



SamTrans Public Comment Process



Board of Directors

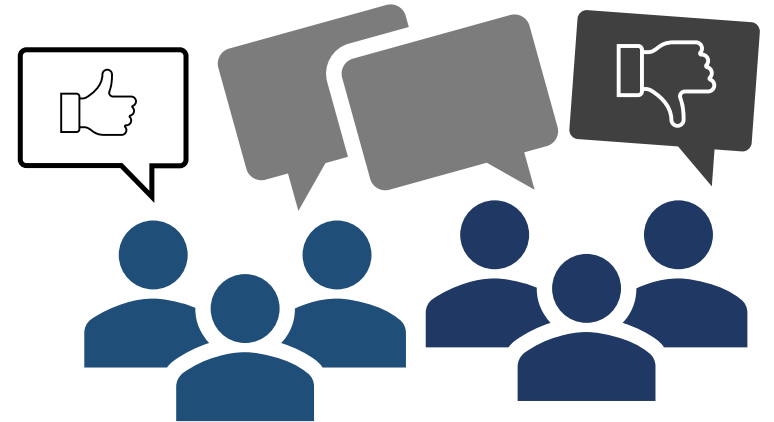
April 3, 2024

What is a Public Comment Process?

- Since 1987, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires agencies to have:

*“a process to solicit and consider public comment prior to **raising fares** or implementing a major reduction of transit service.”*

- **December 2004:** SamTrans developed public comment processes for fare and service changes



Public Hearing

VS.

Public Meeting

An opportunity to make public comments to be **included in the record of a board action**

An opportunity to make public comments at a **meeting conducted by SamTrans staff**

Public Notice

A publicized, written announcement that Public Comment is being sought in advance of a Board Action

- Newspaper posting
- Agency press release
- Website notice
- Social media post

**SamTrans: Board of Directors
PUBLIC HEARING & MEETING NOTICE
Proposed Fare Changes**

The SamTrans Board of Directors will hold a **public meeting on 10/30/2023** and a **public hearing on 12/6/2023** to receive public comments on the following proposed changes to the SamTrans fare structure:

To be implemented on 1/1/2024:

- Elimination of the Summer Youth Pass
- Consolidation of Local and Express fares for a single price
- Waiver of fares for pre-arranged public school school field trips

To be implemented upon launch of Clipper® Next Generation (estimated Fall 2024):

- Introduction of contactless, on-board payment using credit and debit cards (also known as "Open Payment")
- Introduction of Day Pass and Monthly Pass accumulators (also known as "Fare Capping")
- Discontinuation of bus fare payment on the SamTrans mobile application; Replace with bus fare payment on the Clipper mobile application
- Participation in regional transfer discount program

The San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors invites public comment on the potential changes at the public meeting and public hearing. The public may participate via a Zoom web link and/or by phone.

Public Meeting

10-30-2023 at 5:30 pm

Zoom Info: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88078523828>.

Webinar ID/ Meeting ID 880 7852 3828

Access via Telephone: 1.253.215.8782 (enter webinar ID and press # when prompted for participant ID) for audio only.

Public Hearing

Wednesday, December 6, 2023, at 2 p.m.

(or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard)

Zoom Info:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87609824114?pwd=UGhLRjNxb2xWeFM3alBrNUxVbGNmQT09>

Webinar/Meeting ID: 876 0982 4114

Passcode: 519746 in the Zoom app for audio/visual capability

Access via Telephone: 1.669.900.9128 (enter webinar ID and press # when prompted for participant ID) for audio only.

Prior to the hearing, comments may be sent by mail, e-mail, or phone:

Board Secretary

San Mateo County Transit District

P.O. Box 3006, San Carlos, CA 94070-1306

publiccomment@samtrans.com 1.800.660.4287 (TTY 650.508.6448)

Why Update Now?

