

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

**1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California 94070
551 El Camino Real, San Bruno, CA 94066**

Minutes of June 4, 2026

Members Present: Noelia Corzo (arrived at 5:06pm), Anders Fung, Ray Mueller, Carlos Romero, Julia Mates (Chair)

Members Present via Teleconference: Rico E. Medina

Members Absent: Mark Nagales (Vice Chair)

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

1. Call to Order

Chair Mates called the meeting to order at 5:02 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 safe pedestrian pathways.

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 May 7, 2026

5.b. Accept Quarterly Financial Report Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 3 Results and Financial Outlook

5.c. Accept Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 3

5.d. Accept US 101 Express Lanes Quarterly Update on Variable Rate Bonds and Express Lanes Performance

- 5.e. **Programming and Allocating a Total of \$5,575,120 in Measure A Funds to the San Mateo County Transit District for its Paratransit Program and the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance for Commute.org's Operations and Transportation Demand Management Monitoring Program – *Approved by Resolution No. 2026-14***
- 5.f. **Establishing the Appropriations Limit Applicable to the San Mateo County Transportation Authority During Fiscal Year 2027 – *Approved by Resolution No. 2026-15***
- 5.g. **Programming and Allocating a Total of \$2,461,000 in Measure A Caltrain Category Funds to the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board to be Used as Matching Funds for Three Grants Awarded through the Regional Transit Connections and Transportation Demand Management Programs, and to Fund Two Additional Local Projects – *Approved by Resolution No. 2026-16***
- 5.h. **Programming and Allocating \$1,235,193 in Measure W Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Funds for the Fiscal Years 2027 and 2028 Safe Routes to School Program – *Approved by Resolution No. 2026-17***

Motion/Second: Fung/Romero

Ayes: Fung, Medina, Mueller, Romero, Mates

Noes: None

Absent: Corzo, Nagales

6. Report of the Chair

Chair Mates reported attending the Broadway Grade Separation Project press conference, July regularly scheduled Board meeting will be cancelled, and the next regular meeting will be in August.

Director Corzo arrived at 5:06 pm.

7. San Mateo County Transit District Liaison Report

Director Medina stated the report was posted online and noted SamTrans' 50th Anniversary celebration on July 1 with free rides.

8. Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Liaison Report

Director Medina stated the report was posted online and noted post-pandemic ridership levels reached 75 percent.

9. Report of Executive Director

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

- Congressman Mullen presented a \$3 million check for Broadway Grade Separation Project on June 1
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Active Transportation and Vision Zero Regional Coordination (AT-VZ Project) upcoming workshop with SMCTA and City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) on June 23

- Call for Projects issued for 101 Corridor connect mini-grant program for \$4 million to jump start previously identified and Board approved projects; applications due July 15

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions regarding outreach efforts to cities.

10. Finance

10.a. Public Hearing: Adopting a Budget in the Amount of \$204,361,520 for Fiscal Year 2027 – Approved by Resolution No. 2026-18

I. Open Public Hearing

Chair Mates opened the Public Hearing at 5:11pm.

II. Present Staff Report

Cleo Liao, Manager, Budgets, and Taylor Huckaby, Deputy Chief, Communications, provided the presentation that included the following:

- San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (SMCEL-JPA) Bond pay down
- Marketing budget funding levels options for outreach and brand awareness

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

- Public transparency: name recognition, 2028 Measure A reauthorization, Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) projects completion
- Guerilla marketing, social media influencers cost effectiveness, advertisements, billboards; return-on-investments
- Key performance indicators (KPIs), name identification survey pre- and post-media flights; current name identification close to zero
- Furthering SMCTA goals through community feedback for projects, civic engagement

The Board had further deliberations which included the following:

- Public taxpayer money stewardship; public information and improved communications
- Proposed marketing budget less than 1 percent of interest income that will be earned upcoming year
- KPIs measurements; marketing end goal

Ms. Liao continued the presentation which included the FY proposed budget sources and uses and annual investment authority delegation.

