

TA

CORRESPONDENCE

as of 7-14-2023

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APRIL CHAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1250 SAN CARLOS AVE
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
(650) 508-6200

July 13, 2023

The Honorable Josh Becker
California State Senate
Capitol Office
1021 O Street, Suite 7250
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Becker:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I write to thank you for supporting public transit in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 State Budget. Your support will help transit agencies survive and continue to provide access to affordable and essential transportation. I also want to thank you for permanently reinstating the 10% cap on the indirect cost recovery rate (ICRP), which will help self-help counties deliver projects that improve mobility, equity, and safety for all those traveling on state highways.

Many Bay Area transit agencies are struggling to regain ridership and are facing a fiscal cliff due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Restoring General Fund support to the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and committing \$1.1 billion for the new Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program is an important step in helping to prevent Bay Area transit agencies from going over the fiscal cliff. This funding will also help avert service reductions that would have had dire consequences for low-income riders who rely on buses, trains, and ferries. 90% of SamTrans riders qualify as low income, and 64% are extremely low income, which is approximately two times the federal poverty limit.

This state budget provides a lifeline for operators to continue providing reliable service and respond to changing commute patterns and ridership trends. SamTrans implemented network-wide service changes and enhancements through the *Reimagine SamTrans* project, a comprehensive operational analysis of the SamTrans bus network. Over the course of several years, we examined ridership data, transit needs in areas with high transit dependency, as well as feedback from our community to develop a new network aimed at improving equity, efficiency, and connectivity. SamTrans began implementing the new network in August 2022 and has already seen an increase in overall ridership.

By supporting public transit, you are also helping the State stay on track to meet its climate goals. A healthy transit system provides a dependable and affordable alternative to cars, which eases congestion, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, improves air quality, and combats climate change.

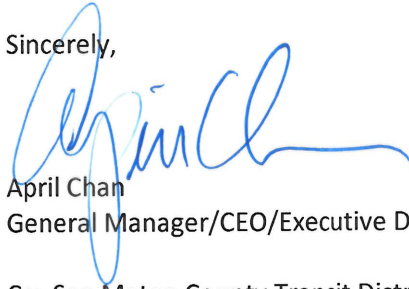
The TA is grateful that this budget permanently reinstates the 10% cap on the indirect cost recovery rate (ICRP) for projects financed by local, voter-approved special taxes for transportation. Caltrans and Self-Help County Coalition (SHCC) member agencies, including the TA, invest over \$5 billion annually in State Highway transportation infrastructure. The TA partners with Caltrans on multiple highway projects within San Mateo County including the recently opened U.S. 101 Express Lanes. Budget certainty for Caltrans-related costs is critical to ensuring the delivery of these important

The Honorable Josh Becker
July 13, 2023
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Thank you again for your work to secure funding for transit and reinstate the ICRP cap this year. We look forward to working with you as well as our regional and state partners so that we can continue to serve the people who depend on us every day. Please contact Government and Community Affairs Manager Jessica Epstein at epsteinj@samtrans.com if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



April Chan
General Manager/CEO/Executive Director

Cc: San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors
San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1250 SAN CARLOS AVE
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(650) 508-6200

July 13, 2023

The Honorable Marc Berman
California State Assembly
Capitol Office
1021 O Street, Suite 6130
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblymember Berman:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I write to thank you for supporting public transit in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 State Budget. Your support will help transit agencies survive and continue to provide access to affordable and essential transportation. I also want to thank you for permanently reinstating the 10% cap on the indirect cost recovery rate (ICRP), which will help self-help counties deliver projects that improve mobility, equity, and safety for all those traveling on state highways.

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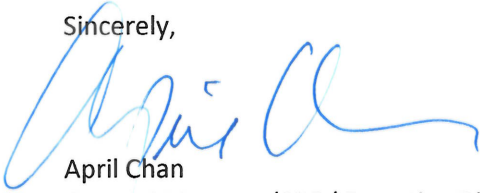
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1250 SAN CARLOS AVE
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(650) 508-6200

July 13, 2023

The Honorable Diane Papan
California State Assembly
Capitol Office
1021 O Street, Suite 4220
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblymember Papan:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I write to thank you for supporting public transit in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 State Budget. Your support will help transit agencies survive and continue to provide access to affordable and essential transportation. I also want to thank you for permanently reinstating the 10% cap on the indirect cost recovery rate (ICRP), which will help self-help counties deliver projects that improve mobility, equity, and safety for all those traveling on state highways.

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The Honorable Diane Papan
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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(650) 508-6200

July 13, 2023

The Honorable Phil Ting
California State Assembly
Capitol Office
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblymember Ting:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I write to thank you for supporting public transit in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 State Budget. Your support will help transit agencies survive and continue to provide access to affordable and essential transportation. I also want to thank you for permanently reinstating the 10% cap on the indirect cost recovery rate (ICRP), which will help self-help counties deliver projects that improve mobility, equity, and safety for all those traveling on state highways.

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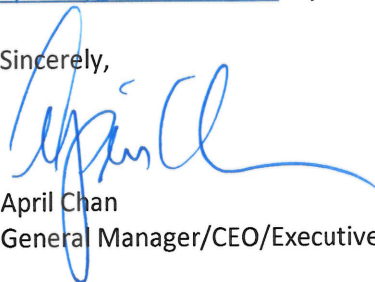
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1250 SAN CARLOS AVE
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
(650) 508-6200

July 13, 2023

The Honorable Scott Wiener
California State Senate
Capitol Office
1021 O Street, Suite 8620
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Wiener:

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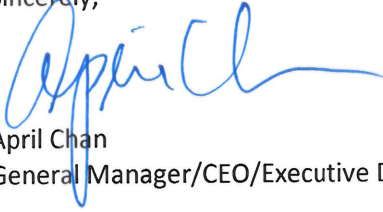
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