



SamTrans Community Advisory Committee
Meeting of July 29, 2026

Correspondence as of July 28, 2026

Subject

1. FW: Retain CSM Stops Along Alameda de Las Pulgas

From: [Board \(@samtrans.com\)](mailto:Board (@samtrans.com))
To: [cacsecretary \[@samtrans.com\]](mailto:cacsecretary [@samtrans.com])
Subject: FW: Retain CSM Stops Along Alameda de Las Pulgas
Date: Monday, July 27, 2026 2:58:57 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

From: Zoe Neil <zneil@smith.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2026 2:56 PM
To: Public Comment <publiccomment@samtrans.com>
Subject: Retain CSM Stops Along Alameda de Las Pulgas

You don't often get email from zneil@smith.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear SamTrans Board of Directors and Citizen Advisory Committee,

My name is Zoe Neil and I am a longtime Baywood Knolls resident. I graduated from Baywood Elementary '16, Borel Middle '19, and Aragon High School in '23 before beginning college in Massachusetts. I do not have a driver's license and I regularly ride the CSM bus when I am home from college to get to work, pick up groceries for my family, and meet friends downtown.

In high school, my friends and I would have loved this route. We liked walking or [taking the school bus](#) downtown to study at the San Mateo Library, but the difficulty of all getting home prevented us from doing so frequently. The times we did are some of my best memories from high school. Access to a bus would have granted me independence by providing a safe, affordable ride home—removing the need for parent pick-ups, [expensive \(and risky\)](#) rideshares, or carrying heavy backpacks on foot.

As a result, I was deeply disappointed to learn of SamTrans' plan to eliminate all CSM stops along Alameda de Las Pulgas and Parrott Drive. This change would add 20 minutes to my commute each way and eliminate my ability to get groceries without a car. Moving forward with a route change seemingly based on a [single homeowner's noise complaint](#)—without lengthy notification or input from the transit riders affected—feels like a betrayal of the community public transit exists to serve. Furthermore, undertaking this change over the summer, while schools are out of session, disregards the ridership and voices of students who use this route during the year.

Rather than removing all CSM stops along Alameda de Las Pulgas and Parrott Drive, I urge the Board to consider the following two alternatives to address the homeowner's concerns:

Option #1: Reduce summer bus frequency while preserving essential weekday and weekend service.

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- I acknowledge summer ridership on this route is lower and may make running buses every
- 30 minutes inefficient. However, removing all stops along Alameda de Las Pulgas and Parrott Dr is an overcorrection. The homeowner requested three specific adjustments: that SamTrans reduce the number of buses driving the route, ensure buses do not exceed
- the speed limit, and limit the route to weekdays. Running a reduced summer schedule with dedicated morning, midday, and early evening trips (e.g., departing San Mateo Caltrain at 8am, 12pm, and 5:30pm) would address neighborhood noise concerns while allowing
- riders to at least reach work and buy groceries.
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- Furthermore, weekend service remains vital. With the College of San Mateo
- [constructing](#)
- [new below-market-rate student housing](#), weekend transportation to Caltrain
- and the affordable grocery stores downtown is essential to making on-campus living viable without a car. For a city
- [dedicated](#)
- [to addressing climate change](#), providing weekend bus service is critical to
- encouraging students to adopt public transit over driving.
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- Finally, SamTrans could increase efficiency by preserving three key stops along Alameda
- de Las Pulgas—**1) MacArthur/Barneson, 2) Castilian Way, and 3)**
- **Virginia Ave**—while eliminating stops along Parrott Drive.
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Option #2: If rerouting CSM along El Camino (CA-82), retain key Alameda de Las Pulgas stops.

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- If SamTrans is determined to reroute CSM along El Camino, please retain up to

three bus

- stops along Alameda de Las Pulgas—**1) MacArthur/Barneson, 2) Castilian Way, and 3) Virginia Ave**—so local residents and students are not entirely cut off from public transit.
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The existing CSM bus route provides individuals living in Baywood Knolls without a driver's license or personal vehicle with a reasonable commute to work, grocery stores, and CalTrain. It enables middle and high school students to travel independently and build friendships across neighborhoods and class lines through its comprehensive, safe, and affordable service. Making public transit available in every neighborhood is critical to encouraging all students to reduce their carbon emissions and walk, bike, or take the bus over driving.

