

Proclamation

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SAMTRANS

WHEREAS, SamTrans began service on Thursday, July 1, 1976, when several local bus systems in San Mateo County were consolidated into one agency serving the Peninsula, creating a clearer and more consistent public transit system with a focus on countywide mobility; and

WHEREAS, in its earliest years, SamTrans moved quickly to expand what transit could offer the region. By 1977, the agency launched service along El Camino Real stretching the length of the county, strengthening a corridor that remains central to SamTrans service today; and

WHEREAS, around the same time, SamTrans introduced paratransit service, 14 years before it became a federal requirement under the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS, as communities and travel patterns changed, SamTrans continued to evolve. The agency modernized routes, expanded service and invested in new ways to make transit more convenient and flexible. Most recently, SamTrans completed the Reimagine SamTrans project, a systemwide effort focused on improving reliability, access and ease of use; and

WHEREAS, over the past 50 years, SamTrans has provided approximately 750 million rides across San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, SamTrans' role has also grown beyond bus operations. The San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) now serves as the administrative home for key transportation partners, including shared services that support Caltrain and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA). Together, the District provides what the community has relied on for five decades — a transit system built to connect people, neighborhoods and opportunities, operating 74 bus routes and serving more than 10 million riders annually as of 2026; and

WHEREAS, SamTrans' mission to revolutionize mobility and create a more equitable and sustainable region is a worthy one that deeply benefits Menlo Park, San Mateo County and the entire San Francisco Bay Area; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Betsy Nash, Mayor of the City of Menlo Park, on behalf of the City Council and City, do hereby recognize and celebrate SamTrans' 50th anniversary.

Betsy Nash, Mayor
July 14, 2026