

Board of Directors Meeting: May 17, 2023 – Public Comments

Date	Name	2. Approval of the April 19, 2023 Board Meeting/Workshop Minutes and May 3, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
		None
Date	Name	5. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
		None
Date	Name	6. Consent a. Accept Monthly Ridership Report – April 2023 b. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports – March 2023 c. Approve Resolutions Authorizing the Annual Filing of Grant Applications for Federal Transit Administration Formula 5307, State Transit Assistance, State Rail Assistance, State Low Carbon Transit Program, and State Transit Assistance -State of Good Repair Fund Programs \$13,699,131 in Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget Operations Grant Support
		None
Date	Name	7. Bicycle and Pedestrian Counters Update (<i>Information</i>) – Presented by Emily Betts
		None
Date	Name	8. Approve a Resolution Increasing Expenditure and Appropriation Authority by \$153,854.80 for design of a street signal at West Third Street and the SMART Pathway Crossing in Santa Rosa, CA - Presented by Heather McKillop
		None
Date	Name	9. Approve an Increase in Contract for Oracle Licenses from \$108,899.25 to \$211,514.74 and extend the period from February 28, 2024 to June 30, 2024 Presented by Heather McKillop
		None
Date	Name	10. Fiscal Year 2023/24 Draft Budget (Information and Discussion) – Presented by Heather McKillop
May 11, 2023	Dan Bell	Attached

From: [Dan Bell](#)
To: [Leticia Rosas](#)
Subject: Public Comment for May 17, 2023 re. FY 23/24 Draft Budget - Ridership Strategies
Date: Thursday, May 11, 2023 2:06:42 PM

Dear SMART Board and staff:

I am retired and a strong supporter and frequent passenger on the SMART train, often taking my bicycle for recreational excursions in both Marin and Sonoma. To encourage steady and increasing ridership going forward, I believe it is imperative that SMART Board and staff assist in any way possible to facilitate new multi-residential TOD developments near all SMART stations.

In particular, the unsightly and vacant 4.5 acre parcel owned by SMART that is adjacent to the Downtown Petaluma SMART station (see attached aerial) should be sold (or land lease) to the most qualified apartment/condominium developer ASAP as an obvious and immediate strategy to increase ridership.

Built-in ridership from residents adjacent to SMART stations will greatly improve our chances of having the 2026 transit sales tax passed by Marin and Sonoma voters.

Sincerely, Dan Bell, Sonoma Valley

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