

# SAN MATEO COUNTY

## CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE

Rico E. Medina, Chairperson  
Eddie Flores, Vice Chairperson

Sukhmani S. Purewal, Secretary  
400 County Center  
Redwood City, 94063  
650-363-1802

TO: MAYORS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY  
FROM: SUKHMANI S. PUREWAL, SECRETARY  
SUBJECT: **REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE**

Mayor Rico E. Medina, Chairperson of the San Mateo County City Selection Committee called for a **Regular** in person meeting of the Committee at **6:15 p.m.** on **Friday, December 20, 2024**, at Colma Fire House – 50 Reiner Street Colma, CA 94014.

### AGENDA

- 1) Roll Call
- 2) Selection of two (2) Councilmembers to serve as *Regular* members on the Housing and Community Development Committee (HCDC) representing **Cities** (*all Cities are eligible*), for a term of four (4) years beginning January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2028.
  - i. *Burlingame Mayor Donna Colson, is seeking reappointment*
  - ii. *Daly City Mayor Juslyn Manalo, is seeking appointment*
- 3) Selection of one (1) Councilmember to serve on the San Mateo County Transit District (**SamTrans**) representing **Southern Cities** (*Atherton, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Redwood City, San Carlos, and Woodside*), for a term of four (4) years beginning January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2028.
  - i. *Redwood City Mayor Jeff Gee, is seeking reappointment*
- 4) Selection of one (1) Councilmember to serve on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) representing **Southern Cities** (*Atherton, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Redwood City, San Carlos, and Woodside*), for a term of two (2) years beginning January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026.
  - i. *East Palo Alto Councilmember Carlos Romero, is seeking reappointment*
- 5) Selection of one (1) Councilmember to serve on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) representing **Central Cities** (*Belmont, Burlingame, Foster City, Half Moon Bay, Hillsborough, Millbrae, and City of San Mateo*), for a term of two (2) years beginning January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026.
  - i. *Belmont Mayor Julia Mates, is seeking reappointment*
  - ii. *Half Moon Bay Councilmember-Elect Paul Nagengast, is seeking appointment*

- 6) Election of a Chairperson to the City Selection Committee for 2025  
**(Note: Candidates must be a current Mayor or Council Member)**

*i. South San Francisco Vice Mayor Eddie Flores, is seeking appointment*

- 7) Election of a Vice Chairperson to the City Selection Committee for 2025  
**(Note: Candidates must be a current Mayor or Council Member)**

*i. San Carlos Councilmember Pranita Venkatesh, is seeking appointment*

- 8) Oral Communications and Announcements

- i. Public Comment – Opportunity for the public to address the San Mateo County City Selection Committee.*
- ii. Any subject not on the agenda may be presented at this time by members of the City Selection Committee. These topics cannot be acted upon or discussed, but may be agendaized for a later meeting date.*



**DONNA COLSON, MAYOR**  
**PETER STEVENSON, VICE MAYOR**  
**MICHAEL BROWNRIGG**  
**ANDREA PAPPAS**  
**STEPHANIE LEE**

## The City of Burlingame

CITY HALL -- 501 PRIMROSE ROAD  
BURLINGAME, CALIFORNIA 94010-3997

TEL: (650) 558-7201  
[www.burlingame.org](http://www.burlingame.org)

November 22, 2024

Dear City Selection Committee,

Please consider this letter my application to continue in service to the HCDC.

It has been my honor to serve as the city liaison to the San Mateo County Housing and Community Development Committee for the past eight years. The HCDC has supported staff and made significant progress on funding housing and most specifically, affordable housing. We have been particularly focused on our unhoused population and have revised our funding focus to align with the county's objective to provide stable housing to our most vulnerable residents.

