



## **Connect Bay Area Local Investment Plan Funding Priorities Project List**

A potential 14-year, five-county sales tax measure is being circulated by an independent group of citizens to stabilize public transportation funding, offset planned transit service cuts, and prevent station closures across the Bay Area, including in San Mateo County.

SamTrans is developing a local plan for how to invest approximately \$50 million in annual local transit funding should the measure be approved. Stakeholder engagement and community input will be critical components of this planning process. SamTrans could use this funding to:

- 1. Improve transit routes to reduce traffic on the most heavily traveled corridors**
  - [Grand Boulevard Initiative](#) – transit improvements—including bus stop enhancements, bus lanes, transit signal priority, and improved access to bus stops—along El Camino Real in San Mateo County from Daly City to Palo Alto through collaboration with cities and other stakeholders.
  - [Reimagine Dumbarton](#) – SamTrans is reimagining the unused Dumbarton freight railroad in San Mateo County to bring fast, reliable, zero emission bus service and improvements for people biking and walking. The corridor will run through East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, North Fair Oaks, and is close by Atherton, and will connect with Caltrain and other bus routes at or near the Redwood City Transit Station.
  
- 2. Continue free and reduced fare programs for seniors, students, people with disabilities, and others.**
  - Sustain existing programs including low-cost fares for all youth 18 and under and seniors age 65 and up, free fares on the bus system for low-income youth and individuals eligible for paratransit, and public school classes taking students on field trips. SamTrans also participates in regional partnerships providing low-cost transit for low-income residents.
  
- 3. Protect transit infrastructure against sea-level rise, flooding, and extreme weather**
  - SamTrans is working to protect its fleet and operations from weather-related and sea level rise issues to continue to provide the transit service that millions depend on every year, preserving our regional economy and community in the process.
  - New bus shelters offer protection from rain, wind, and sun.

**4. Increase safety, cleanliness, and accessibility at bus stops**

- Help keep the community clean by improving bus stop maintenance, including trash pick-up and graffiti removal.
- Upgrade bus stops with new shelters/shade, benches, and lighting.
- Widen sidewalks when needed for bus stop improvements
- Ensure stops are accessible for people with disabilities.

**5. Enhance bus service to be more efficient, faster, and more reliable**

- Implement technology to allow the bus to travel faster along major corridors.
- Provide up-to-date information so riders know when their next buses are coming.
- Regularly evaluate and update the entire bus system to ensure efficiency, speed and reliability.

**6. Expand access to transit for communities that are currently underserved**

- Partner with cities and leverage public/private partnerships for transit access across the County.
- Enhance critical coastal ride-share service for people with limited access to a bus route.

**7. Make repairs and upgrades to aging paratransit vehicles to ensure reliable service**

- Transit vehicles rack up miles quickly in a short amount of time, and normal wear and tear can reduce reliability over time. Replacing older paratransit vehicles will help keep SamTrans' paratransit service dependable for eligible riders with disabilities, providing trips to any destination within the SamTrans service area.

**8. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality by transitioning to zero-emission buses**

- Provide a local match that can leverage state and federal funding to purchase new zero-emission buses and build infrastructure to fuel and maintain them.

**9. Repair potholes and fix streets along bus routes**

- Eligible streets must have a fixed route public transit bus. Fixed route means a SamTrans bus that operates on a specific street as part of a regular route.

**10. Offer affordable ride-share and on-demand programs to more communities**

- Pilot new micro-transit service offering affordable curb-to-curb on-demand transportation within a local community. This service gets more people on public transit for all of their trips and allows people to access any location in their local community, expanding access to where people need to go beyond the current bus system. SamTrans currently operates two zones: East Palo Alto/Menlo Park (Belle Haven) and Half Moon Bay/El Granada.