



An independent group of citizens has submitted signatures to place a 14-year, 5 county sales tax measure on the November 2026 ballot, which is authorized by Senate Bill 63, the Connect Bay Area Act. If approved by the voters, this measure would implement a regional sales tax of ½ cent in San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, and 1 cent in San Francisco to stabilize public transportation funding for Caltrain, BART, Muni and other public transit agencies, and prevent station and service closures across the Bay Area, including in San Mateo County.

Local Investments in San Mateo County

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, totaling \$700 million over the life of the measure. This local funding, also known as “return-to-source” funds, would be entirely for public transit within San Mateo County – no funds could be taken by the State or outside counties.

A Community-Driven Investment Plan for Local Transit Services

After several months of robust stakeholder engagement and community input, SamTrans adopted its Connect Bay Area Local Investment Plan, a roadmap for investing return-to-source funds if the measure passes.

The plan reflects extensive outreach, including presentations and meetings with over 30 city councils and other groups, three meetings each with senior city, county, and agency staff convened as an Agency Advisory Group (AAG) and with other community leaders in a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG), and a multilingual survey that generated over 1,800 responses.

The Connect Bay Area Local Investment Plan prioritizes funding across four areas: Protect, Enhance, Expand, and Fix.





\$700 Million

in Local
Return-to-Source Funding



30+

Outreach
Meetings



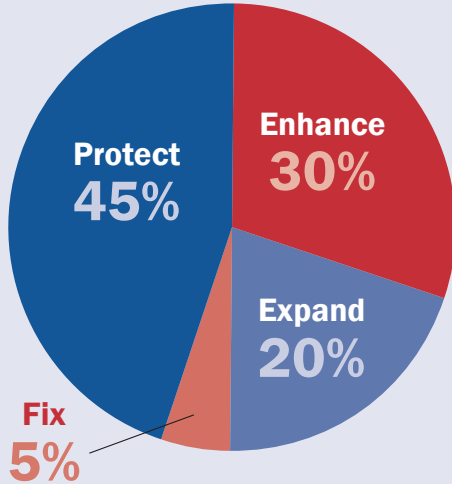
1,800+

Survey Responses
and Comments



We Met with

Cities, Transit Advocates,
Business Leaders, and More



Protect: Prevent cuts to existing public transit services

Enhance: Improve the rider experience and promote traffic reduction through reliable, efficient service, better bus stops and last mile service solutions

Expand: Expand affordable transit access for underserved communities, including the coast and vulnerable populations

Fix: Repair and maintain aging transit infrastructure, including bus stops and potholes on bus routes

Potential Local Investment Plan Projects and Services



Protect

- Existing public transit service



Enhance

- Grand Boulevard Initiative projects on El Camino Real
- Bus stop amenities, including real-time bus information
- Fast, reliable, zero-emission bus service on the unused Dumbarton freight railroad line
- Transit Signal Priority
- Zero-emission bus transition
- Bus route improvements



Expand

- East/West and Coastside transit services
- New/expanded Ride Plus or other service pilots
- Support for free and reduced fare programs
- Paratransit enhancements
- SamTrans route improvements



Fix

- Maintain SamTrans bus stops
- Emphasis on safety and cleanliness
- Potholes on streets served by transit
- Flooding protection for bus facilities

Transparency and Accountability

In adopting the Connect Bay Area Local Investment plan, the SamTrans Board also committed to:



Undergoing a public and transparent process to prioritize cost containment, revenue generation, accountability and efficiency in operations with the goal of fiscal stability by the end of the 14-year term of the tax measure



Providing regular Board updates on tax measure revenues and funded projects



Developing a long-range financial plan to address its deficit and prepare for continued operations after expiration of the tax measure



Considering different models of cost-saving and revenue-raising tactics



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