

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

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

October 9, 2024

Committee Members Present: R. Medina

Committee Members Absent: P. Ratto (Chair), J. Gee

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

Other Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: A. Chan, J. Epstein, S. van Hoften, J. Brook, M. Tseng

9.d.1. Call to Order

Committee Member Rico Medina called the meeting to order at 3:58 pm.

9.d.2. Approval of Minutes of the Legislative Committee Meeting of September 4, 2024

Motion/Second: Esser/Chuang

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

Noes: None

Absent: Gee, Ratto

9.d.3. Legislative Update

Jessica Epstein, Director, Government and Community Affairs, provided a summary recent legislation, which included the following:

- At the federal level, the Senate and House approved stopgap funding and the upcoming November 5 election would have a major impact on legislation.
- At the state level, the Legislature is in recess and will reconvene on December 2. An update on legislation involving hydrogen production facilities and high-frequency rail was provided.
- At the regional level, the timeline of MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission) meetings on the funding measure was reviewed. Ms. Epstein reported MTC will be polling on the potential funding mechanism options following the November elections. The Directors expressed their concern regarding accountability from partner agencies, and BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) in particular, and said that there should be reservations about

San Mateo County supporting a system that is not countywide. Chair Marina Fraser proposed San Mateo County have a seat on the BART Board and some of the directors concurred. April Chan, General Manager/CEO, reported out that staff will continue to work with the region and MTC on what appropriate support.

Director Mueller left the meeting at 4:13 pm.

Public Comment:

Simon Tan, Daly City, said he transfers between multiple transit agencies to make his trips throughout the Bay Area. He spoke in support of a holistic regional funding solution.

Amy Song, Palo Alto, said she rides on Caltrain to and from San Francisco and relies on efficient service. She expressed concern over competing funding measures.

Adina Levin, Seamless Bay Area, said if BART needs to make service cuts due to lack of funding, it would increase congestion on the roads.

Taylor Pope said he appreciates seamless and convenient transit connections. He spoke in support of San Mateo County having a seat on the BART Board, and said that regional coordination is a big priority.

9.d.4. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 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 650-551-6108 or by email to board@samtrans.com.