



CITY OF SAN MATEO

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Agenda Report

Agenda Number: 3

Section Name: {{section.name}}

File ID: {{item.tracking_number}}

TO: City Council
FROM: Drew Corbett, City Manager
PREPARED BY: City Manager's Office
MEETING DATE: May 04, 2020
SUBJECT:
Seamless Bay Area - Integrated Public Transit Support

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution to support Seamless Bay Area's "Seamless Transit Principles" which commits to working collaboratively with other agencies to develop a highly integrated regional transportation system.

BACKGROUND:

At the March 16th City Council meeting, the City Council requested that a resolution of support for the Seamless Bay Area's "Seamless Transit Principles" be brought forward for consideration.

Housing affordability and increasing traffic congestion are key challenges in San Mateo and in the San Francisco Bay Area more broadly. These issues are exacerbated by an inconvenient and disjointed public transportation network. Despite significant investment in new transportation infrastructure in the Bay Area over past decades, public transit has failed to attract large numbers of new riders. Since 1970, transit has accounted for a mere 12% of commute trips, by contrast automobiles have accounted for 75% of commute trips. Additionally, using the Bay Area's public transit system is often inconvenient as it requires multiple separate fares and unpredictable transfers. People with lower incomes, especially those who have experienced displacement, have long commutes requiring multiple transit services and are among the most adversely effected. Regions that have successfully integrated and simplified transit fares experience broad social benefits, including a shift in travel from private cars to public transit, expanded mobility options, and cost savings for riders.

Seamless Bay Area is a non-profit 501(c)3 group whose mission is to transform the Bay Area's fragmented and inconvenient public transit into a world-class, unified, equitable, and widely-used system by building a diverse movement for change and promoting policy reforms. Seamless Bay Area has developed "Seamless Transit Principles":

1. Run all Bay Area transit as one easy-to use system
2. Put riders first
3. Make public transit equitable and accessible to all
4. Align transit prices to be simple, fair, and affordable
5. Connect effortlessly with other sustainable transportation
6. Plan communities and transportation together
7. Prioritize reforms to create a seamless network

Seamless Bay Area invites cities, counties, and transportation agencies to adopt a resolution in support of the "Seamless Transit Principles" and commit to working across jurisdictional boundaries to achieve this vision. The City of San Mateo is a collaborative and willing partner and has exemplified this work recently in partnering with Caltrain on the 25th Avenue Grade Separation project. Furthermore, the City's recently updated and adopted Bicycle Master Plan and 2020 Climate

Action Plan highlight the City’s goals to enhance mobility options for our community and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector.

The City’s actions and priorities align with Seamless Bay Area’s vision. The proposed resolution furthers this by committing to working collaboratively with other agencies to develop a highly integrated regional transportation system in support of Seamless Bay Area’s “The Seamless Transit Principles.”

BUDGET IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for taking this action.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

This adoption of a resolution is not a project subject to CEQA, because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment because the City is committing to working collaboratively to further Seamless Bay Area’s Seamless Transit Principles and not to a specific project at this time. (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).)

NOTICE PROVIDED

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

ATTACHMENTS

Att 1 – Proposed Resolution

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