

**San Mateo County Transit District (District)
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California**

**Minutes of Legislative Committee /
Committee of the Whole**

March 6, 2024

Committee Members Present: P. Ratto (Chair), J. Gee, R. Medina

Committee Members Absent: None

Other Board Members Present Constituting Committee of the Whole: D. Canepa, M. Chuang, B. Esser, M. Fraser, R. Mueller, J. Powell

Other Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: A. Chan, K. Jordan Steiner, S. van Hoften, J. Cassman, J. Brook, D. Seamans

8.c.1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Peter Ratto called the meeting to order at 3:25 pm.

8.c.2. Approval of Minutes of the Legislative Committee Meeting of February 7, 2024

Motion/Second: Mueller/Medina

Ayes: Canepa, Chuang, Esser, Fraser, Gee, Medina, Mueller, Powell, Ratto

Noes: None

Absent: None

8.c.3. State and Federal Legislative Update

Jessica Epstein, Director, Government and Community Affairs provided a summary of federal and state legislation.

On the federal side, she said after another CR (continuing resolution) that passed last week, the President passed a funding bill. She said a number of other bills have CRs that expire on March 22. She said the State of the Union address would happen on March 7.

On the state side, she said February 16 is the deadline for new bills. She provided personnel updates. She said regarding the Senate Bill (SB) 925 spot bill that there was a first round of incomplete language regarding regional transit. She said the bill proposes a significant expansion of the role of MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) in regional transit and summarized the March 4 election results.

Director David Canepa said the language should prioritize the work of the Regional Network Manager at MTC. He said he is glad Senator Scott Wiener is taking the issue on. Committee Member Jeff Gee asked if there was any update on Senate Bill (SB) 926 regarding consolidation

of Bay Area transit agencies, and Ms. Epstein said there was not and that the deadline was March 11. Director Brooks Esser asked what the required majority was to pass the ballot measure, and Ms. Epstein said a two-thirds majority throughout the whole Bay Area.

Public Comment:

Aleta Dupree said she was appreciative of the work of Senator Weiner in helping to bring forth various measures to help support transportation systems. She noted Assembly Bill (AB) 2286 and SB 915 regarding autonomous vehicles (AVs). She said she had taken 10 trips on AVs and said the way SB 915 was written gives local jurisdictions the right of “refusal to consider.”

Adina Levin, Seamless Bay Area, said they support ballot measures that support public transit. She said they want to ensure there is enough money to improve existing transportation service. She said she believes SB 925 would allow a signature-gathering campaign.

8.c.4. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:42 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at <https://www.samtrans.com/about-samtrans/video-board-directors-cac-and-measure-w-coc>. Questions may be referred to the District Secretary's office by phone at 650-508-6242 or by email to board@samtrans.com.