

**SamTrans Board Liaison Report
Meeting of February 5, 2025**

Board Received/Actions

- Oath of Office: Jackie Speier for a term ending December 31, 2028 (representing San Mateo County Board of Supervisors)
- Approved January 8, 2025, Regular Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Accepted the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending December 31, 2024
- Accepted Quarterly Investment Report and Fixed Income Market Review and Outlook
- Accepted Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for 2nd Quarter Fiscal Year 2025
- Authorized General Manager/CEO to Execute a Primary Grant Agreement with the San Mateo County Transportation Authority for Future Measures A and W Funding
- Approved Proclamation Declaring February as National Black History Month
- Approved Resolution of Appreciation for Ray Mueller
- Approved Resolution of Appreciation for Marina Fraser
- Approved 2025 Debt Refinancing and Authorized Issuance of San Mateo County Transit District Limited Tax Bonds: Approving Forms, Authorizing Execution and Delivery Thereof; Amending and Restating Debt Policy and the Continuing Disclosure Policy, and Completing Associated Disclosure Training

Board Highlights

April Chan, General Manager/CEO, highlighted under her General Manager's report:

- Welcomed County Supervisor Jackie Speier to the SamTrans Board
- Thanked Supervisor Ray Mueller for his service on the Board
- Lunar New Year and Black History Month buses will be operating throughout the County during the month of February
- Thanked Chair Gee for attending Black History Month celebrations in Redwood City
- Discussed US Department of Transportation (DOT) released guidance last week aimed at scrutinizing DOT policies and programs to align them with the Administration's policy goals; there are concerns that grants awarded or to be awarded would be impacted resulting from these policy realignments. Grants possibly impacted include over \$143 million in federal funding for our replacement of fleet with hydrogen fuel cell buses.
- SamTrans sent out a message to our employees to ensure them that we operate a system that welcomes everyone on our buses in response to rumors that ICE (US Immigration and Customs Enforcement) has been apprehending riders. We are also developing protocols for our front-line employees.
- Staff will be scheduling a board workshop with the Board late March or early April to discuss the financial outlook along with the proposed 10-year CIP. Noted for today's meeting there would be an update on progress of the new SamTrans headquarters

project, a refunding of the 2015 bonds issued, and a presentation on transit-oriented development policy

Community Relations Committee

Accessible Services Update - Tina Dubost, Manager, Accessible Services, stated continuing community outreach at Veterans Village and looking at ways to encourage more community members to use transit.

Paratransit Advisory Council Update - Ben McMullan, Chair of PAC, stated the PAC would be scheduling a new member orientation by the end of February.

Monthly State of the Service Report | December 2024 - Ana Rivas, Director Bus Transportation, provided a report on increasing weekday ridership (10.9 percent) and total ridership recovery (98.7 percent).

Finance Committee

Approving 2025 Debt Refinancing and Authorizing Issuance of San Mateo County Transit District Limited Tax Bonds: Approving Forms, Authorizing Execution and Delivery Thereof; Amending and Restating Debt Policy and the Continuing Disclosure Policy, and Completing Associated Disclosure Training - Kate Jordan Steiner, Chief Financial Officer, provided a presentation regarding the 2015 bonds, stating first opportunity in 2025 to refund the bonds based on reduced interest rates and S&P (Standard and Poor) AAA rating. The Board also received bond disclosure training from Rudy Salo, Partner, Nixon Peabody LLC.

Strategic Planning, Development, and Sustainability Committee

Informational Presentation of the Proposed Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and Property Disposition Policy - Janni Baugh, Deputy Director, Real Estate Management and Development, provided a presentation that included past completed projects and anticipated sites under evaluation for future development. She emphasized that the policy will focus on creating transit-supportive communities, supporting SamTrans operations, ensuring local and regional collaboration, and supporting affordability and density.

Legislative Committee

Legislative Update

Jessica Epstein, Director, Government and Community Affairs, provided an update that included the following:

- Federal updates regarding the uncertainty of funding following recent Executive Orders, including awarded funds not yet executed or undergoing appropriations process, and low or zero-emission bus technology grants
- State updates including the Governor's January 10 release of 2025-2026 budget showing minor surplus with an expected May revise; no funding cuts; review of prospective bills,

including Senate Bill 272, which would make it unnecessary to redo the bidding process for repairs and maintenance for projects \$5 million and under

Regional updates include MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) regional funding measure and upcoming results from the polling.

Closed Session

Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, reported on the closed sessions from January 8, 2025, where the Board had no reportable action.

There was one closed session including a conference about Public Employee Performance Evaluation. Ms. Cassman stated that any action taken will be reported at the next SamTrans Board Meeting on March 5, 2025.