

CITY COUNCIL 2025

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March 31, 2025

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mr. Jeff Gee, Chair
 SamTrans Board of Directors
 1250 San Carlos Avenue
 San Carlos, CA 94070

Dear Chair Gee:

Re: Request SamTrans Board to not Oppose SB-63

I am writing to you on behalf of the City of South San Francisco regarding the multicounty regional transit measure, Senate Bill 63, which has been introduced by State Senators Jesse Arreguin, D-Berkeley and Scott Weiner, D-San Francisco. This measure would place a half-cent, 10-year sales tax on the 2026 ballot to help fund some of the major regional transit agencies throughout the Bay Area. Although details of the measure have yet to be finalized, San Mateo County may be excluded if the County elects to opt out.

San Mateo County's Measure A, a half-cent sales tax for transportation projects within the County, is scheduled to expire December 31, 2033. Renewal of Measure A is also contemplated for 2026. Voter fatigue with transportation tax measures is a consideration that San Mateo County will weigh in its decision regarding opting out of SB-63.

As one of five cities in San Mateo County which host BART and/or Caltrain stations, including Daly City, Colma, San Bruno, and Millbrae, we are writing to communicate the profound importance that these services play in our communities. The 250 biotech businesses in South San Francisco contribute disproportionately to the property tax base of the County, functioning as one of the primary economic engines for the entire region. Our concentrated employment hub relies on frequent, reliable, and safe transportation options to thrive.

The renewal of Measure A is critically important but will not provide adequate support to these essential services. The City Council of South San Francisco urges that you do not oppose SB-63, in recognition of what is at stake should public transportation be forced to make major service cuts. The consequences would be far-reaching and harmful for commuters, residents, and tourists, as well as detrimental to air quality and congestion.

We urge the SamTrans board not to act in opposition to SB-63 and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eddie Flores
 Mayor, South San Francisco

Cc: Mayor Dr. Roderick Daus-Magbual, Daly City
 Mayor Ken Gonzales, Colma
 Mayor Rico Medina, San Bruno
 Mayor Anders Fung, Millbrae
 Carlos Romero, Chair, San Mateo County Transportation Authority
 Adam Rak, Chair, C/CAG