III. Hear Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IV. Close Public Hearing

Chair Mates closed the Public Hearing at 5:41pm.

V. Board Discussion and Action

Motion to approve budget with \$250,000 marketing allocation/Second:
Romero/Corzo

Substitute Motion by Director Mueller to approve budget with \$100,000 marketing allocation. Second by Director Medina.

Ayes: Fung, Medina, Mueller, Mates

Noes: Corzo, Romero

Absent: Nagales

11. Program

11.a. Community-Based Organization (CBO) Bench Pilot Program

Marissa Mathias, Planning Analyst III, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Seven pre-qualified CBOs selected; reflects countywide geographic and demographic diversity
- CBO project work compensated; support for outreach, translation, and community engagement activities

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included project sponsors qualification; active transportation projects; projects funds paid directly to CBO with no cost to project sponsors

11.b. Programming and Allocating a Total of \$20,520,000 in Measure A Caltrain Category Funds to the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board for the San Mateo County At-Grade Crossings Enhancements Project Phase 1 – *Approved by Resolution No. 2026-19*

Stacy Cocke, Grade Crossing and Rail Systems Delivery Director, Caltrain, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Baseline and advanced crossing safety improvement measures; safety performance at high-risk crossings
- Funding request, project costs, and implementation schedule
- Coordination with California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approvals and contractor procurement
- Measure A funding allocation and project delivery updates

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

- Artificial intelligence (AI) pilot project expansion; balance hazard and behaviors to assign appropriate site mitigation safety measures
- Safety enhancements that can be done now and not spending millions of dollars

Motion/Second: Corzo/Romero

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

Noes: None

Absent: Nagales

11.c. Programming and Allocating \$21,600,000 in Measure A Grade Separation Category Funds; Programming up to \$234,600,000 in Measure A Caltrain and Grade Separation Categories; and Programming up to \$87,000,000 in Measure W Local Safety, Pothole and Congestion Relief Improvements (Grade Separation) Category Funds for the Broadway Grade Separation Project – *Approved by Resolution No. 2026-20*

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

- Federal Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) grant, \$1.1 billion program, application due next week
- Funding package about \$320 million, Measure A, Measure W, Caltrain funds, design, and property costs
- Value engineering reduced scope, removed complex, costly parallel tracks and stations
- Strengthen federal grant competitiveness and demonstrate readiness

Staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included enhance chances for Federal funding and funding advocacy roadmap addressing various funding sources and allocations.

Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director, Caltrain, stated collaborative effort with City of Burlingame and SMCTA staff, rail safety at-grade separations, Corridor Crossing Strategy to prioritize future grade separations projects, and funding for the project.

Public Comment

Gina Papan commented on first design monies spent and credit to Burlingame or project partners.

Motion/Second: Romero/Fung

Ayes: Fung, Medina, Mueller, Romero, Mates

Noes: None

Abstain: Corzo

Absent: Nagales

12. Legislative Matters

12.a. Legislative Update

Jessica Epstein, Director, Government and Community Affairs, provided the presentation that included the following:

Federal

- FY27 appropriations process and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Bill advancement in House committee; proposed \$4.6 billion reductions to federal transit programs
- Surface transportation reauthorization draft Build America 250 Act

State

- May revise budget update and improved revenue outlook with constrained new spending
- Senate Bill 125 transit capital funding not included in May revise
- California Air Resources Board (CARB) Cap and Invest amendments reduced Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) revenue by approximately \$2 billion annually; risk to Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP), and Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) transit funding programs
- State transit bridge loan at risk as loan tied to TIRCP funding

13. Requests from the Authority – There were none.

14. Written Communications to the Authority – Available online.

15. Date / Time / Location of Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 5:00 pm

Chair Mates announced the July regular meeting cancelled and the next regular meeting will be August 6, 2026. The meeting will be accessible via Zoom and in person at the San Mateo County Transit District, Public Hearing Room, 5th Floor, 166 North Rollins Road, Millbrae, CA 94030.

16. Report of Legal Counsel

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

17. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.