

**San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) Board Liaison Report
Meeting of March 4, 2026**

Report Out from Closed Session at February 4, 2026 Board Meeting

- Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)
Initiation of Litigation: One Case

Joan Cassman, General Counsel, stated there were no reportable actions.

SamTrans Board of Directors Received and Approved the Following Items

- Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of February 4, 2026 and Special Meeting of February 12, 2026
- Accept Quarterly Fuel Hedge Update for Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 2
- Accept Contracts and Procurement Quarterly Report on Technology Purchases for Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 2
- Accept Quarterly Report for On-Call Contracts for Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 2
- Modifying the Building 200 Project to Adjust the Location of the
- New Building 200 and Adopting a Second Addendum to the Negative Declaration
- Adopting the Reimbursement Resolution for the Millbrae Headquarters and North Base Building 200 Project

Report of the Chair – Proclamation Declaring March as International Women's History Month

Tasha Bartholomew, Director, Communications, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Recognition of women's contributions during March
- The San Mateo County Transit District (District) created a Women in Transportation Employee Resource Group in March 2024
- SamTrans commemorates International Women's History Month through social media highlights showcasing female employees and a Women's Day celebration on March 31

Resolution of Appreciation for Jeff Gee – Chair Chuang presented the resolution to Director Gee commemorating his term as the 2025 SamTrans Chair.

Report of the General Manager/CEO | February 25, 2026

April Chan, General Manager/CEO, provided a report which included the following:

- Onboard rider survey to be conducted during March on select routes for fare elasticity model
- Operator bathrooms are an important amenity. From the insufficient operator bathrooms study completed in 2023, staff has secured licenses for a number of locations for such usage; we are also looking to construct semi-permanent or permanent bathrooms at other select locations by 2027

- 1 million out of 15 million Bay Area users had migrated to Clipper 2.0; bulk migration for the balance of the Clipper users will be done after issues are resolved by the Clipper contractor Cubic Corporation (Cubic).
- SamTrans Clipper 2.0 updates: our customer service booth is now able to issue Clipper 2.0 cards as well as discount youth cards.

Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding the following:

- SamTrans Clipper 2.0 revenue loss quantification and fare cap-related passenger overages; January ridership report withheld due to insufficient ridership data transparency
- Rider estimation can also be achieved through historical data and farebox collection; audit after issue resolution
- Automatic passenger counter (APC) comparison to Clipper data
- Cubic data provision for auditing and ensuring proper distribution of funds earned by the respective operators by Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)

Monthly New Headquarters Construction Status Update and Headquarters Leasing Update –

Kris McGee, Managing Principal at Urban Hive Development, and Joshua Mello, Chief Planning Officer, provided the presentation that included infrastructure installation and move preparation; employee wellness and transportation amenities; future Board approvals for leases, and purchases; commuter benefit updates; and off-site agency vehicle parking.

Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding Commute.org engagement, in-house transportation agency partnerships, and Caltrain lease agreement terms.

Presentation of Awards for Bus Operator and Maintenance Employee of the Year 2025 –

Ms. Chan provided the presentation that recognized North Base Operator, Steven Castagnola, and North Base Maintenance Employee, Arvin Barrozo, as employees of the year.

Authorizing Execution of an Agreement for Shared Responsibility of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board' California Public Employees' Retirement System Pension Liability –

Ms. Cassman provided the report that included the following information:

- Fiscal responsibility agreement with the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) and Santa Clara County Valley Transportation (VTA) for financial liabilities that arise if Caltrain dissolves or California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) terminates successor agency contract
- 2022 Governance Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), changing reporting relationships and creating a separate Caltrain Executive Director (ED)
- Over \$4 billion in Caltrain assets to cover liabilities should there be a Caltrain dissolution
- Same type of agreement must also be approved by CCSF and VTA to continue with CalPERS

Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding the following:

- Actuary appraisal of \$15 million to increase over time
- Equal shared liabilities amongst member agencies to be included in the fiscal responsibility agreement
- Also discussed other ways to distribute the liabilities: track mileage distribution; three different options for backstop liabilities covered by the four agencies
- Board requested staff to bring back backstop alternatives; item is continued to the next meeting.

