

**San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) Board Liaison Report  
Meeting of April 1, 2026**

**SamTrans Board of Directors Received and Approved the Following Items**

- Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of March 4, 2026
- Awarding a Contract to Medical Transportation Management, Inc. to Provide Paratransit Eligibility Assessment Services for a Five-Year Base Term for a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$3,726,384, and up to Four Additional One-Year Option Terms for a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$3,468,472, for a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$7,194,856
- Awarding a Contract to VSI Risk Management and Ergonomics, Inc. to Provide Ergonomic Assessment Services for a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$266,000 for a Five-Year Term, and an Additional \$35,000 for Optional Services, for a Total Not-To-Exceed Contract Amount of \$301,000
- Authorizing Remote Meetings for the Paratransit Advisory Council under Senate Bill 707
- Authorizing the Filing of an Application with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for State Transit Assistance for Fiscal Year 2026
- Authorizing Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement to Develop and Reimburse Costs for a Project Initiation Document for the Grand Boulevard Initiative
- Amending the SamTrans Title VI Policies

**Report of the Chair**

Chair Chuang stated there was no report.

**Report of the General Manager/CEO | March 25, 2026**

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

- Move-into new headquarters (HQ) in May will be done in two phases; monthly construction updates regarding headquarters will end after this month
- Staff will instead bring office and retail leases, decision to purchase new HQ, and financing to the Board for consideration in the future
- Tour of the new HQ with the San Mateo County Council of Cities; contingent status of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) lease agreement is wrapping up. Lease must be executed before Caltrain moves into the new space, which has been communicated with the Caltrain Executive Director and Legal Counsel.
- Clipper Next Generation issues persist, and agencies are coordinating with Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to troubleshoot issues. Clipper ridership data is unreliable at this time or unavailable. Instead, ridership is estimated with other sources such as farebox numbers and automatic passenger counter (APC) data. MTC and Cubic Corporation (Cubic) to work on financial reconciliation in light of the Clipper Next Generation's current challenges. They will be testing the data to ensure accurate reporting, and the numbers can stand up to audits
- Immediate national recruitment for Chief Financial Officer in preparation for Kate Jordan Steiner's June departure; Ladi Millard-Olmeda to be Interim Chief Financial Officer

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions regarding the El Camino Real (ECR) construction and Route ECR changes.

**Monthly New Headquarters Construction Status Update** – Kris McGee, Managing Principal at Urban Hive Development, and Joshua Mello, Chief Planning Officer, provided the presentation that included project timeline updates, parking structure privatization, audio-visual installations, upcoming Board approvals, fourth floor tenancy and retail space availability, and the Daycare Ad Hoc Committee.

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions regarding staff coordination and pending Caltrain tenancy.

**Authorizing Execution of an Agreement for Shared Responsibility of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board's California Public Employees Retirement System Pension Liability** – Joan Cassman, General Counsel, provided the report that included a recap of the information presented at the March 4, 2026 regular Board meeting and questions raised by the Board. Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority (SFMTA) approved the agreement; however, the agreement is pending one additional approval from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors (SFBS). The memorandum of understanding (MOU) addresses future liabilities and responsibilities of each agency.

**Presentation of Safety Awards** – Ms. Chan recognized North Base operators for upkeeping safety standards throughout 2025. Kris Longa, North Base Transportation Manager, and Ana Rivas, Director, Bus Transportation, accepted the Safety Award.

**Community Relations Committee**

**Accessible Services Update** – Tina Dubost, Manager, Accessible Transit Services, stated Paratransit Advisory Council (PAC) members received presentations on Connect Bay Area Local (Senate Bill (SB) 63) Investment Plan, Dumbarton Expressway, and Caltrain's proposed quiet car.

**Citizens Advisory Committee Update** – Dylan Finch, CAC Chair, stated the CAC received presentations on Title VI updates and SB 63 local investment plan; provided feedback for a fare-free pilot program to drive ridership and allocate funds to other bus-related projects; and commented on transit schedules and bus bunching on ECR, related to the Burlingame detour.

