

SamTrans Liaison Report

Meeting of June 1, 2022

Board Actions

- Adopted a Resolution Making Findings that the Proclaimed State of Emergency for COVID-19 Continues to Impact the Board's and Committees' Ability to Meet Safely in Person
- Approved Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of May 4, 2022
- Accepted Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending April 30, 2022
- Accepted Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report for 3rd Quarter Fiscal Year 2022
- Accepted Quarterly Fuel Hedge Update
- Awarded Contracts for Information Technology Licenses, Maintenance Services, and Professional Services
- Awarded Contracts for Technology-related Products and Services Through Piggybacking Contracts and Cooperative Purchasing Programs
- Adopted a Resolution Recognizing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Pride Month and Reaffirming a Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Access, and Inclusion
- Approved an Amendment to Increase the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget by \$15,005,478 for a New Budget of \$70,525,178
- Awarded a Contract to A-Z Bus Sales, Inc. for the Purchase and Delivery of 10 2022 Paratransit 350EL Vehicles for a Total Not-to-exceed Amount of \$871,299 and Authorizing the Disposition of 10 2017 Paratransit Minivan Vehicles
- Awarded a Contract to New Flyer of America, Inc. for the Purchase and Delivery of 10 Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric 40-foot Heavy-duty Low-floor Buses for an Estimated Amount of \$13,898,262 and Authorizing the Disposition of 10 2009 Gillig Diesel Buses
- Awarded a Contract to Gillig, LLC for the Purchase and Delivery of 20 Battery Electric 40-foot Heavy-duty Low-floor Buses for an Estimated Amount of \$22,801,186 and Authorizing the Disposition of 20 2009 Gillig Diesel Buses
- Adopted the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget in the Amount of \$231,916,131 and Fiscal Year 2023 Capital Budget in the Amount of \$30,604,672
- There was a closed session on existing litigation. Board reconvened into open session and approved a final settlement in the amount of \$300,000 in the matter of Mario Serrano-Reyes v. San Mateo County Transit District, San Mateo County Superior Court, Case No. 20-CIV-03205.

Board Highlights

- Jonathan Steketee, Manager, Operations Planning, and Robert Casumbal, Director of Marketing, provided a presentation on the implementation of Reimagine SamTrans. Director Rose Guilbault asked how the multilingual materials would be distributed.

Mr. Casumbal said some of the bus stop signs had Spanish and Chinese translations and they use multimedia outlets such as Telemundo for their advertising campaigns. Director Carole Groom asked if there were additional ways to engage and improve communication with the schools that the District has not yet tried. Mr. Steketee said the District's meetings with the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) has been very helpful and added that the media toolkit has helped educate the schools so that they can in turn educate the parents. Carter Mau, Acting General Manager/CEO, said that he would reach out to SMCOE Superintendent Nancy Magee, whom he said has been instrumental in SamTrans' efforts to improve communications to the schools.

- Mr. Mau thanked all the Board members and staff who participated in the special Board meeting workshop on May 27, and noted that their input on the District's financial outlook, zero-emissions bus implementation, and the District headquarters building would be incorporated into future work and discussion with the Board. He announced the Bus Rodeo on June 11 at the North Base Maintenance Yard.

Committee Discussion Highlights

Community Relations Committee

Accessible Service Update

Tina Dubost, Manager, Accessible Transit Services, said that several of SamTrans would have a booth at the upcoming San Mateo County Fair on June 8 where a number of senior mobility ambassadors would be on hand to help promote paratransit services.

Finance Committee

Award of Contract for the Purchase and Delivery of 10 Heavy-duty Low-floor Hydrogen New Flyer Fuel Cell Electric Buses and Disposition of 10 2009 Gillig Diesel Buses

Director Charles Stone asked if the goal was to determine which technology works better for SamTrans. Carter Mau, Acting General Manager/CEO, concurred and said that SamTrans was looking forward to putting both battery electric and fuel cell buses into service to help the District make a longer-term decision on the future of zero-emission buses.

Award of Contract to Trapeze Software Group for Paratransit Scheduling Software and Services

Mike Levinson and Ben McMullan from the Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC), said that the PCC is not happy with the contract announcement because the service provided by Trapeze has not been satisfactory. David Olmeda, Chief Operating Officer, Bus, said that Ana Rivas, Director of Bus Transportation, would provide the Board with a background of how the District made their selection. Tina Dubost, Manager, Accessible Transit Services, said they did their due diligence and provided the reasons why they had chosen Trapeze as their software provider. She said they would be happy to discuss the reasons with the PCC. Mr. Mau suggested postponing awarding the contract until more information about the selection process could be shared with the Board. The Board voted to continue the item to the July 6 Board meeting.

Strategic Planning, Development, and Sustainability Committee

SamTrans Youth Unlimited Pilot Program Evaluation

Director Charles Stone asked if they had explored expanding the program to consider other demographic groups, such as seniors. Gwen Buckley, Senior Planner, said they wanted to focus on supporting the schools and reaching out to all potentially eligible demographics. Director Jeff Gee asked if the District had an idea of the number of students served by the program. Ms. Buckley said the pool of eligible students is approximately 30,000. She said there is a lot of opportunity to get the passes into more hands. Director Gee suggested expanding the reach of the current program before expanding the program itself. Mr. Mau noted the proposal for free fares for youth across the state, which he said they were monitoring in terms of its impact on SamTrans.

Legislative Committee

State and Federal Legislative Update

Casey Fromson, Chief Communications Officer, briefly summarized the highlights of recent federal and state legislation. She said that they are monitoring the Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations process. She noted that at the state level, the Governor just released the May revise with approximately \$5 billion set aside for transportation, and that High-Speed Rail needs to be included in the final package. She said there is potentially a new state speaker, which would change whomever is in charge of budget negotiations. Jessica Epstein, Manager, Government and Community Affairs, reviewed the bills that are relevant to SamTrans.