

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

**1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California 94070
3199 Cody Court, Palm Springs, CA 92264**

Minutes of January 8, 2026

Members Present: Noelia Corzo (arrived at 5:06 pm), Anders Fung (arrived at 5:58pm), Rico E. Medina, Carlos Romero, Mark Nagales (Vice Chair), Julia Mates (Chair)

Members Present via Teleconference: Jackie Speier

Staff Present: J. Cassman, A. Chan, P. Gilster, L. Ko, A. Linehan, L. Lumina-Hsu, J. Manzi, P. Skinner

1. Call to Order

Chair Romero called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

2. Oath of Office

Authority Deputy Secretary Loana Lumina-Hsu swore in Mark Nagales for a term ending December 31, 2027 (Cities – Northern County Representative) and after Item 15.a., swore in Anders Fung for a term ending December 31, 2027 (Cities – Cities at Large Representative)

3. Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Loana Lumina-Hsu called the roll and confirmed a Board quorum was present.

Director Medina led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Election of 2026 Officers

Director Romero nominated Director Mates for Chair. There were no additional nominations.

Director Corzo joined the meeting at 5:06 pm.

Motion/Second: Romero/Medina

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

Noes: None

Absent: Fung

Director Medina nominated Director Nagales for Vice Chair. There were no additional nominations.

Motion/Second: Medina/Speier

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

Noes: None

Absent: Fung

5. Request to Change Order of Business

Request for Item 15 to be heard before Item 13.

Motion/Second: Nagales/Corzo

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

Noes: None

Absent: Fung

6. Report of the Community Advisory Committee – Chair Romero stated the report is available online.

7. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Giuliano Carlini thanked the Board of Directors for their service and commitment to transportation.

8. Consent Calendar

8.a. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of December 4, 2025

8.b. Adopting the Grand Boulevard Initiative Action Plan – *Approved by Resolution No. 2026-01*

Public Comment

Giuliano Carlini commented on the current multi-modal transportation conditions and the Grand Boulevard Initiative (GBI) Project transformation on El Camino Real.

Motion to approve Items 8.a. and 8.b./Second: Romero/Medina

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

Noes: None

Absent: Fung

8.c. Adopt 2026 Legislative Program

Staff provided further clarification and amendments in response to Board comments and questions on the inclusion of GBI funding and support.

Motion to approve Item 8.c./Second: Romero/Nagales
Ayes: Corzo, Medina, Romero, Speier, Nagales, Mates
Noes: None
Absent: Fung

9. Report of the Chair

Immediate Past Chair Romero stated there was no report.

9.a. Appointment of Representative to the San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority

Chair Mates and Directors Romero and Medina volunteered to continue serving as representations to the San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority Board (SMCEL-JPA).

Director Corzo nominated Chair Mates, Director Romero and Director Medina to be Transportation Authority (TA) representatives to the SMCEL-JPA. There were no further nominations.

Motion/Second: Corzo/Nagales
Ayes: Corzo, Medina, Romero, Speier, Nagales, Mates
Noes: None
Absent: Fung

10. San Mateo County Transit District Liaison Report

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

- 2026 Legislative Program, GBI Action Plan, and Measure W Citizens Oversight Committee (COC) updates to appointment process adoption
- Measure W COC appointments
- San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) 50th Anniversary
- 2026 Officer Elections: Chair Marie Chuang and Vice Chair Brooks Esser

11. Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Liaison Report

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

- Governance agreement motion being brought to Governance Ad Hoc Committee
- Guadalupe River Bridge Project approved unanimously
- Burlingame-Broadway crossing closed; catenary system repairs
- Fail safe mode for crossings
- Theft mitigation activities

12. Report of Executive Director

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

- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) meeting to establish a public transit revenue measure district under Senate Bill (SB) 63
- Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB) Ad-Hoc Committee to bring recommended amendments for shared services, governance, and salary ordinance; SamTrans remaining as managing agency

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Letter sent by San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) Special Counsel to JPB Board and consideration of performance audit payment and guidelines; scope of work, impact on SamTrans and TA staff and operations
- 2026 Measure A and W Call for Projects updates

Public Comment

Rich Hedges commented on the maintenance of Caltrain's accolades.

Director Fung joined the meeting at 5:58 pm.

13. Finance

13.a. Consider Amending the \$10,000,000 Allocation in Original Measure A Funds to the San Mateo County Transit District for Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027 Member Agency Contributions to Caltrain to Remove Conditions – Approved by Resolution No. 2026-02

Ms. Chan provided the report on the following:

- JPB Guadalupe River Bridge Project allocations; Santa Clara County's \$10 million allocation without any conditions
- Consideration removal of the TA Board-approved condition due to January 8, 2026 JPB's project budget amendment; \$10 million funding to come from the County and City of San Francisco; Caltrain prepared to use credits if needed

Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director, Caltrain, provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions on the letter of credit availability.