The functions of the HCDC are:

- To review, and provide a forum for public comment on, countywide and local community needs and priorities related to the use of the three entitlement program funds; and
- To review, and provide a forum for public comment on, program matters involved in the preparation of the Consolidated Plan (CONPLAN) and its associated Annual Action Plans that set priorities for addressing the identified needs; and
- To review, and provide a forum for public comment on, analysis and findings involved in the preparation of the Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH); and
- To review, and provide a forum for public comment on, applications for funding for activities that address these priorities.

My background in affordable housing and work with core service agencies has allowed me an important perspective to help align funding allocations with the priority needs as stated by the County Board of Supervisors. It has been my pleasure to serve and as a senior member of the committee I have recently been elected to serve as Chair.

I would be grateful for your continued support of my candidacy. With the Honorable Ron Collins retiring, I also bring stability and continuity as we bring on a new member with whom I will be happy to work.

Kindly,

Donna Colson  
Mayor  
City of Burlingame  
501 Primrose Road  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
[dcolson@burlingame.org](mailto:dcolson@burlingame.org)  
(650) 678-0952



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY OF DALY CITY

333 – 90<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
DALY CITY, CA 94015-1895  
(650) 991-8125

December 6, 2024

Sukhmani Purewal  
Secretary of City Selection Committee &  
Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
Email: [spurewal@smcgov.org](mailto:spurewal@smcgov.org)

RE: Letter of Interest for Housing and Community Development Committee (HCDC)

Dear Mr. Purewal:

I am writing to express my interest to fill the vacancy on The Housing and Community Development Committee (HCDC) due to Councilmember Ron Collins' term expiration. As a resident of the County of San Mateo and someone deeply committed to improving our community's housing and development initiatives, I would be honored to contribute my skills, experience, and passion to this important committee.

The role of the HCDC in advising the Board of Supervisors and the Director of the County's Department of Housing on the expenditure of housing and community development funds is critical to addressing the affordable housing needs in the County of San Mateo.

I am confident that my eight years of experience in the private sector as a Community Engagement Manager with Brookfield Properties and Forest City, one of the nation's real estate developers, has afforded me the opportunity to forge vital partnerships and create opportunities for affordable housing, job creation, open spaces, and youth development. Additionally, I spearheaded the Bill Sorro Housing Program (BiSHoP) to help low to moderate-income families find stability and security in housing, which can help to bring unique perspective and expertise to the HCDC.

In my public sector experience, I have been a proponent for affordable housing and have supported numerous affordable housing projects in my role as an elected official for the City of Daly City, including Midway Village, the largest affordable housing project in the County of San Mateo with 555 affordable units, Jefferson Union High School District (JUHSD) Serramonte Del Rey Campus Redevelopment Project, and the Jefferson Elementary School District (JESD) Workforce Housing Projects.

I believe my combined years of experience in both the private and public sectors equips me to make meaningful contributions to the committee's work, especially as the need for affordable housing solutions continues to grow exponentially across the County. My experience will also allow me to work collaboratively with other committee members and stakeholders to make informed recommendations and help shape the future of housing and community development in the County of San Mateo.

My commitment to fostering equitable, sustainable, and inclusive development aligns closely with the mission and responsibilities of the HCDC, and I am committed to ensuring that vital resources are allocated in ways that best serve all members of our community, particularly those facing housing instability and economic challenges. My advocacy for affordable housing is recognized throughout the region, as I recently received tremendous support from my colleagues on the Council of Cities to represent all Cities on the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART), although the bylaws unfortunately would not allow me to accept the appointment. I believe I can be an asset to the Housing and Community Development Committee and would be honored to have the opportunity to serve on this regional board.

Thank you for considering my application for the 4-year term beginning January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028. I would welcome the opportunity to further discuss how I can contribute to the committee's work and serve the needs of our community. Please feel free to contact me at (650) 580-7777 or [MayorJuslynManalo@dalycity.org](mailto:MayorJuslynManalo@dalycity.org) to arrange a meeting or provide further information.

