

**San Mateo County Transportation Authority  
Community Advisory Committee (CAC)**

**1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California 94070**

**Minutes of March 31, 2026**

**Members Present:** Giuliano Carlini (arrived at 4:50 pm), Nheeda Enriquez (arrived at 5:10 pm), John Fox, Richard Garbarino, Christopher Kao (arrived at 4:50 pm), Karen Kuklin, Sandra Lang, Gus Mattammal, Mike Swire (Vice Chair), Barbara Arietta (Chair)

**Members Absent:** Rich Hedges

**Staff Present:** N. Arshad, A. Feng, P. Gilster, J. Manzi, P. Skinner

**1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Barbara Arietta called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call**

Alice Feng, CAC Secretary, called the roll and confirmed a Committee quorum was present.

**3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda - There were none.**

**4. Consent Calendar**

**4.a. Approval of Minutes of the CAC Meeting of February 3, 2026**

Motion/Second: Garbarino/Lang

Ayes: Fox, Garbarino, Kuklin, Lang, Mattammal, Swire, Arietta

Noes: None

Absent: Carlini, Enriquez, Hedges, Kao

**TA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda for April 2, 2026**

**5. TA Board Item 10.a. – San Mateo County 101 Express Lanes Initial Performance Study**

Jessica Manzi, Director, Project Delivery, Kim Comstock, San Mateo County 101 Express Lane Program Director, and Liz Justison, 101 Express Lanes Policy Program Manager, provided the presentation/presented the staff report that included the following:

- Methodology, data sources, and study limitations including pandemic impacts and self-reported data
- Overall improvements in congestion, speeds, and travel time reliability
- Carpooling, transit use, and person throughput trends with noted data limitations
- Dynamic pricing and real-time data for lane management
- Congestion hotspots and next steps for continued monitoring and analysis

*Members Carlini and Kao arrived at 4:50 pm.*

*Member Garbarino left at 4:54 pm.*

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

- Study reliability and methodology concerns, including pre-post data and potential cherry-picking of results
- Express lane enforcement by California Highway Patrol (CHP), citation rates, overtime pay, and need for improved verification technology
- Transit usage measurement improvements using direct provider data and Clipper Card information to access occupancy and future demand
- Travel time and congestion analysis; improvements on worst-case days and variable results across other days
- Post-pandemic shifts in vehicle versus transit usage impacting projections
- Safety data limitations due to insufficient comparable data, with plans for future analysis

*Member Enriquez arrived at 5:10 pm.*

*Member Mattammal left at 5:26 pm.*

*Meeting recessed at 5:40 pm.*

*Meeting resumed at 5:46 pm.*

## **6. TA Board Item 11.a.– Legislative Update**

Nicole Arshad, Public Affairs Specialist, provided the presentation/presented the staff report that included the following:

Federal

- State of the Union had few new policies and no major budget priorities
- Fiscal Year (FY) skinny budget guides Congress on appropriations
- House and Senate accepting earmark requests
- Federal funding must pass by September 30, or a short-term extension may be needed
- SMCTA staff submitted earmark requests for advocacy in April
- \$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
- Key bills: Assembly Bill (AB) 1557 on electric bicycle (e-bike) safety, AB 2560 on Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) goals

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

- No state budget surplus; limited flexible funds; legislative negotiations ongoing
- Support for multimodal transportation and mode shift from cars to transit, biking, and walking
- CAPTI codification to guide climate-friendly transportation funding
- E-bike legislation and safety, including speed/wattage limits and manufacturer accountability
- Traffic safety and enforcement bills, including super speeder and illegal parking measures

#### **7. TA Board Item 11.b. – Connect Bay Area Local Investment Plan Update**

Ms. Arshad provided the presentation/presented the staff report that included the following:

- Potential November ballot measure to fund Bay Area transit; sales tax proposal to stabilize transit and prevent service cuts
- San Mateo County could receive ongoing local transit funding
- San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) facing future budget deficits
- Local Investment Plan being developed with community input
- Public outreach and survey underway to guide funding priorities

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

- Measure only eligible for November 2026 ballot
- Funding to support both new and existing transit services
- Transit highlighted as essential for dependent riders
- Broad community input guiding funding priorities
- Focus on service reliability and frequency
- Concerns about fare enforcement and efficiency
- Potential major service cuts if measure fails
- Funding allocation set by the Local Investment Plan, proportional to ridership

*Member Fox left at 6:19 pm.*

#### **8. Report of the Chair**

Chair Arietta presented the chair report that included the following:

- Key traffic concerns in San Mateo County as of March 2026
- United States (US) 101 express lane expansion raised concerns about congestion and equity impacts
- Residential cut-through traffic and speeding increased demand for traffic calming measures
- E-bike and micromobility safety remains a major concern with potential new regulations

- Midcoast State Route (SR) 1 congestion improvements are a key focus with public outreach planned
- El Camino Real Multimodal Plan is seeking input to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety

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

- Perceived congestion often exceeds reported improvements
- Targeted regulation needed for e-bikes versus e-motorcycles
- Cut-through traffic contributes to safety and congestion issues
- Infrastructure and local government responsiveness affect traffic patterns
- Mass transit is a critical factor in overall transportation
- Cut-through traffic causes significant delays across multiple communities
- Turn restrictions and signal timing can mitigate cut-through traffic

*Member Enriquez left at 6:36 pm.*

#### **9. Report from Staff**

Peter Skinner, Chief Officer, Transportation Authority, provided the presentation/presented the staff report that included the following:

- June CAC Meeting to be held at new Millbrae building
- SamTrans monthly passes offered to CAC members via Clipper Card

#### **10. Member Comments/Requests**

The Committee Members provided comments that included the following:

- Public outreach and community engagement
- Multimodal and bike infrastructure improvements
- Air pollution and environmental equity
- Traffic safety and cut-through traffic mitigation
- Learning from best practices locally and internationally
- City accountability and infrastructure hazards

**11. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 4:30pm via Zoom and in person at the San Mateo County Transit District, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA.

**12. Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.