SMCTA Board of Directors
Meeting of December 3, 2026

Correspondence as of October 30, 2026

#	Subject
1.	Please mandate 5 days in DHQ Millbrae
2.	Fewer people have cars and driver's license than you think

From: Peter A Smith
To: Michelle Bouchard; Board (@samtrans.com); April Chan; Board (@caltrain.com); Board (@smcta.com); Theodore Burgwyn; Casey Fromson
Subject: Please mandate 5 days in DHQ Millbrae
Date: Thursday, October 22, 2026 8:03:01 PM

You don't often get email from peteasmith@proton.me. Learn why this is important

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders.

Dear Ms. Chan and Ms. Bouchard

Please mandate 5 days in office as soon as possible. The agencies invested significant taxpayer funds or more than $130 million in new 80% empty headquarters.

To achieve the 3 days in office goal please implement a 5 day in office policy. During business hours entire floors are empty. A walk around the floors will confirm this and so will video footage and badging statistics which can be requested using California Public Records Act. Conference rooms and consult rooms are almost always empty and occupancy for those is less than 2%. Offices of managers/directors are also mostly empty and mostly unused. Offices for legal staff are empty 100%.

If planning and scheduling is done correctly, only 50% of ONE FLOOR will need to be occupied as hotel offices and hotel cubicles. 80% of the building can be used for social justice causes or rented out.

The taxpayers depend on JPB, TA and Samtrans to deliver on their missions every single day. These missions include 100% verifiably showing up for work every single day and 100% verifiably being present and 100% verifiably being available throughout the work week. Every employee whether or not they work directly with the public is part of how JPB, TA and Samtrans deliver on their missions. No reliable verification or anything less than 100% means no confirmed work done from home. A consistent 5 day work week strengthens the ability of JPB, TA and Samtrans to deliver the services the taxpayers expect and the taxpayers expect 100% verifiable figures for showing up to work. How is working from home 100% verifiably confirmed? No verifiable facts exist to confirm that work worth 8 hours is being done when working from home. If a public request is filed for verifiable metrics and dollar values to 100% verify what exactly will the records say is being delivered to the public while working from home. Some employees appear to be working from out of state per rumors and it needs to be verified by JPB, TA and Samtrans.

Because of paid time off for all employees a month is lost to building occupancy and the building is vacant for a month. One month of paid time off means that the headquarters at Millbrae is empty for a whole month. Of the remaining 11 months, the current 3 day in office policy is resulting in a little over 1 day in the office.

If the building is not 100% occupied please bus all the unsheltered folks from San Francisco and other parts of the bay area to use the empty spaces in the headquarters in Millbrae this winter season. They can use the empty conference rooms and empty consult rooms and empty manager offices during business hours as well. It will be a step toward social justice goals.

If the 5 day in office is not mandated, please bring in families from lower income households so their children and adults can use the unoccupied facilities to study and complete their school homework. Allow all travelers to San Francisco airport to rest and use the facilities at the conference rooms and consult rooms of the new headquarters so they can sleep during lay overs at the airport. Please allow free parking in the employee parking area so taxpayers do not have to spend money on parking. Please allow taxpayers to use the gym for free at the headquarters. After all the taxpayers paid for it and employees are not at headquarters for more than 20% of the time of full occupancy. Please allow service staff and service workers at fast food places in the area to use the headquarters for overnight sleep so they do not have to sleep in their cars between shifts. Please allow the dishwashers at headquarters in Millbrae to be used by families who do not have dishwashers in their apartments. If headquarters in Millbrae were a hotel running at 10-20% occupancy that hotel would go bankrupt.

If all companies in the Bay Area mandated 100% work from home, the ridership of public transit systems would be zero. It is important that we lead by example and come into the office 5 days a week.

Please mandate 5 days in office as soon as possible.

Sincerely

From:	Mike Swire
To:	Board (@smcta.com); cacsecretary [@smcta.com]; Mima Crume; Audrey Shiramizu
Subject:	Fewer people have cars and driver"s license than you think
Date:	Thursday, October 29, 2026 11:43:24 AM
Attachments:	image.png

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Dear SMCTA and CCAG leaders,

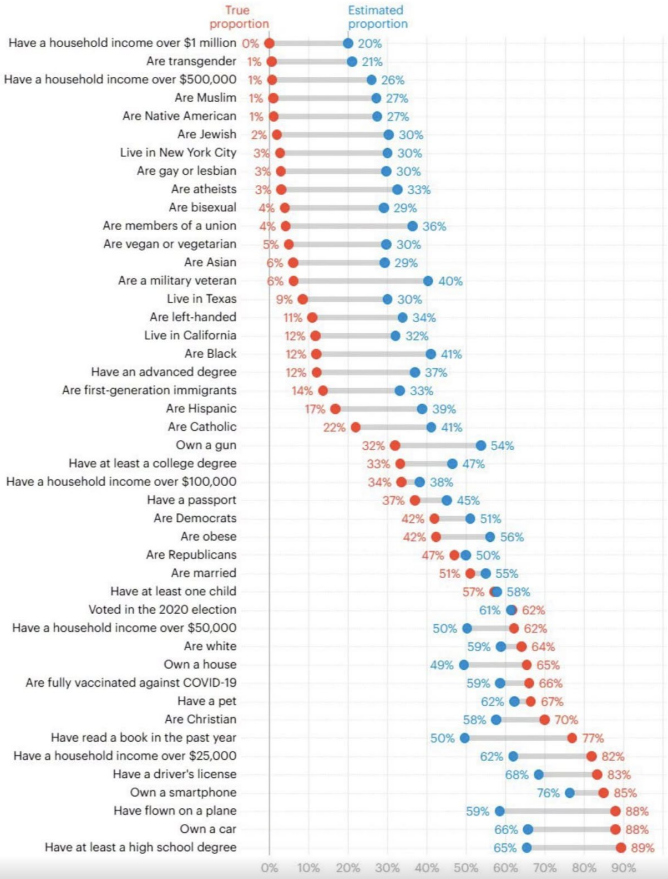
I wanted to pass along the following graphic that demonstrates how Americans' beliefs may not align with the realities of American demographics. Take a look at the bottom few figures. Americans grossly overestimate the percentage of Americans who own cars and hold driver's licenses. This has likely contributed to the automobile-focused skew in our decisions regarding residents' transportation needs and preferences. I hope that going forward we can make decisions reflecting the underappreciated number of people who don't drive.

Thanks for listening,

Mike Swire

Americans overestimate the size of minority groups and underestimate the size of most majority groups

Estimated proportions are calculated by averaging weighted responses (ranging from 0% to 100%, rounded to the nearest whole percentage) to the question "If you had to guess, what percentage of American adults..." True proportions were drawn from a variety of sources, including the U.S. Census Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and polls by YouGov and other polling firms.



YouGov

Poll data: January 14 - 20, 2022 | @YouGovAmerica