Sincerely,



Juslyn C. Manalo  
Mayor of Daly City



Mayor Jeff Gee  
Vice Mayor Lissette Espinoza-Garnica

Council Members  
Alicia C. Aguirre  
Kaia Eakin  
Diane Howard  
Elmer Martinez Saballos  
Chris Sturken



1017 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD  
Redwood City, California 94063  
Telephone (650) 780-7220  
[www.redwoodcity.org](http://www.redwoodcity.org)

November 27, 2024

City Selection Committee of San Mateo County  
400 County Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063

Re: City Selection Committee  
SamTrans – Southern Judicial District Appointment

Honorable Mayors, Council Members and Designees:

At the December 20, 2024, Council of Cities meeting, I will be seeking re-election to the **Southern Judicial District seat on the SamTrans Board of Directors.**

It continues to be my honor to specifically represent the Southern cities and broadly the entire County in my role as a SamTrans Board Member. I am a strong advocate of public transportation in San Mateo County and the region, which is hopefully demonstrated by my commitment of time and energy related to multiple projects and initiatives ranging from *Reimagine SamTrans* and the delivery of electrified Caltrain service, to the managing of ongoing fiscal impacts of pandemic ridership challenges and protecting San Mateo County from outside pressure to contribute more than our fair share toward regional transit agencies who lack accountability.

Below is a snapshot of some of the highlights and accomplishments of my efforts on the SamTrans Board related to project and initiatives locally and regionally:

#### **SamTrans Board of Directors (current)**

- Currently serve as the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors.
- Supported the implementation of *Reimagine SamTrans* – a comprehensive countywide adjustment to bus schedules and routes resulting in greater efficiency, responsible financial management, and restored bus ridership to pre-pandemic levels – especially for the most transit dependent riders.
- Served as Chairman of the SamTrans Ad Hoc General Manager selection committee, which led the recruitment effort for a new General Manager, resulting in the selection of April Chan.
- Advocated for examining how the organization uses its real estate assets, and asked critical questions related to the search for a new headquarters building in Millbrae.
- Advocated for a 10-year, rolling Capital Improvement Program to ensure a state of good repair.
- Supported the Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) initiative.

**Caltrain Joint Powers Board (current)**

- As Chairman of the Board in 2023, supported staff and the project team in execution of the Caltrain Modernization Project, resulting recently in the launch of fully electrified Caltrain service on September 21, 2024.
- Represent San Mateo County in the on-going governance discussions with San Francisco and Santa Clara Counties.
- Support ongoing efforts to secure funding for grade separation projects across San Mateo County.
- Frequently leverage my construction and real estate experience and expertise in Board oversight of construction and infrastructure planning efforts.

**Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) (current)**

- In 2015, I was appointed to the TJPA Board when construction was 50% complete on the new transit center. I used my professional skills and construction background to support efforts to manage construction costs and keep the project on schedule.
- Supported staff efforts to recover lost time on the construction schedule.
- Provided guidance and oversight to staff in managing the structural deficiencies discovered immediately after occupancy.
- Closed-out all litigation matters related to the construction of the transit center.
- Supported the Accelerated Workplan for the Downtown San Francisco Extension (DTX), resulting in FTA approval to enter engineering and the award of \$3.4 billion in federal funds. The DTX Project, or now known as The Portal, will be an essential missing link to extend Caltrain service into downtown San Francisco and increase ridership in the future.

Over the next term, I will focus on the following opportunities and challenges facing SamTrans and San Mateo County:

- Ensuring that San Mateo County residents contribute only their fair share to regional transportation funding efforts and protect our County from becoming a “donor county” to places like San Francisco.
- Ensuring riders that public transportation is safe and reliable.
- Improving management of “Quality of Life” issues at our major transit centers.
- Managing the move and transition to the new Millbrae headquarters to ensure it is on budget and on schedule.
- Supporting the successful delivery of the Zero Emission Bus initiative.
- Envisioning how the future workforce will be working and from where.
- Ensuring that fair service is provided to all parts of our community.
- Planning and preparing for the connectivity/transit needs of the future.
- Continuing to represent San Mateo County at the table on the governance issues related to the Caltrain JPB.