**Paratransit Advisory Council Update** – Ben McMullan, PAC Chair, stated the PAC provided feedback on possible priorities for SB 63 and continue to do so at the next PAC meeting.

**Monthly State of Service Report | January 2026 and February 2026** – Ana Rivas, Director, Bus Transportation, provided the report that included the following information:

- Incomplete Clipper data; weekday ridership decreased by 12.3 percent and monthly ridership decreased by 11.4 percent year-over-year
- 21.3 percent growth in microtransit ridership; 2 percent increase for youth pass ridership
- Reincorporation of Clipper data once issues are resolved
- 82.4 percent on-time performance (OTP); 12 preventable accidents (1.5 accidents per 100,000 miles)
- Construction zone and changing traffic patterns safety campaign; preventative accident training, with 65 percent completion
- 49 service calls total; 38,000 miles between service calls for diesel fleet and 8,300 miles between service calls for zero-emission buses (ZEBs)
- 0.1 percent of schedules did not operate (DNO)

### **Finance Committee**

**Amending to Increase Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 Capital Budgets by \$13,677,872 and \$33,228,603, to \$32,244,956 and \$38,932,754, Respectively** – Ladi Millard-Olmeda,

Director, Budget and Financial Analysis, provided the presentation that included the following information:

- Capital Working Group (CWG) and Executive Capital Review Committee (ECRC) creation to screen project feasibility and costs to adjust capital budget
- \$46.8 million amendment for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 Major capital projects and various funding sources breakdown

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

- Ten-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project alignment; CWG and ECRC input for re-evaluated estimates and current needs
- Facility condition assessment incorporation of bus base needs; deferred maintenance allocations and infrastructure investments

### **Legislative Committee**

**Receive Legislative Update and Approve Legislative Proposal: Assembly Bill (AB) 1837 (Gonzalez) and AB 1944 (Lee)** – Jessica Epstein, Director, Government and Community Affairs,

provided the report that included the following information:

Federal

- February 24 State of the Union; Department of Homeland Security funding
- FY27 appropriations and earmark request; September 30 federal funding deadline
- \$6 million earmark request through Congressman Mullin for North Base causeway improvements

## State

- April 24 fiscal bill deadline; May 1 non-fiscal bill deadline
- Governor’s proposed budget hearing; substantial cuts to transit funding; recovery efforts for Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES) funding
- SB 79 effects to routes; electric bicycle bills; Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) bill
- Support of Assembly Bill (AB) 1837 (Gonzalez) for forward-facing automated cameras to monitor parking in bus lanes and AB 1944 (Lee) for zero-emission bus axle weight requirements

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions regarding bill impacts to SamTrans buses, CalPERS liabilities bill, and local and municipal regulation exemptions.

### **Strategic Planning, Development, and Sustainability Committee**

**Reimagine SamTrans Evaluation, Proposed Summer Service Changes, and Long-Term Route ECR Detour** – Millie Tolleson, Director, Planning; Jonathan Steketee, Manager, Operations Planning; and Kate Christopherson, Planning Administrator; provided the presentation that included the following information:

- Improvement of existing rider experience, ridership, and mobility provider efficiency and effectiveness
- Evaluation of Reimagine SamTrans: service satisfaction, new ridership growth, and observed weekday and weekend ridership
- Service policy framework compared to key performance indicators; frequent route performance saw an increased productivity at 4.8 percent, while express and limited stop route saw performance saw a reduced productivity of 54.7 percent
- June 2026 summer service changes and detour accommodations for ECR construction
- Detour route effects for those using Routes ECR and 397 Owl between Millbrae and Palo Alto; fare transfer; public outreach and communication
- Proposed August service changes to Routes CSM, ECR Owl, EPX, FCX, and 250
- Reduction of weekend service and increased Palo Alto service, in addition to earlier and additional service for Half Moon Bay (Coastside), for Ride Plus

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions regarding Ride Plus service upgrades and zone usage, increased weekend ridership, microtransit performance, Route ECR detour adjustments, autonomous cars and ride share availability, system-wide satisfaction, Route FCX, and Skyline College connectivity.

### **General Counsel Report**

Ms. Cassman stated there was no report.