

**San Mateo County Transportation Authority
Board of Directors**

**1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California 94070
Minutes of September 4, 2025**

Members Present: N. Corzo (arrived at 5:06 pm), A. Fung (arrived at 5:05 pm), R. Medina, M. Nagales, J. Speier, C. Romero (Chair)

Members Absent: J. Mates (Vice Chair)

Staff Present: A. Alicic, S. Atkinson, E. Beach, J. Cassman, A. Chan, J. Epstein, P. Gilster, L. Lumina-Hsu, P. Skinner, V. Tabjulu, M. Tseng, K. Yin

1. Call to Order

Chair Romero called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

Margaret Tseng, Authority Secretary, called the roll and confirmed a Board quorum was present.

Director Medina led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Aleta Dupree, commented on sales tax funding for San Mateo County public transportation.

4. Report of the Community Advisory Committee - Chair Romero stated the report is available online.

5. Consent Calendar

- 5.a. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of July 10, 2025 and Special Meeting of July 30, 2025**
- 5.b. Accept Status of June 2025 and July 2025 Monthly Financial Reports**
- 5.c. Accept Quarterly Investment Report**
- 5.d. Acceptance of Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for Fiscal Year 2025 Quarter 4**

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board questions on Item 5.d. US 101/92 Interchange project schedule status.

Motion/Second: Medina/Nagales

Ayes: Corzo, Fung, Medina, Nagales, Speier, Romero

Noes: None

Absent: Mates

6. Report of the Chair

Chair Romero stated \$200 million call for projects open for applicants until September 12; list of draft projects will come to Board for consideration at the November meeting.

7. San Mateo County Transit District Liaison Report for August 6, 2025 and September 3, 2025

Director Medina stated the report was posted online, and noted the following:

- Transit Month events; and Ride Like a Leader campaign
- Hydrogen bus safety exercise with local emergency response agencies
- 2.3 percent weekday ridership and 37.7 percent total ridership increases
- 99.5 percent pre-pandemic recovery
- 5.2 percent youth ridership increase
- 10.8 percent Clipper usage increase
- 23 percent decrease in women bus operators which staff is actively addressing

8. Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Liaison Report for August 7, 2025 and September 4, 2025

Director Medina stated the report was posted online, and noted the following:

- Special events ridership increased
- Advertise and promote Caltrain and special events to encourage ridership growth

9. Report of Executive Director

April Chan, Executive Director, stated the report was in the packet and noted the following:

- North County multimodal strategy; projects a mile within east and west side of US 101
- Public review draft out since August 18; public comment period ends September 19; working to get feedback from cities
- September is Transit Month; encourage Directors to ride transit and post on social media
- August 21 fare gates ribbon cutting at San Bruno Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station attended by Chair Romero, and Directors Medina, Fung, Corzo

The Board Members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- TA staff quick work on funding for BART fare gates
- Connect 101 process
- Coastside mobility plans

10. Program

10.a. Safe Routes to School Program Report

Sue-Ellen Atkinson, Manager, Planning and Fund Management, introduced Theresa Vallez-Kelly, Safe Routes to School Coordinator, San Mateo County Office of Education, who provided the presentation that included the following:

- 2024-2025 projects of \$174,273 at elementary, middle, and high schools included crossing guard program, digital marquees, bike racks, speed feedback signage, bike shed tools and supplies, bike safety murals, drop-off zone infrastructure, barricade installation, and safety signage
- 2025-2026 projects of \$144,650 at elementary, middle, and high schools include bike racks, curb ramps, ramps with flashing beacons, crosswalks, crossing guards, and helmets
- Data walk audits with students to gather potential improvement projects
- Fellowship teams with cities where cities and schools work together to support student travel

The Board Members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Estimated costs for crosswalk blinking lights
- Safe Routes to School and offshoot of the bicycle/pedestrian (bike/ped) program; increased funding for Safe Routes to School from 2.5 to 5 percent
- Partnership encouragement with school districts, cities, county, and TA
- Improvements at schools improve community and addresses problems parents and students face
- Walk audit providing community and student input; engage youth and create stewards in public government

Public Comment

Adina Levin, San Mateo County Transit Justice Coalition (TEAMC), commented on Measure W and TA technical assistance for bike/ped Measure W and incentives for cities who engage youth in planning process.

