

TEAMC's San Mateo County Transportation Ballot Measure Proposal Summary

SamTrans and the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors are currently developing San Mateo County's next transportation funding measure, an \$80 million a year half-cent sales tax proposal that may be on the ballot this November.

The [Transportation Equity Allied Movement Coalition](#) (TEAMC) has been actively participating in the [Get Us Moving](#) process in order to help inform what the measure will fund. TEAMC is a coalition that brings together diverse voices to advance community-supported transportation solutions that provide greater access to opportunity. We engage and empower those most impacted by the existing transportation system, including low-income families, people of color, youth, seniors, people with disabilities, transit users, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

After months of community engagement, including surveying over 1,000 people and extensive discussion among our diverse coalition partners, we have developed the following recommendations for a forward-thinking expenditure plan centered on community needs.

Our vision - We envision affordable, safe, sustainable, convenient, and healthy transportation choices that move more people with fewer cars and connect people of all modalities, incomes, ages, and abilities to homes, jobs, schools, and other destinations.

The 2018 San Mateo County transportation expenditure plan must:

- Focus on moving more people with fewer cars in order to reduce carbon pollution and address traffic congestion, including on Highway 101 and the Dumbarton Bridge.
- Significantly increase safe access to essential destinations for all people, with an emphasis on protecting vulnerable populations and on traffic collision hot-spots.
- Provide more opportunities to live near transit and jobs in order to increase transit use, walking, and biking rates, and help address the County's rising cost of living.
- Ensure that disadvantaged populations benefit the most from its spending, and support community stabilization efforts in cases where projects lead to displacement pressures.

TEAMC recommends that the measure's funding be devoted to programs that:

- **Maintain and significantly enhance the public transit system**, with an emphasis on the kinds of services that most benefit transit-dependent populations. At least **60%** of the measure's funding should go towards investments that improve service frequency and connectivity, travel times and reliability, technology and conveniences, and affordability, including:
 - More SamTrans bus service to communities of concern, peak and off-peak (late night) services on high ridership routes, and new countywide express bus routes.
 - Transit fare programs for youth, seniors, and low-income riders.
 - Transit optimization projects such as transit stop improvements with real-time arrival information screens and transit traffic signal priority.
 - Transit repair and maintenance to reduce breakdowns and service delays.
- **Vastly expand infrastructure and programs that increase bicycle and pedestrian access and safety**. At least **10%** of the measure's funding should be directed towards bicycle and pedestrian projects and programs, including the County's Safe Routes to Schools Program, protected bike lanes, & sidewalk improvements.

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- **Programs to reduce demand for solo driving.** At least **10%** of ballot measure funds should be directed towards:
 - **Equitable strategies to reduce the number of cars on the road**, including subsidies and incentives to increase the use of carpool and ride sharing programs, expansion of shuttle service programs, and last mile connections.
 - **Transportation infrastructure improvements to support proposed 100% affordable housing projects that achieve 60% less driving per unit compared to the countywide average.**
- **Other high-priority transportation improvements.** The remaining funding (**20% or less**) should go towards programs and projects such as local streets and roads, railroad grade separations, and Dumbarton Corridor multimodal improvements.

Summary of TEAMC Proposed Expenditure Plan

Projects and Programs	%
Public Transit and Paratransit Services	60%
Local Streets and Roads, Transit Grade Separations, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), and Complete Streets	15%
Improved Walking and Biking Opportunities	10%
Equitable Strategies to Reduce the Number of Cars on the Road	5%
Transportation Infrastructure to Support Affordable, Low-Traffic Homes	5%
Dumbarton Corridor Improvements	5%

TEAMC Proposed Policy Overlays or Scoring Criteria

- **Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT)** - All projects funded by the measure should reduce Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) in order to meaningfully address traffic congestion.
- **Complete Streets** - A Complete Streets policy must be required for all roadway programs to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.
- **Sustainability** - All projects must show a measurable reduction in carbon and air pollution to help the County meet or exceed state and local climate and air quality goals.
- **Vision Zero** - Encourage jurisdictions to adopt Vision Zero goals to eliminate traffic fatalities and major injuries when planning for transportation projects.
- **Mitigation of displacement risk** - Funding should be set aside in the measure for community stabilization funds to help address displacement related to specific projects.
- **Quality local jobs** - Funding should prioritize projects and programs that create economic opportunities and living wage jobs for communities experiencing longstanding unemployment and poverty.
- **Investment in low income/people of color communities** - Priority should be given to projects that meaningfully benefit low-income communities, communities of color, and other disadvantaged populations.
- **Smart Land Use** - Encourage cities to develop in ways that improve the county's jobs/housing balance and fit.