Caltrain and The San Mateo County Transit District: Managing Agency History –

Jim Wagstaffe, Special Counsel, and Jim Hartnet, Special Counsel, provided the presentation that included the following information:

- Managing agency history
- SamTrans contributions to rail and financial support through Southern Pacific Right-of-Way, Sequoia Station, San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA) purchase and preservation of rail properties, favorable rent, plus South County Caltrain service to Gilroy and negligible rent for current headquarters (HQ)
- Three options considered by the Caltrain Board in 2021 and 2022: refined shared services model and ED relationship, new shared services model and ED relationship, or separate entity
- One-time costs and increasing cost comparison for independent agency and shared service model; \$1.67 million spent on Caltrain JPB Governance study
- Average annual deficit growth from \$75 million to over \$185 million if independent agency
- Managing agency designation to SamTrans, resulting from CCSF and VTA's owing \$82 million from SamTrans' advance to the railroad in 1991; obligations outlined in the JPA and Real Property Ownership Agreement (RPOA)
- CCSF and VTA owed \$53.3 million in 2008-2022 negotiations resulting in JPB governance changes to ED role and staff designation, with District remaining as managing agency
- Governance MOU protections for fully and partially shared services
- JPA and 2008 RPOA cannot be amended unless unanimously approved by all three agencies
- Caltrain internal efficiency audit request on shared services, which makes up less than 10 percent of Caltrain budget

Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding efficiency review request, two-phase Senate Bill (SB) 63 cost review of agencies facing fiscal cliffs including Caltrain, SFMTA, BART and AC Transit, annual savings with the MOU agreements and shared service efficiencies.

Community Relations Committee

Accessible Services Update – Tina Dubost, Manager, Accessible Transit Services, stated the creation of an outreach recruitment plan.

Citizens Advisory Committee Update – Dylan Finch, CAC Chair, stated CAC recommendations for the Central El Camino Multimodal Plan and Dumbarton Busway Project and comments on Clipper 2.0, project site visits, and Route EPX changes at the San Francisco Airport.

Paratransit Advisory Council Update – Ben McMullan, PAC Chair, stated outreach plan activities and SB 707 effects.

State of Service Report | Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 2 – Ms. Chan noted the report was in the packet.

Finance Committee

Authorizing Execution of an Agreement to Utilize Up to 70 Parking Spaces at the Millbrae Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) Station at a Total Cost of Up to \$660,000 For Five Years –

Mr. Mello and Janni Baugh, Acting Director, Real Estate, provided the presentation that included additional parking through BART or alternate offsite location to accommodate 13 paratransit vehicles, 35 SamTrans and Caltrain pool cars, and 20 Sheriff vehicles due to limited parking at the new HQ. Costs are to be shared with Caltrain, related to pool vehicles and Sheriff vehicles.

Awarding a Contract to Samsara, Inc. to Provide Dual-Facing Artificial Intelligence (AI) Dash Cameras Subscription Services for 235 Fixed-Route Buses for a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$240,000 for a Three-Year Base Term, and up to Three Additional One-Year Option Terms for a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$240,000 –

Omar Brown, Acting Deputy Director, Safety and Security, and Kevin Yin, Director, Contracts and Procurement, provided the presentation that included that dual facing AI-technology cameras would aid in accident prevention, accident-related cost reduction, and safety metric improvements. Operator behavior would be tracked, recorded, and coached for correction.

Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding AI location, data storage access, and security; impact on insurance costs; software auditing and footage reviewal; current footage retention; correction management, policy coverage, and change management.

Awarding a Contract to Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc. for On-Call General Engineering Consultant Design Services for a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$18 Million for a Seven-Year Term –

Mr. Yin and Hubert Chan, Director, Facilities Maintenance, provided the presentation that included the previous Board-approved contract terms and capacity,

re-solicitation; turnaround time, workload management, cost management, and administrative maintenance benefits; and work directive flexibility and funding. The contract was amended to a five-year term.

Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding term restrictions, on-call efficiency, contract term determination, and previous contract capacity.

Receive Quarterly Financial Report Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 2 Results and Financial Outlook –

Kate Jordan Steiner, Chief Financial Officer, provided the presentation that included year-to-date results, sources, uses, and risk favorability; source increases due to higher investment returns; and operating revenue and operating expenses are projected better-than-budget net position favorability.

Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding favorable revenue variances due to interest income and HdL sales tax forecasting.

Legislative Committee

Receive Legislative Update – Jessica Epstein, Director, Government and Community Affairs, provided the presentation that included the following information:

Federal

- Earmark obtention by Senator Mullin for SamTrans and TA-supported projects
- FY 2027 earmark requests; \$6 million funding for North Base Causeway Flood Mitigation Project
- House of Representatives (HR) 7440 for Colma Park and Ride development
- 15 bill-cap for bill introductions
- February 18 Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES) lawsuit

State

- Budget request and grant application
- SB 63 loan
- Bills on public worker wages and zero-emission buses (ZEB) axel weight restrictions

Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding the ARCHES lawsuit and funding prioritization of low emissions buses over ZEBs.

Strategic Planning, Development, and Sustainability Committee

This Committee was cancelled for the month as there were no business items.

General Counsel Report

Ms. Cassman stated there was no report.