SamTrans' Public Comment Process has not been revised since 2004



Two processes under one District:

Caltrain and **SamTrans**

Updated, single process to streamline both agencies



Increase overall public engagement



Decisions That Require:

PUBLIC HEARING

~~• Major Service Changes~~

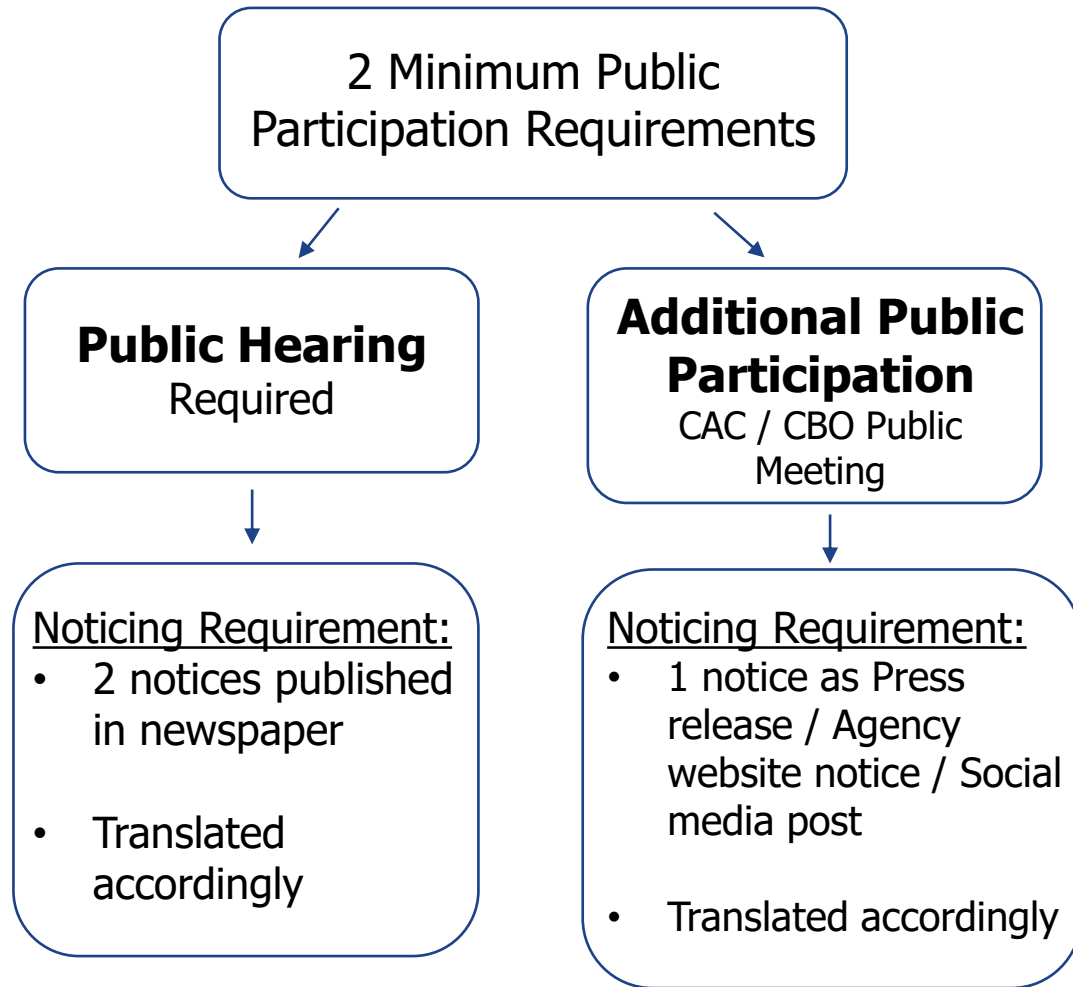
- Adoption or Changes in Fare Policy & Fares (Increases or Decreases)
 - Property Transfers
- Adoption or Amendment of General Transit Plan
 - Amenities Fees
 - Budget & Funding Approval
- Penalization of Infractions of the Code of Conduct