As a board member, combined with my elected and professional experience, capabilities, and focus, I believe that the next several years are critical to the long-term stability and success of SamTrans and Caltrain. I would be honored to earn your support to continue advocating and planning for our county’s mobility and transportation future.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach at 650-483-7412, or at [jgee@redwoodcity.org](mailto:jgee@redwoodcity.org).

Very truly yours,



Jeff Gee, Mayor  
City of Redwood City

Cc: Members, City Council, City of Redwood City  
Sukhmani Purewal, Agenda Administrator and Deputy Clerk of the Board





## CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO

Mayor Antonio Lopez  
Vice Mayor Martha Barragan

Council Members

Ruben Abrica  
Lisa Gauthier  
Carlos Romero

December 4, 2024

Re: San Mateo County Transportation Authority City Seat- Southern Judicial Cities Re-Appointment

Honorable Mayors and Council Members:

I write to seek your support for re-appointment to the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) Southern Judicial Cities seat. I currently serve as the Chair of the Authority. As a former vice-chair of CCAG, board member of Commute.org, and an active participant in Council of Cities meetings, I have engaged many of you in transportation discussions and provided you with updates regarding the SMCTA's actions.

While on the SMCTA I have played a meaningful role in developing our latest strategic plan that sets forth a comprehensive blueprint for funding our transit, roadways, and non-motorized forms of transportation cost effectively, efficiently and equitably. I have also brought to bear a deep experience in finance and financial oversight gained from my professional work as a developer and affordable housing consultant.

The SMCTA will play a pivotal role in prioritizing and leveraging our local monies to allow our cities to guarantee the flow of funds for transit, bike/ped, road and highway improvement projects. Among the many projects and priorities that must be balanced are the implementation of complete streets, shuttles, the Highway 101 Managed Lanes Project, much needed grade separations, and TDM, to cite only a few. My ten years on ABAG's Regional Planning Committee and my studies in urban economics and planning, real estate finance, and transportation at Stanford and Harvard have been essential in allowing me to understand the complicated finances and activities of the SMCTA.

We must listen to one another to collectively arrive at decisions that improve our cities. As a diverse county we must also cooperate and reach reasoned transportation solutions that address our urban and rural growth challenges. I am always mindful of our cities' numerous needs, and sometimes divergent concerns. I will continue to engage in reasoned discourse, respectful of all positions, that seeks collaborative and effective solutions that maintain and improve our transportation options sustainably.

I humbly ask for your support. Please contact me should you have any questions concerning my re-appointment. I may be reached at (650) 283-2852 or by email: [cromero\\_ezln@yahoo.com](mailto:cromero_ezln@yahoo.com).

Sincerely,

Carlos Romero



December 6, 2024

Dear Honorable Mayors and City Councilmembers,

It is a privilege to serve as the Central Judicial Cities representative, and currently as Vice Chair, on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA). I am seeking your support to continue serving on the TA Board of Directors, representing the Central Judicial Cities' seat for another term.

The TA plays a critical role in funding essential transit investments, addressing both capital and operational needs through Measures A and W. In my role as your representative, I have actively listened to your feedback and that of your city staff, particularly regarding challenges with the TA's Call for Projects (CFP) funding applications. Smaller cities, in particular, have shared their process concerns in seeking grants due to limited staff resources and the complexity of meeting funding criteria. Additionally, city staff often seek technical support in project conception but face barriers without external support.

I have advocated to help address these concerns, leading to significant improvements in TA processes and I remain dedicated to ensuring the effective allocation of these resources.

