



JPB Board of Directors  
Meeting of May 6, 2021

Correspondence as of April 30, 2021

# Subject

- 1 Wireless grade crossing technology
- 2 Grand Opening – Hillsdale Station
- 3 Green, Equitable, and Reliable Public Transit
- 4 BATWG Newsletter – April 2021
- 5 Caltrain Finance Committee reschedule
- 6 211 Santa Clara County COVID Status Update

**From:** Board (@caltrain.com)  
**Sent:** Monday, April 26, 2021 11:48 AM  
**To:** 'Roland Lebrun'  
**Subject:** RE: Wireless grade crossing technology

Dear Mr. Lebrun,  
We have received your request and forwarded to the appropriate department for any responsive records.  
Thank you

**From:** Roland Lebrun <ccss@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:39 AM  
**To:** Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>  
**Cc:** cacsecretary [@caltrain.com] <cacsecretary@caltrain.com>; PRA <PRA@samtrans.com>; MTC Info <info@bayareametro.gov>  
**Subject:** Wireless grade crossing technology

**ATTENTION:** This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders.

Dear Chair Davis,  
Further to the April 23 article in the San Mateo Daily Journal which stated "*The crossing optimization project would put wireless grade crossing technology at the 41 Caltrain at-grade crossings along its rail corridor*", please provide details of this "*wireless grade crossing technology*" **pursuant to Government Code §6250 et seq.**

[https://www.smdailyjournal.com/news/local/san-mateo-in-support-of-caltrain-funding-requests/article\\_52ec2372-a3ea-11eb-b1aa-b7f7fcf136a2.html](https://www.smdailyjournal.com/news/local/san-mateo-in-support-of-caltrain-funding-requests/article_52ec2372-a3ea-11eb-b1aa-b7f7fcf136a2.html)



San Mateo in support of Caltrain funding requests | Local News | [smdailyjournal.com](http://smdailyjournal.com)

The San Mateo City Council is asking U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier, D-San Mateo, to support Caltrain federal funding requests for two grade-related infrastructure projects to improve traffic issues.

[www.smdailyjournal.com](http://www.smdailyjournal.com)

Thank you in advance for directing staff to provide a detailed and expeditious response to this request.

Roland Lebrun.

CC

MTC Commissioners  
Caltrain CAC

-----Original Message-----

From: Barbara Kilpatrick <barbarakilpatrick@icloud.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 9:09 AM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@samtrans.com>

Subject: Thank you so much for the grand opening of your Hillsdale Station 04/26/21

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via 214261244 jpb026 417471

Barbara Kilpatrick 650-315-2774 ☺

public comment is please make train history.

Sent from my iPad

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**From:** Barbara Kilpatrick <barbarakilpatrick@icloud.com>

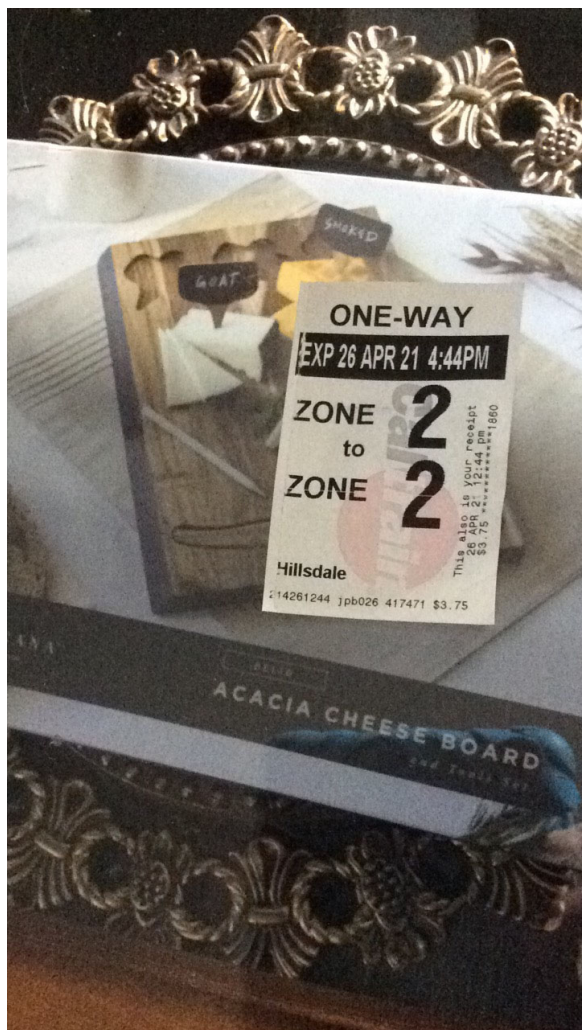
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 9:11 AM

**To:** Public Comment <PublicComment@samtrans.com>

**Subject:** Love! Thank you for the train trip...yesterday.

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Barbara Kilpatrick SPG San Mateo, CA 94402-2748



