

**TA**

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**as of 4-5-2024**

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April 4, 2024

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

The Honorable Marc Berman  
California State Assembly  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0023

The Honorable Diane Papan  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4220  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0021

**RE: SamTrans/TA Priorities for Potential Member Designated Requests**

Dear Senator Becker, Assemblymember Berman, and Assemblymember Papan:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA), I write today to share with you some near term needs as the Legislature develops the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 State Budget. We understand that the State is facing uncertainties and a significant projected revenue shortfall however if there is an opportunity for a Member Designated Request we have several projects to put forward.

Erosion Mitigation

SamTrans' North Base facility is located on an island jutting into the Bay next to SFO and faces significant sea level rise mitigation costs. The island is vulnerable to erosion, flooding, and other damage from storms and rising sea levels. A portion of the San Francisco Bay Trail that encircles the island has already begun to erode following a recent winter storm, posing a safety hazard that requires repairs. Further shoreline erosion could interrupt the continuity of the trail. **SamTrans is kicking off the design phase this year and requests \$1 million in State funding for subsequent construction.**

Bus Stop Improvement Plan

The SamTrans Bus Stop Improvement Plan (BSIP) identifies over \$50 million in near term improvements to bus stop infrastructure and amenities throughout SamTrans' bus network. **SamTrans is requesting \$2.09 million in State funding to upgrade its top priority bus stops — twenty stops located in the cities of San Mateo, South San Francisco, San Bruno, Daly City, East Palo Alto, Belmont, and**

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**Redwood City.** In total, BSIP proposes to install over 170 new shelters, 75 new bus bulbs or boarding islands, and nearly 200 digital real-time information signs to over 220 bus stops in the next three to five years for a much improved customer-friendly experience. SamTrans is prioritizing stops in Equity Priority Areas and the highest ridership bus stops to spread benefits to a large share of riders.

#### Temporary Hydrogen Refueling

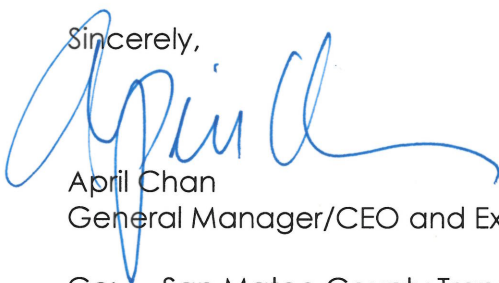
SamTrans is converting its fleet to 100% zero emission buses by 2034 and is planning to purchase 108 hydrogen fuel cell buses (FCEBs) to operate out of the North Base facility. SamTrans has already received some of the FCEBs and is using a temporary hydrogen refueling while permanent fueling infrastructure is being constructed and will be fully online several years out. **SamTrans is requesting \$1.19 million to fund the lease payments for the temporary fueling station for two years. State support would help SamTrans continue to be able to fuel and operate these zero emission buses in the interim.**

#### Broadway (Burlingame) Grade Separation

The Broadway at-grade railroad crossing is the top priority on the California Public Utilities Commission's Grade Separation list out of over 10,000 crossings. There are regular, sometimes deadly, accidents at this location in Burlingame, and grade separation presents the best opportunity to solve the problem by completely and permanently separating the railroad from all vehicular and other traffic. The project is shovel ready with final engineering well underway and environmental clearance secured. \$260 million in funding has already been secured, and SMCTA and the City of Burlingame are working to continue to seek funding to close the \$56 million gap. **The SMCTA is requesting any amount of funding that could help close this gap and complete this critical project.**

Thank you for considering these requests. Please contact Government and Community Affairs Director Jessica Epstein at [epsteinj@samtrans.com](mailto:epsteinj@samtrans.com) if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



April Chan  
General Manager/CEO and Executive Director

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