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## \*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\*

## SFMTA RELAUNCHES FREE COMMUTE SUPPORT PROGRAM TO HELP SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESSES IMPROVE EMPLOYEE TRANSPORTATION

New program aims to help businesses thrive while supporting climate goals

**San Francisco, CA** — The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) today announced the relaunch of its Commute Support Program, offering enhanced tools and resources to help employers support sustainable and efficient commutes for their teams.

This revamped program is designed to make it easier for San Francisco businesses—especially medium-sized companies—to improve access to transit, walking, and biking for their employees. As more workers return to offices, the program aims to support employee well-being, reduce traffic congestion, and help businesses meet sustainability goals.

"Sustainable commutes are good for business, good for employees, and good for San Francisco," **said Viktoriya Wise, SFMTA Director of Streets**. "Businesses keep San Francisco thriving, and we're excited to make it easier for companies to bring their employees to work."

Businesses with 250 to 1,000 employees in San Francisco can now apply to receive a free, customized Employee Commute Plan tailored to their worksite. The SFMTA will work directly with participating companies to design personalized strategies, programs, and infrastructure changes that make commuting easier and more sustainable, while keeping us all moving as efficiently as possible.

The updated Commute Support Program website now includes a full suite of resources for employers of all sizes, including:

- Tools to promote walking, biking, and public transit
- Discounted and bulk Muni passes
- Pre-tax commuter benefit program guidance
- Parking options for carpools, bikes, and carshare
- Access to the Emergency Ride Home program

Supporting sustainable commutes offers significant benefits for both businesses and the city's work to create a stronger economic future for San Francisco. By providing commute-friendly

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options, companies can attract and retain top talent, reduce operational costs tied to parking and traffic delays, and contribute to San Francisco's climate goals by lowering emissions. Additionally, offering a range of commuting choices can enhance employee well-being by reducing stress and supporting a healthier work-life balance.

"San Francisco's investments in creating a clean safe and welcoming city are resulting in a wave of new offices leases and an upswing in in-person work," said Laurel Arvanitidis, Director of Business Development, Office of Economic and Workforce Development. "SFMTA's new resource will ensure that our businesses and their employees can connect to commute solutions to make their trips to and through San Francisco more enjoyable and cost effective. San Francisco is open for business, and our myriad transit solutions will ensure our future growth sustainably meets the demand of a growing workforce."

Muni, the SFMTA's public transit system, plays a critical role in supporting San Francisco's economic recovery, serving half a million riders every day, as well as the broader region: Muni accounts for over 50 percent of ridership across the nine-county bay area.

Beginning in July 2026, Muni faces a budget deficit of more than \$320 million, and over the last few years, has advanced a number of costs saving reductions and efficiency improvements to preserve core services including community benefit programs. But without new funding, Muni will be forced to cut about a third of service, which would have devastating impacts to San Francisco's future.

Space is limited and registration closes July 31, 2025. Employers are encouraged to act quickly to secure a spot. Interested businesses can email <u>employer.resources@sfmta.com</u> to learn more and apply.

To learn more, visit SFMTA.com/CommuteSupport.

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