



CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

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December 3, 2024

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Planning Committee & Regional Network Management Council
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Inclusion of Redwood City Ferry Service and Terminal Project in the final version of Plan Bay Area 2050+

MTC Planning Committee Members and Regional Network Management Council Members:

On behalf of City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) I am writing to respectfully request that the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA)'s Redwood City Ferry Terminal and Service Project be included in the Regional Transportation Plan, Plan Bay Area 2050+ (PBA 2050+), which will be presented to the Planning Committee and the Regional Network Management Council on December 13th, and December 16th, respectively.

C/CAG is the County Transportation Agency (CTA) and also the designated Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for San Mateo County. C/CAG represents all of San Mateo County's 764,442 residents through its 21-member Board of Directors that includes a seat for every jurisdiction in San Mateo County. C/CAG works to improve climate resiliency, mobility, the environment, and equity throughout San Mateo County.

The Redwood City Ferry Terminal and Service Project has been included in previous versions of Plan Bay Area, and has secured tens of millions in funding and is currently under environmental review which is scheduled to be complete in January 2026 with construction starting soon after.

The Redwood City Ferry Service and Terminal Project is funded with federal and regional funding sources that are only available to ferry projects ("ferry only funding") and fills a missing link in the regional transit system by providing the only direct transit connection between the east bay and the growing employment center in and around Redwood City, allowing residents from Oakland, Alameda and other east bay cities to access high paying, technology-based jobs.

The funding plan for the Redwood City Ferry Service and Terminal Project includes \$15M in local sales tax funding dedicated to this project from the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, a \$5M state budget earmark, an allocation of SF Bay Ferry's Regional Measure 3 capital funds and expected funding from the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Passenger Ferry Grant Program. All of these funds can only be used to fund ferry projects.

Additionally, FTA's Passenger Ferry Grant Program requires that proposed projects are included in a Metropolitan Planning Organization's Regional Transportation Plan. Removing the Redwood City Ferry Service and Terminal Project from the list of fiscally constrained projects prevents SF Bay Ferry from seeking

ferry only federal funding and reduces the amount of federal funding the region can secure.

We recognize MTC's staff's collaborative efforts on PBA 2050+, and the challenges and creativity necessary to create a plan that balances estimated funding with our ambitious transportation, environmental, and equity goals and requirements. We respectfully request that MTC work with WETA on a strategy to include the Redwood City Ferry Terminal and Service Project in the PBA 2050 so that the project can continue to pursue discretionary Federal funds.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me at: scharpentier@smcgov.org.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean Charpentier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sean Charpentier
Executive Director