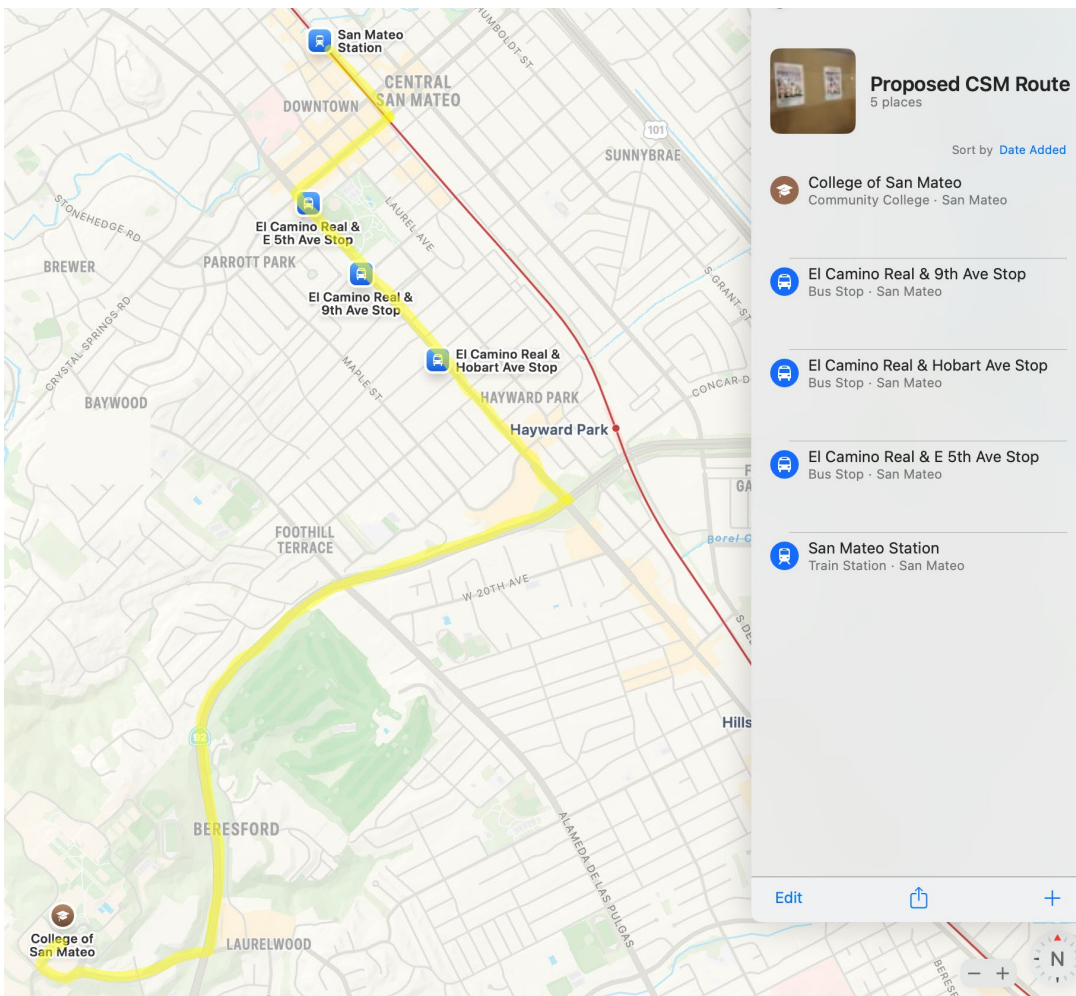
I ask that the Board adopt one of the solutions above, rather than fully discontinuing service along Alameda de Las Pulgas and Parrott Drive.

Sincerely,

Zoe Neil

Baywood Knolls Resident (Between Alameda de Las Pulgas/Parrott Dr and Alameda de Las Pulgas/Virginia Ave CSM Stops)

P.S. Is the attached map an accurate rendering of SamTrans' proposed CSM reroute? I compiled these stops (Caltrain Station, El Camino & E 5th Ave, El Camino & 9th Ave, El Camino & Hobart Ave, CSM) following a call with SamTrans customer service.



P.P.S. Could SamTrans provide me with any meeting minutes or record of the SamTrans Board of Directors or Citizens Advisory Board discussing this route change? I found public comments from [the homeowner](#) and [one other resident](#), but no mention of either Board's response.