

**SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT (DISTRICT)
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES OF STRATEGIC PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MEETING /
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
JULY 7, 2021**

Committee Members Present: J. Gee, D. Pine

Committee Members Absent: C. Groom (Committee Chair)

Other Board Members Present Constituting Committee of the Whole: M. Fraser, R. Guilbault, R. Medina, J. Powell, P. Ratto, C. Stone

Other Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: C. Mau, J. Cassman, D. Olmeda, A. Chan, S. Wong, D. Seamans

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Member Dave Pine called the meeting to order at 2:53 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 7, 2021

Motion/Second: Ratto/Guilbault

Ayes: Fraser, Gee, Guilbault, Medina, Pine, Powell, Ratto, Stone

Noes: None

Absent: Groom

3. FARE PROGRAM CHANGES: WAY2GO PASS PROGRAM AND CLIPPER START EXTENSION

Millie Tolleson, Principal Planner, and Gwen Buckley, Planner, provided the presentation.

Committee Member Jeff Gee asked why the District had a \$2,500 contract minimum for Way2Go. Ms. Buckley said the amount helps to offset administrative costs. Committee Member Gee suggested waiving the contract minimum for at least the first year and making other changes such as including nonprofit organizations in their outreach efforts. He said he was supportive of extending the Clipper START program.

Chair Charles Stone asked what metric would be used to define the program as a success. Ms. Tolleson said that they had been hesitant to set a target during the pandemic, but would proceed to set a goal now that they have a few months' worth of data.

Director Marina Fraser asked about federal qualifications and what the age range was for the Clipper START program. Ms. Tolleson confirmed that the income requirements were tied to 200 percent of the federal poverty level and to household size. She added that individuals who qualify for CalFresh can also qualify for Clipper START. She said the program was open to adults aged 18 and up with the price being the same as the regular youth fare. Director Fraser echoed Committee Member Gee's comments about reaching out to nonprofit agencies.

Director Peter Ratto said he also was in support of Clipper START, increasing community outreach, and lowering the contract minimum amount.

Director Rose Guilbault suggested that with increased participation, there is the opportunity to reduce program costs. She asked how staff had marketed the program to companies and organizations. Ms. Buckley said that employers recognized the benefits of the Way2Go program, but saw cost as a factor.

Director Josh Powell said he was in favor of extending the START program for another 18 months to better evaluate its effectiveness and suggested ways on to reduce administrative processing costs.

Public Comment:

Mollie Naber, Associate Director of Development, MidPen Housing, said they supported extending the Way2Go program.

Hayden Miller said he was very supportive of extending Clipper START and the Way2Go program.

Weijia Song, Senior Project Developer, Eden Housing, expressed her support for the fare changes to the Way2Go program, saying that it was important to provide low-income families with affordable housing in tandem with access to high-quality transit.

4. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:29 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at www.samtrans.com. Questions may be referred to the District Secretary's office by phone at 650-508-6242 or by email to board@samtrans.com.