



Help Shape the Future of Local Transit Funding in San Mateo County



The San Mateo County Transit District (commonly referred to as “SamTrans”) is the principal public transportation provider in San Mateo County, managing SamTrans bus, Ride Plus on demand ride-share, and Redi-Wheels and RediCoast paratransit services throughout the County. These reliable transit services connect residents to jobs, healthcare, their communities, and regional transit systems.

Protecting Reliable Regional Transit Services

The Bay Area stays connected through a regional transit system that links our counties together. Coordinated, efficient, and reliable public transit helps relieve traffic congestion, reduce pollution, and provide an affordable transportation option for low-income residents, students, seniors, persons with disabilities, and commuters.

There is a growing budget shortfall for some of our regional transit systems, including Caltrain, BART, and Muni. Closing stations and stops, canceling weekend and evening service, and eliminating service on certain train routes are all currently under consideration as cuts.

The Connect Bay Area Measure Would Increase Funds for Regional and Local Transit

A potential 14-year, five-county sales tax measure is being circulated by an independent group of citizens. If the measure qualifies for the November 2026 ballot and is approved by voters, the regional tax would stabilize public transportation funding to offset planned transit service cuts and prevent station closures across the Bay Area, including in San Mateo County.

Additionally, the measure would provide approximately \$50 million in annual, locally controlled funding dedicated to public transit in San Mateo County to be administered by SamTrans. This local funding would be entirely for transit within San Mateo County — no funds could be taken by the State or outside counties.

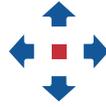


Local Funding for Local Transit Services

SamTrans is developing a local plan for how to invest this additional \$50 million in annual local transit funding should the measure be approved. Stakeholder engagement and community input will be critical components of this planning process. SamTrans could potentially use this funding to:



Improve transit routes to reduce traffic on the most heavily traveled corridors



Expand access to transit for communities that are currently underserved



Continue free and reduced fare programs for seniors, students, and people with disabilities



Make repairs and upgrades to aging paratransit vehicles to ensure reliable service



Protect transit infrastructure against sea-level rise, flooding, and extreme weather



Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality by transitioning to zero-emission buses



Increase safety, cleanliness, and accessibility at bus stops



Repair potholes and fix streets along bus routes



Enhance bus service to be more efficient, faster, and more reliable



Offer affordable ride-share and on-demand programs to more communities



Transparency and Accountability

This potential measure would impose standards on transit operators like BART and Muni to ensure accountability and service improvements, including clean and safe transit stops and vehicles, well-timed connections between transit systems, and transparent spending so residents can see where their tax dollars are going. The potential measure would include a detailed expenditure plan and annual audits, oversight, and transparency requirements to ensure all funds are spent as promised.

Your Transit, Your Voice

SamTrans is leading a community conversation to hear your priorities for how funds should be spent in San Mateo County if the potential measure qualifies for the ballot and is approved by voters. Your feedback and voice are critical as we shape the future of transit in San Mateo County. Please complete the survey card to share your priorities for SamTrans. To take the survey online, scan the QR code or visit samtrans.com/localfundingplan



samTrans