

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

1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California 94070

Minutes of April 2, 2026

Members Present: Noelia Corzo (arrived at 5:02 pm), Anders Fung (arrived at 5:03 pm), Rico E. Medina, Ray Mueller (arrived at 5:07 pm), Carlos Romero, Mark Nagales (Vice Chair), Julia Mates (Chair)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: E. Beach, J. Cassman, A. Chan, J. Epstein, P. Gilster, L. Lumina-Hsu, J. Manzi, M. Petrik, P. Skinner, M. Tseng

1. Call to Order

Chair Mates 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.

Chair Mates led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Rich Hedges commented on El Camino Real pedestrian crossings and safety.

Guiliano Carlini commented on bicycling infrastructure, City of Belmont's Ralston Phase 4 bicycle improvements alternatives, and pedestrian safety.

Director Corzo arrived at 5:02 pm.

Director Fung arrived at 5:03 pm.

4. Report of the Community Advisory Committee

Chair Mates stated the report is available online.

5. Consent Calendar

5.a. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of March 5, 2026

Motion/Second: Medina/Romero

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

Noes: None

Absent: Mueller

6. Report of the Chair

Chair Mates stated there was no report.

7. San Mateo County Transit District Liaison Report

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

- Clipper Next Generation persisting issues and coordination with Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
- San Mateo County Transit District's (SamTrans) new headquarters tour with the San Mateo County Council of Cities
- Phased move for staff in May

Director Mueller arrived at 5:07 pm.

8. Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Liaison Report

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

- No external funding scenario exercise including consideration of closing one-third of the 31 stations; proposed service level reduction to trains once an hour; discontinue weekend service and service operating hours stopping at 9:00 pm
- Current and future funding sources; one-time State bridge loan; Fiscal Year 2027 and onward deficit

9. Report of Executive Director

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

- SamTrans headquarters facility for public meetings; public transit access at site
- Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Kate Jordan Steiner's June departure

10. Program

10.a. San Mateo County 101 Express Lanes Initial Performance Study

Jessica Manzi, Director of Project Delivery, introduced Kim Comstock, Program Manager, San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA), and Liz Justison, President, Transportation West, STV Inc., provided the presentation that included the following:

- Daily and peak period traffic trends
- Reduced congestion with increases in express lanes and general purpose lanes speeds
- Findings report decreased travel time on top five percent worst travel days, vehicle hours travelled, and carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions
- Increased high-occupancy vehicles with 3 or more occupants (HOV 3+)
- Increased person throughput between 2023 to 2025
- Dynamic pricing and real-time data enable improvements

Ms. Justison and Hema Nagarajan, Northern California Regional Director, Mobility Technologies at STV, Inc., provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions calculation and limitations; emissions stay the same or reduced at certain spots on freeway; Vehicle Hours Travelled (VHT) defined as user time experience in vehicle; VHT and air quality correlation
- Metric comparisons for 2018 and 2026; higher volume of traffic while still performing better
- General lanes and express lanes usage improved travel times; GHG reduction and relationship with increased total vehicles; additional vehicles traveling at higher rates of speeds
- Express lanes added one travel lane; data compared pre-additional lane; redo comparison in one year; peer-review methodology in next iteration

Public Comment

Guiliano Carlini commented on uncontrolled factors and variables, methodology, and promote mass public transit.

Julia Gerasimenko, Housing and Parking Policy Manager at Transform, spoke in support of express lanes, and commented on consideration of converting existing lanes or widening express lanes, long-term congestion, and enforcement.

Lesley Beatty, ClimatePlan, commented on impacts of widening lanes or converting lanes, survey data, and user travel experience car and public transit comparisons.

Mike Swire commented on widening or converting lanes considerations, grade separation and active transportation project investments, GHG and health effects analysis, increased vehicles on freeway and local streets, and carpool data.

11. Legislative Matters

11.a. Legislative Update

Michaela Petrik, Government and Community Affairs Officer, provided the presentation that included the following:

Federal

- February 24 State of the Union; Department of Homeland Security shutdown due to lack of funding
- Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) appropriations and earmark request; September 30 federal funding deadline
- \$3 million requested for San Bruno-Millbrae San Francisco International Airport (SFO) Bay Trail Gap Closure

State

- May revision updates and June 15 budget deadline
- Potential reductions in transit funding programs
- Legislative advocacy to protect transit funding
- Assembly Bill (AB) 1557: electric bicycle (e-bike) safety
- AB 2560: Codifies Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) ten goals
- Senate Bill (SB) 1411: High Speed Rail Funding; removes \$15 million and limits work outside Bakerfield to Merced length; easier to invest in projects outside the Central Valley such as ability to invest in Broadway grade separation project in Burlingame

11.b. Connect Bay Area Local Investment Plan Update

Emily Beach, Chief Communications Officer, San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) provided the presentation that included the following:

- SB63 Connect Bay Area Measure potential citizens initiative
- \$50 million return-to-source funds which SamTrans would administer limited to public transit operations and capital
- SamTrans financial outlook with operating deficit project to begin FY28
- Local Investment Plan informed by SamTrans Strategic Plan and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), Board of Directors, stakeholder and agency advisory group meetings, city council presentations, and public outreach
- Local Investment Plan survey and factsheets available in hard-copy and online provided in multiple languages
- Ten weeks of public outreach and survey to guide funding priorities

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

- Legal and consultant review of survey pamphlet; information versus advocacy; no current qualifying ballot measure
- SamTrans as administrator of potential \$50 million funds; potential investments and projects not captured in SamTrans Strategic Plan and CIP; bus across San Mateo Bridge; Paratransit vehicle maintenance and improvements
- County and Cities Association of Governments for San Mateo County (C/CAG) discussion on potential local investments
- Improved public communications of tangible wins and local investments impacting community

Public Comment

Guiliano Carlini commented on local investment plan categories, increased public transit services impact for riders, and project funding allocations.

Rich Hedges commented on San Mateo Bridge bus service.

12. Requests from the Authority – There were none.

13. Written Communications to the Authority – Available online.

14. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 5:00 pm

15. Report of Legal Counsel

Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, stated there was no report.

16. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.