagine SamTrans/Measure W
- Prioritize outreach and feedback from cities, coastal communities
- ZEB, state of good repair, safety, ADA and other bus stop improvements
- Preserve existing service
- Sufficient funding and staffing to deliver priority projects

Riders:

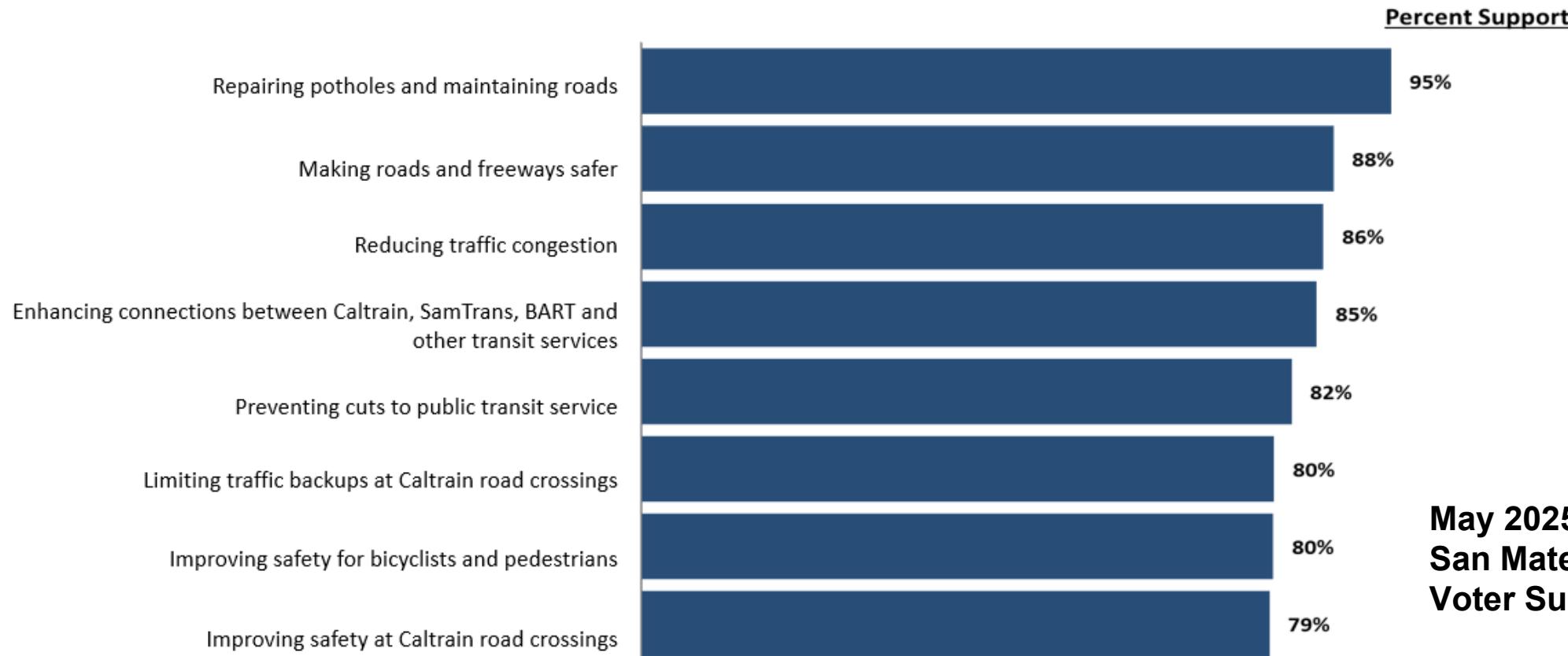
- Bus stop improvements (including real-time information); frequent, fast, reliable, affordable and accessible service, cleanliness, safety and security

Likely Voters:

- Preserve and connect public transit around the region and in the county
- Improve infrastructure and traffic locally
- Pavement improvements