PUBLIC MEETING

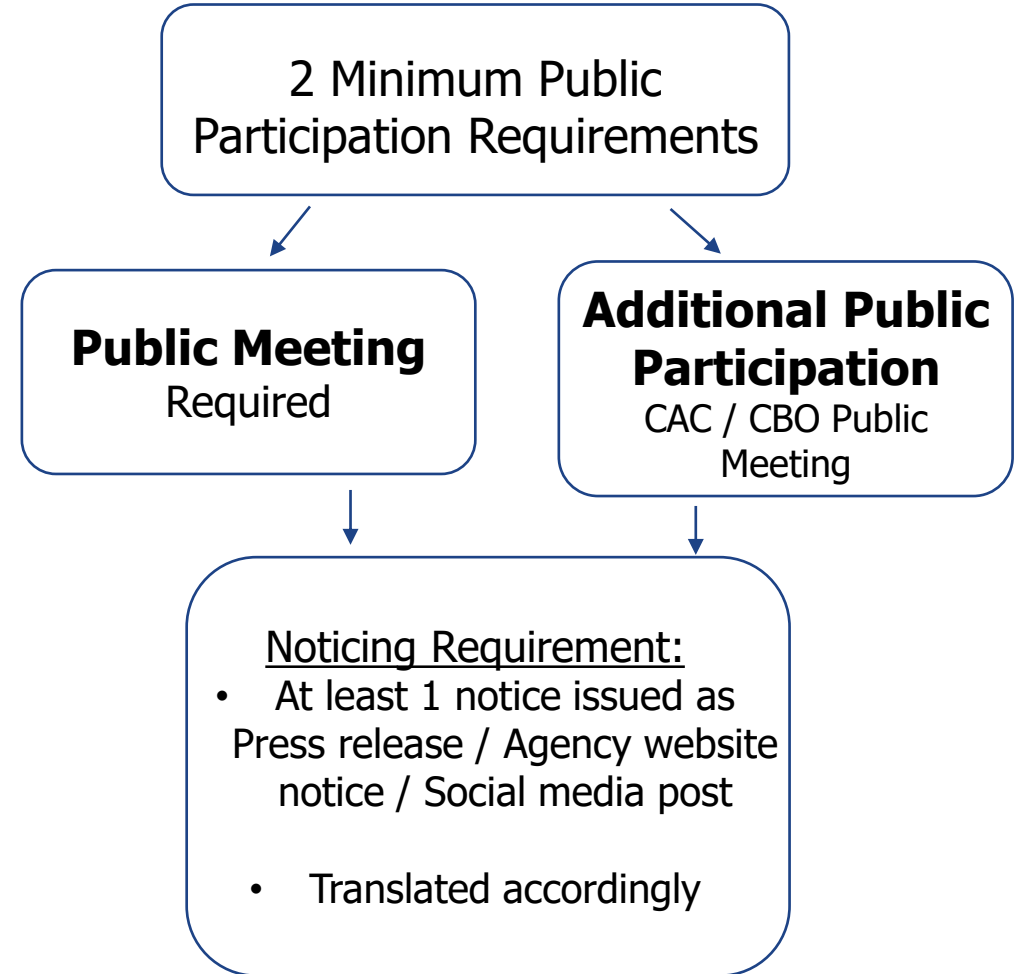
• Major Service Changes

- Amendment of the Major Service Change Policy
- Amendment of the Disparate Impact or Disproportionate Burden (DI/DB) Policy
- Surplus Land Findings & Determinations

FARES



MAJOR SERVICE CHANGE



Citizens' Advisory Committee Feedback

CAC and Public Comments

Appreciated more venues to provide public comment

Agree that this update is timely and necessary 20 years later

Suggestions of other types of public notices that would catch attention, especially to younger demographics

Some wanted assurances that the public would still be able to comment before the board in advance of a Major Service Change

Staff Response

Staff will continue working with Marketing/ Communications teams to create a variety of public noticing formats in addition to print publication in newspapers

Public members are still afforded opportunities to comment before the Board before any Major Service Change at a Board Meeting;

Future change is that no separate public hearing will be calendared



Thank You



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