Motion/Second: Corzo/Romero

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

Noes: None

14. Program

14.a. Programming and Allocating \$189,934,617 in Measure A and Measure W Highway Program Funds for 17 Highway Projects; Supporting Requests for \$1,516,000 in Local Project Partnership Programs funds for City of Half Moon Bay's Highway 1: Main Street to Kehoe Avenue Project and \$3,000,000 in Regional Measure 3 Funds for City of San Mateo's Fashion Island/19th Avenue Separated Bikeway Project
Approved by Resolution No. 2026-03

Patrick Gilster, Director, Planning and Fund Management, provided the staff report that included the following:

- 17 Measure A and Measure W projects
- Requested \$1.51 million from California Transportation Commission (CTC) and \$3 million from Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
- East Palo Alto's conditional second request based on a third-party review
- US 101/Holly Street application for discretionary funds

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions on technical support continuation to conditional projects.

Public Comment

Tim Ryan commented on the overcrossing safety and need for separate pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

Nil Blackburn, Assistant City Manager, City of San Carlos, commented on anticipated projects benefits for the region, TA staff support and guidance, and community outreach and feedback.

Rich Hedges spoke in support of project funding and commented on bicyclist safety, multi-modal travel opportunities, and equity environments related to the Fashion Island/19th Avenue project.

Giuliano Carlini commented on funding allocations to cars and spoke in support of funding other modes of transportation, Holly Street Overpass safety, and the Fashion Island/19th Avenue project.

Sonia Elkes commented on Holly Street Overpass safety.

Mike Swire commented on the project list and funding non-car focused projects, Holly Street overpass safety and Fashion Island/19th Avenue regional measure (RM-3) funding.

Motion/Second: Romero/Fung

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

14.b. Proposed Updates to the Grade Separation Program Policies and Near-Term Funding Strategy

Jessica Manzi, Director, Project Delivery, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Measure A and W funding to total about \$306 million through 2049
- \$1.8 billion for Broadway, South Linden-Scott, and Ravenswood projects; 50 percent funded
- Caltrain efforts to accomplish at-grade crossing improvements and corridor crossings strategy
- Funding limitations, in addition to increasing costs and changes in Measure A reauthorization
- Policy limited to the next five years; focus on active pipeline projects with Broadway as focus if all resources are allocated to project
- Separate cost-analysis for design allocations; must be realistic to receive funding

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions about the Linden-Scott project need and cost estimation, funding categories, and cost efficiency.

15. Legislative Matters

15.a. Legislative Update

Amy Linehan, Government Affairs Officer, provided the state update that included the following:

- Legislature resumed on January 5
- Two 2025 bills to be passed by January 31 to be considered in 2026
- February 20 deadline for new bill introductions
- January 9 release of Governor Newsom's budget, projected \$18 billion budget deficit
- Senator Monique Limón appointment as President pro Tempore of the California Senate
- Senator Dave Cortese continues as Chair for Senate Transportation Committee; Senator Josh Newman Richardson continues as Chair Senate Budget subcommittee for Transportation
- Senators Josh Becker and Scott Wiener join Transportation Committee

Chris Kierig, Lobbyist, Kadesh & Associates, LLC, provided the Federal update that included the following information:

- January 30 deadline for Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations to avoid government shutdown
- Five bills under the next minibus
- General March primary season, with California's to take place in June
- Earmarks included in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (THUD) appropriations and sponsored by Representative Kevin Mullin
- Department of Transportation (DOT) paused grant funding for 101/84 Reimagined Project
- Congress extension or reauthorization of the nation's service transportation laws and programs by September 30, 2026

- Funding needs, supplied by Highway Trust Fund and Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA), National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA), and other DOT accounts

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- State political association for grants
- Mini-bus funding
- Appropriations timeline with a possible continuing resolution

16. Requests from the Authority – The Directors stated San Mateo County has a potential meeting that will conflict with the next TA Board of Directors meeting. Ms. Chan stated she will reach out to the County to confirm the meeting and, if needed, will work with Directors to find an alternative Board meeting date.

17. Written Communications to Authority – Available online.

18. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting - Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 5:00 pm

19. Report of Legal Counsel

19.a. Establishing Community Advisory Committee Appointment Procedures

Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, provided the report that included reduction of the desired size, selection process criteria, staff responsibilities, and open-seat advertisement of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC). Mr. Skinner elaborated on the screening process for applicants.

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Geographic representation and member occupancy
- Letter of support requirement limitations
- Eligibility and attendance considerations
- No current interview and appointment procedures
- SB 707 changes to the Brown Act influencing TA CAC recommendations to the Board

The Board of Directors requested for Item 19.a. to be brought back to a future Board meeting for consideration.

Director Speier left at 7:03 pm.

Public Comment

Giuliano Carlini commented on the availability of procedures, diversity dilution, letters of recommendation, and filling in open seats.

Mike Swire commented on submitted applications and the difficulties with the drafted policies.

Adina Levin commented on difficulties with obtaining a letter of recommendation and recent changes to the Brown Act for remote attendance.

20. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm in memory of Carolyn L. Medina. Director Medina extended the in memory of for all persons who have lost loved ones.