Early Considerations

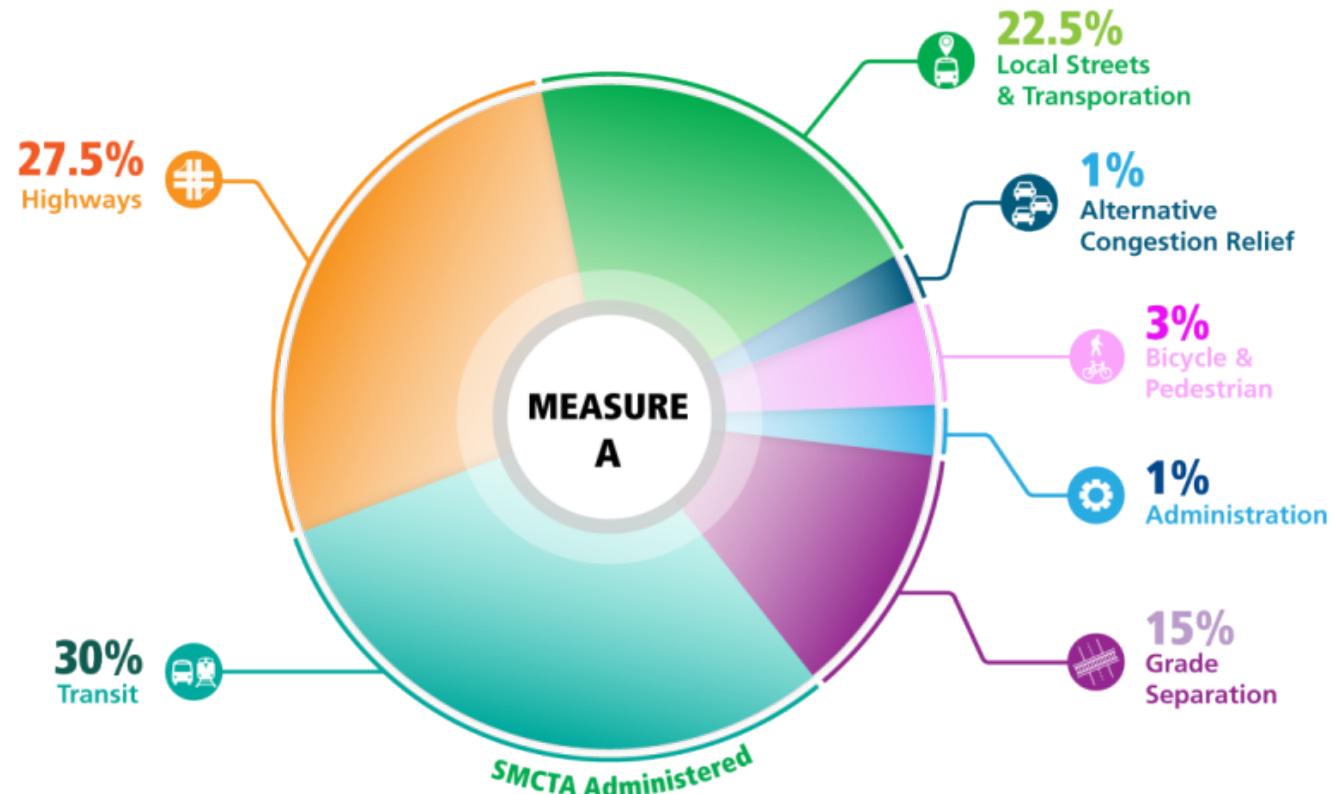
How do you feel about your tax dollars being spent on each of the following transportation priorities in San Mateo County?



**May 2025
San Mateo County Likely
Voter Survey Summary**

Measure A Context Reminder

- Expires end of 2033; renewal planned 2028
- Consider whether certain projects are a better fit for Measure A funding



Outreach Tactics Toolkit

- **Agency Advisory Group and Stakeholder Advisory Group**
- **Roadshow presentations, email, and social media content** to all city councils and/or committees, other public agency boards, business, labor, nonprofit, community and advocacy groups
- **Briefings** with elected officials
- **General public outreach**, with in-person, paid and organic options – includes social media, email content, digital advertising
- Special focus on **areas not served by BART or Caltrain**
- Free and paid **media plan**

Ad Hoc Committee

- Feedback from all three Ad Hoc members (Chuang, Gee, Esser)
- Reaffirmed commitment to robust outreach to help shape the local investment plan
- Acknowledged limitations of accelerated 12-week timeline
- Posed the same discussion questions
- Summarized preliminary feedback
- Potentially will change over time
- Will help frame community engagement

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

1. Specific projects vs. general buckets. Do we want to assign project names?

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Keep general for now, wait for city/stakeholder feedback
- Consider naming projects that rise to the top

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

2. Preservation of existing service only or opportunity to fund new projects/services? Proposed way to split?

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Prioritize preservation, consider expansion where appropriate
- Expansion needs guaranteed ridership and metrics to sustain investment
- Focus on transit deserts
- No split yet

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

3. Fund operations, capital, or keep flexible? Guidance on splits?

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Include capital – must be deliverable in near-term
- No split yet

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

**4. New initiatives and service aligned with SMCTD Strategic Plan—
or accept/fund new ideas?**

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Open to new ideas but they must come with \$ contribution, community support and willingness to be a pilot project
- Look for efficiencies, innovation, adaptation

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

5. Include projects/operations that last beyond the measure's lifetime—or only what fits in the 14-year plan (such as pilot projects)?

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Projects beyond 14 years need a plan for operational sustainability
- Consider critical capital improvements

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

6. Fund allowable pavement improvements, and to what level given the other priorities and other funding sources (Measure A)?

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Funding eligible pothole projects beyond current city commitments
- Consider El Camino Real improvements
- Route ECR is the backbone of SamTrans service

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

**7. How to consider geographic diversity in fund distribution
(population, voting population, riders, other? What if agencies provide local match to prioritize what they want?)**

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Stick with existing approved formulas, if pass-through funds considered
- Remember transit-dependent riders
- Local matching contributions

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

8. Public/stakeholder input along with Agency priorities—is there a weighting of some sort?

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Listen to everyone
- Understand technical aspect of proposed ideas from those involved with project delivery

Facilitated Discussion

Guidance on balancing priorities in the investment plan:

9. How to best synch with 2025 polling data: likely voter priorities?

Ad Hoc Feedback:

- Keep all public input channels open
- Maintain trust and credibility
- Build on successful delivery of Reimagine SamTrans

Thank You

