

## **News from Congressman**

## **Tom Lantos**

12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of California San Mateo/San Francisco

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## Federal Funding Now Flowing to New Environmentally-Friendly Bus Project

**Washington, DC** – Congressman Tom Lantos (D-San Mateo, San Francisco) today announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation will provide \$873,786 for two new zero-emission buses for the San Mateo County Transit District.

"This federal backing for innovative local transportation will help relieve the congestion on the roads in our community – and in an environmentally friendly way," Lantos said. "It's a win-win situation for us and the country: we get new buses, and our experience with them will help determine just how valuable this new fuel cell technology can be, both for us and elsewhere in the United States."

The project is part of a pilot program jointly sponsored by Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) to purchase zero-emission buses to demonstrate fuel cell technology in transit revenue service. Legislation requested by Lantos and Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-Atherton) earlier this year made the funds available.

With the addition of these funds, the Department of Transportation will have provided \$7,733,374 for a fleet of zero-emission buses for the region and the facilities to accommodate them.