Examples of these efforts include:

- **Enhanced Technical Assistance:** I served on the Strategic Plan Board Ad Hoc Committee. The 2024-2029 Strategic Plan will allocate more funds (an additional \$2 million) for technical support, enabling TA staff to assist jurisdictions in preparing competitive project applications that meet CFP criteria and attract additional funding sources.
- **Streamlined CFP Processes:** This cycle, we introduced a joint CFP format for the Cycle 7 Pedestrian/Bike and Cycle 2 ACR/TDM funding programs. This change reduces administrative burdens for both local jurisdictions and the TA, while providing more time for application preparation.

These changes reflect my commitment to addressing the needs of all jurisdictions, ensuring equity in funding decisions, and fostering collaboration with our community partners. My open-door policy remains a cornerstone of my service, and your thoughtful input continues to guide my decision-making.

It would be an honor to have your continued support for my service in this position. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at [jmates@belmont.gov](mailto:jmates@belmont.gov) or on cell at 650-246-4727.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia Mates".

**Julia Mates**

Mayor, City of Belmont



December 6, 2024

Sukhmani Purewal  
Secretary of the City Selection Committee  
Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
Via email to [spurewal@smcgov.org](mailto:spurewal@smcgov.org)

Re: Letter of Interest for Appointment to San Mateo County Transportation Authority

Dear Sukhmani Purewal:

I'm writing to convey my strong interest in being appointed to the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA), representing Central Judicial Cities. I am a newly-elected City Councilmember of the City of Half Moon Bay, and I offer unique and relevant experience and expertise which will be of great benefit to SMCTA and the communities we serve.

One example is my wide experience interfacing with various county transportation agencies regarding technical feasibility (and political realities and hurdles) of distributing funding for projects, based on needs and equitable use of funds. This was part of my work as Deputy Town Manager for the Town of Woodside, as well as Deputy City Manager/City Engineer for Half Moon Bay. There, in 2003, I engaged and negotiated with Caltrans and SMCTA toward securing and finalizing funding for construction of the Highway 92/Main Street Project in Half Moon Bay.

Further, my time in Southern California as Assistant City Engineer with the City of Beverly Hills and as City Engineer for the City of Yucaipa gave me numerous opportunities to productively engage at a high level with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority, respectively.

Through these and other elements of my experience, I've exhibited strong capabilities in these key areas, that will bring high value to the critical work of SMCTA:

- **Project management** - developing, designing, and building capital improvement projects; managing public right-of-way issues, coordinating with utilities
- **Fiscal management** – responsibility for personnel, CIP, and operating budgets; preparing and administering federal, state, and local grant applications; forming Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance and Community Facility districts; distributing enterprise funds for general fund activities
- **Contract negotiations** – negotiating and securing private contracts for public services; negotiating residential and commercial development agreements; resolving permitting requirements at all governmental levels

My strong dedication to public service is something I'm very proud of, and has been a significant motivator throughout my professional life. The interactions I have had with regional, state and federal transportation authorities/agencies illustrate my unique skill set and demonstrate how my experience will benefit SMCTA.

Thank you for your consideration in giving me the opportunity to serve on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority. Please feel free to contact me through City Clerk Jessica Blair at [jblair@hmbcity.com](mailto:jblair@hmbcity.com) if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

*Paul T Nagengast*

Paul Nagengast  
Member-elect, City Council of Half Moon Bay

cc:

Half Moon Bay City Council  
Matthew Chidester, Half Moon Bay City Manager





JAMES COLEMAN, MAYOR (DIST. 4)  
EDDIE FLORES, VICE MAYOR (DIST. 5)  
MARK ADDIEGO, MEMBER (DIST. 1)  
FLOR NICOLAS, MEMBER (DIST. 3)  
MARK NAGALES, MEMBER (DIST. 2)

SHARON RANALS, CITY MANAGER

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

December 4, 2024

City Selection Committee  
C/o Sukhmani Purewal  
Secretary of City Selection Committee/Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
Via email: [spurewal@smcgov.org](mailto:spurewal@smcgov.org)

**RE: Letter of Interest – City Selection Committee Chairperson 2025**

Dear Honorable Mayors and Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my interest and seek your support to assume the role of *Chairperson to the City Selection Committee for 2025*. Our regional body representatives are essential to ensuring the best investments possible to improve the lives of all residents in San Mateo County, and I welcome this opportunity to help lead active and thoughtful dialogue amongst our local elected leaders to ensure our communities remain well represented in each of our regional bodies.

