

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

**Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Meeting Minutes**

April 24, 2024

Members Present (In Person): M. Adler, S. Appenrodt, J. Baker (Vice Chair), D. Finch, S. Johnston, J. Lamarre, B. Mangiafico, M. Mautner, D. Seibert

Members Present (Via Teleconference): None

Members Absent: A. Madrid (Chair), A. Margulis

Staff Present: A. Rivas, K. Christopherson, C. Chang, J. Brook

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair John Baker called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Vice Chair Baker announced new member Max Mautner, who introduced himself as a resident of San Mateo and said he started riding the bus around four years ago. He said he appreciated the lower-stress lifestyle of using transit and active transportation and looked forward to hearing how people use SamTrans to navigate the County.

CAC Secretary Jean Brook called the roll and noted that a quorum was present. She noted that Arden Margulis's term was up and he was retiring from the CAC due to the demands of school.

3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Adina Levin, TEAMC (San Mateo County Transit Justice Coalition) and Seamless Bay Area, said TEAMC is supportive of the regional measure Senate Bill (SB) 1031 and urged the SamTrans Board to continue watching and working on the bill.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 27, 2024

Motion/Second: Appenrodt/Johnston

Ayes: Adler, Appenrodt, Baker, Finch, Johnston, Lamarre, Mangiafico, Mautner, Seibert

Absent: Madrid, Margulis

5. Presentation: *Reimagine SamTrans* Phase 4 Implementation and Public Input

Charlsie Chang, Government Affairs Officer introduced Kate Christopherson, Planning Administrator, who provided the presentation on new proposed route changes.

Scott Johnston said the route changes were supportive of students commuting to the various community colleges within the County.

Dylan Finch asked if there would be timed transfers on Route 121, which Ms. Christopherson confirmed. He asked about making the connection bus free for customers paying cash and who are not eligible for the Clipper transfer discount. Ms. Chang said that customers could provide feedback on the survey and noted the Community Benefits program where riders with an income of under \$78,060 per year can get \$100 on a Clipper card or a \$100 in a FasTrak account. Mr. Finch asked regarding Route 249 if it would add a lot of time if it went to the Caltrain station. He asked if the surveys would be multilingual, and Ms. Chang confirmed the surveys on the buses and online are in English, Spanish, and Chinese.

Vice Chair Baker encouraged staff to promote use of the Clipper card for the added benefit of free bus transfers. He proposed having a driver swap as a solution to routes without adequate restrooms for operators. He suggested that the proposed Route 120 diversion happen only during school morning and afternoon peak hours and that the route remain as it is currently outside of those school times.

Ben Mangiafico asked regarding Route 249 if it would stop in San Mateo before it goes on Highway 92. Ms. Christopherson said there would be several stops in San Mateo before the approach to the highway.

Mr. Finch asked if Route 249 would need to cross the tracks to get closer to the Caltrain station, and Ana Rivas, Director of Bus Transportation, said it would not.

Vice Chair Baker thanked staff for the presentation and said he was happy with the Reimagine SamTrans implementation.

6. Report of the Chair

Vice Chair Baker said he had no report.

7. SamTrans Staff Update

Ms. Rivas welcomed Mr. Mautner to the CAC. She reviewed the March performance statistics and employees of the month. She noted an increase in both average weekly ridership and total monthly ridership compared to 2023, and noted that in March, they had reached 94.1 percent pre-pandemic ridership.

8. CAC Member Comments/Requests

Mr. Mangiafico said he was on a bus that overheated as it was going uphill and shared that Operator No. 1551 handled it very well, waiting until the engine cooled down before attempting to proceed. Ms. Rivas said she would let the operator know.

Mr. Finch asked if SamTrans was collaborating with the City of San Mateo on adding bus lanes on El Camino Real. Ms. Christopherson said the Planning team had added a new member dedicated to that project and they would eventually make a presentation to the CAC.

Mary Adler said she supported having bus lanes on El Camino Real.

Vice Chair Baker related a South San Francisco resident's difficulty in obtaining a senior bus pass. He said he was disappointed with the District's opposition unless amended stance on SB 1031. He said he advocated being able to circle the Bay using transit on one base fare. He added that short of consolidation, there needs to be better coordination among the various Bay Area transit agencies.

9. SamTrans Board Liaison Report

Mr. Baker provided a summary of the SamTrans April 3 Board meeting.

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Vice Chair Baker said that the next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 29, 2024 at 6:30 pm via Zoom teleconference and in person at the San Mateo County Transit District, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 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 CAC Secretary's office by phone at 650-508-6223 or by email to cacsecretary@samtrans.com.