10.b. Accepting the US 101/SR 92 Mobility Hub and Smart Corridor Plan – *Approved by Resolution No. 2025-19*

Ms. Atkinson provided the presentation that included the following:

- Mobility hub and smart corridor alternatives including bicycle lanes and pedestrian walkways; alignments with city master plans
- Community engagement of conceptual designs and community preferred alternatives multimodal medium

The Board Members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Mobility hub design flexibility; improvements for bicyclists
- Corridor improvements including physical separation of road and bike/ped

Public Comment

Adina Levin commented on community input on funding and policies, and funding public transportation and street safety improvements.

Motion/Second: Speier/Corzo

Ayes: Corzo, Fung, Medina, Nagales, Speier, Romero

Noes: None

Absent: Mates

10.c. Key Performance Indicators (KPI) Dashboard

Vamsi Tabjulu, Project Manager, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Dashboard includes Call for Projects data from 2009 - 2024
- Data summarizes Measure A and W funds by categories
- Anticipate go live late Fall 2025 after beta testing by Board and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Board Members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Funding available to cities and jurisdictions
- Funding leverage incorporation
- Community education tool

Director Speier left the meeting at 6:34 pm.

11. Finance

11.a. Awarding Contracts to Corey, Canapary & Galanis and EMC Research, Inc. for On-Call Market Research and Survey Services for an Aggregate Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$600,000 for a Three-Year Base Term, with Up to Two Additional One-Year Option Terms – Approved by Resolution No. 2025-20

Emily Beach, Chief Communication Officer, and Kevin Yin, Director, Contracts and Procurement, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Streamlining and time/cost benefits with on-call market research to carry out surveys
- Reasons for on-call contracts that include the minimization of a lengthy public procurement and prevention of exhausting the contract authority
- Upcoming planned research projects including shuttle rider survey, public sentiment research (polling), customer experience surveys, and service planning surveys
- Solicitation process and work directives issuance

The Board Members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Option to co-fund surveys by San Mateo County Transportation District (SamTrans) and TA for data
- Need to ask Board for action on intergovernmental agreement to access SamTrans

- survey contract; efficiency to have separate contract
- Record keeping and transparency on use of authority funds
- Delineate and define how the contract funds are used

Motion/Second: Fung/Corzo

Friendly amendment by Director Medina: Provide on-call quarterly report to Board when contract is used and efforts to include proposed use of contract in budget cycle for Board consideration. Accepted by Directors Fung and Corzo.

Ayes: Corzo, Fung, Medina, Nagales, Romero

Noes: None

Absent: Speier, Mates

11.b. US 101 Express Lanes Semi-Annual Update on Variable Rate Bonds and Express Lanes Performance

Adela Alicic, Manager, Treasury Debt and Investments, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Variable rate bonds issued on behalf of San Mateo County Express Lanes – Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA)
- Favorable performance
- Principal payments, remaining principal, and timing
- Monitoring Federal policies and regulatory changes

Lacy Vong, SMCEL-JPA Policy Program Manager, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Traffic performance sustained growth; speeds remain consistent; assessed tolls increased driven by increased traffic volume

The Board Members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Utilization of Community Benefit Program funded by SMCEL-JPA
- “Go Card” program benefits; community outreach
- Revenue increases

Public Comment

Adina Levin commented on equity programs for variety of transportation options.

12. Legislative Matters

12.a. Receive Legislative Update; discuss SB 63 and Cap-and-Invest (Cap-and-Trade) negotiations

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

- Federal grant oversight; 84/101 to Redwood City project grant is being reviewed
- State Legislature back in session; September 12 - Legislative Deadline
- October 12 – Deadline for Governor Gavin Newsom to sign or veto bills

Cap-and-Invest

- Funding pool reducing over time
- Legislature discussing program extension, expenditure plan, and Proposition 4 Climate Bond expenditures
- California High-Speed Rail (CHSR) Bookend Projects, Joint Benefit Projects (none currently identified in San Mateo County), and Non-Joint Benefit Projects (Broadway/Burlingame Grade Separation, Caltrain safety improvements, corridor safety improvements)

The Board Members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included Bookend Project needs requests, advocating for Highway-to-Boulevard projects, and resource constrained process.

Public Comment

Adina Levin commented on the Redwood City project and level boarding.

Director Nagales recused from the meeting at 7:46 pm.

Senate Bill (SB) 63

- August 6 - SamTrans Board of Directors opted-in to SB 63
- Upcoming revised expenditure plan to be released
- Robust discussions around governance and oversight
- September 9 – last day bill can be amended with rule waiver; September 12 – deadline to pass legislature

13. Requests from the Authority – There were none.

14. Written Communications to Authority – Available online.

15. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting - Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 5:00 pm

16. Report of Legal Counsel - Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, stated there was no report.

17. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.