I am the first Salvadoran to serve on a City Council in the history of San Mateo County and only the second elected Latinx member in the history of the South San Francisco City Council. Prior to that, I was only the second Latinx member in the history of the South San Francisco Unified School District Board. These experiences have highlighted the value of representation and having a seat at the table, as well as the importance of effective communication, positive relationship building, and managing efficient and productive meetings.

I look forward to continuing to partner with you all and our colleagues to make this Council of Cities and Selection Committee a productive, inclusive, and fun monthly convening and a safe space for sharing and brainstorming as we have done during the time I have served as Vice Chair, during the past three years.

My dedication to serve you all is enhanced by my experience serving currently in the role of Vice Chair, and regionally leading and advocating for our cities by serving as the new **President of the California League of Cities - Peninsula Division, and on the Executive Board of the Latino Caucus of the League of California Cities, representing Northern California.**

In addition, I work with many of you in representing South San Francisco and serve on C/CAG, Commute.Org Board of Directors and the San Mateo Emergency Services Council, amongst others. My experience in serving my community and winning the trust of the voters is evidenced by my successful city council run in 2022 with a massive majority of the electorate, representing District 5 in South San Francisco, having served as Vice Mayor in 2024, and should rotation proceed, as incoming Mayor of South San Francisco in 2025.

In seeking this appointment, I will continue to engage all member cities in San Mateo County to share ideas, voice concerns, raise questions, and help set our group's priorities. As many of our cities are poised to have new councilmembers within their respective bodies my goal is to aim to bring everyone along and make them feel part of and included in our monthly meetings and ensuring that our meetings are engaging,

City Selection Committee

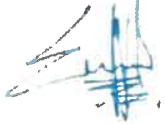
December 4, 2024

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educational and productive to all who attend. I am excited to step into the role I have substituted a number of times during the past three years and ready to work with you all. Most importantly, as you all have experienced -- I am reachable and commit to continue to lead with inclusion and compassion.

I wholeheartedly thank you for your consideration and I humbly ask for your support and aye vote.

In service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Flores', with some scribbles below it.

Eddie Flores

Vice Mayor South San Francisco

CITY OF SAN CARLOS  
CITY COUNCIL



600 ELM STREET  
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070  
(650) 802-4219  
CITYOFSANCARLOS.ORG

Pranita Venkatesh  
1040 Drake Court  
San Carlos, CA 94070  
(408) 425-7766

Council of Cities  
San Mateo County

Dear Members of Council of Cities,

I am writing to express my interest in Council of Cities Vice Chair. As a Councilmember in San Carlos I have consistently demonstrated a commitment to fostering collaboration in addressing the needs in our communities

My journey in public service has always been guided by a deep commitment to listening, learning and leading with integrity. I have come to understand the most impactful solutions emerge when we unite our collective voices in San Mateo County.

What draws me most to the role of Vice Chair is the opportunity to uplift and strengthen our surrounding cities by fostering strong relationships and amplifying our collective voices in San Mateo County.

In my time as a San Carlos Councilmember I have had the privilege to serve on the Board for San Mateo Asian American Pacific Islander (SMAAPI), CMEQ committee, San Carlos Childcare Committee, San Mateo Democratic Central Committee District 3.

I am eager to bring these qualities to the Vice Chair position to ensure every member city in San Mateo County feels seen, heard, and supported.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I would be honored to contribute to the Council of Cities continued success.

With gratitude and respect,

Pranita Venkatesh  
San Carlos City Council