**From:** [Dahni-El](mailto:Dahni-El)  
**To:** [info@bayareametro.gov](mailto:info@bayareametro.gov)  
**Cc:** [mtablead@sfmta.com](mailto:mtablead@sfmta.com); [boardofdirectors@bart.gov](mailto:boardofdirectors@bart.gov); [myvoice@actransit.org](mailto:myvoice@actransit.org); [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Board (@caltrain.com)); [Board \(@samtrans.com\)](mailto:Board (@samtrans.com)); [Baltao, Elaine \[board.secretary@vta.org\]](mailto:Baltao, Elaine [board.secretary@vta.org]); [hill@cccta.org](mailto:hill@cccta.org); [info@seamlessbayarea.org](mailto:info@seamlessbayarea.org)  
**Subject:** Green, Equitable, and Reliable Public Transit  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 1:34:19 PM

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Dear MTC Commissioners,

Thank you for your attention to AB 629, the Seamless and Resilient Bay Area Transit Act (item 12a on the agenda). I'm thrilled that it has been recommended by MTC's legislative committee. Unfortunately, I cannot attend the live meeting. As a result, in writing, I urge you to support this measure with an eye towards the greatest benefits for riders, equitable access, reliability, and lowering GHG emissions.

In the past, I have considered jobs in Alameda, Redwood City, San Jose, Petaluma, San Francisco, Pleasanton, Fremont, and more. Each time, I quickly checked my public transportation options. Often, I was disappointed with the lack of coordination, duration, and cost as well as the sad alternative of a clogged highway. Uprooting and disrupting my life shouldn't be required to make a living. As for climate change, the science has been settled. Our status quo consumption is a failure. Failing to take climate action is grossly irresponsible this late in the game.

With AB629 and what should emerge afterward, I'm excited about the possibility of using coordinated public transit with simple integrated fares to visit friends, museums, theatrical spaces, other cities, and more in and around the Bay Area without driving. Brainless commuting without a calculator would be a treasure.

With COVID-19 based safety improvements, the effectiveness of double masking, and increasing vaccinations, many Bay Area residents will seek to patch the dynamism of their lives back together. For some, this could mean working further away than normal. Public transportation ridership will rise again and should rise better. After largely being indoors for a year, no one wants to be stuck on the 880, 980, 580, 680, the Bay Bridge, the Golden Gate Bridge, etc (with many vehicles belching GHG). Well coordinated and affordable public transit is a part of the solution -- part of the better.

Your open minded support to declare that it is the state's policy that all transportation agencies in the Bay Area work towards common goals, including integrating all transit in the region to operate as "one seamless easy-to-use, multi-modal transit system from the perspective of the user" will help make a better future possible for the Bay Area. Further, it sends a message of support to those desperately seeking evidence of a transition or evolution from this unsustainable status quo.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Dahni-El  
Oakland, CA

**From:** Bay Area Transportation Working Group <BATWGnewsletter@gmail.com>  
<batwgnewsletter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 8:31 PM  
**To:** Board (@caltrain.com)  
**Subject:** BATWG Newsletter – April 2021

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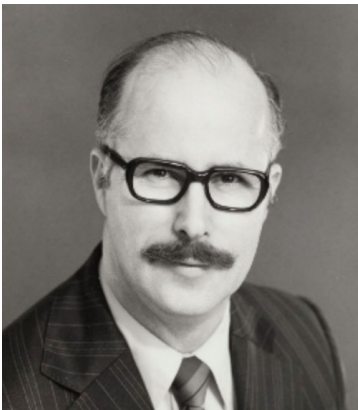
# BATWG Newsletter

Bay Area Transportation Working Group · [BATWGblog.com](http://BATWGblog.com)

Issue No. 33, April 2021

## James R. Mills

April 2021



From 1960 to 1982, James R. Mills was a highly productive member of the State Legislature during which he served with distinction as the State Senate's pro-transit Transportation Committee Chair and later as its President pro tem. During his time in the Legislature he was a consistent champion of improving passenger rail and other forms of public transit. He was justly proud of his legislative accomplishments which helped create the extensive and highly successful San Diego Trolley system and brought significant public transit improvements to many other parts of California. Mills died

on March 27, 2021  
at age 93.

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## **Streamlining the VTA**

April 2021

Assembly Bill 2091 (Mark Berman) proposes to address a problem that has detracted from the Santa Clara VTA's effectiveness for decades. In the last 17 years three successive grand juries have called attention to the VTA's management, operational and capital improvement practices and recommended ways of improving the situation. These recommendations have been largely ignored.

[Continue reading →](#)

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## **Would AB455 Put More Riders on Transbay Buses?**

April 2021

Assembly Bill 455 (Rob Bonta) tries to address the long-standing need to increase transbay bus ridership by calling for a dedicated bus lane on the Bay Bridge, beginning with a plan to be completed by January 1, 2023. Even before COVID, ridership on transbay buses was dismally low. For instance in 2019 AC Transit's transbay ridership with its 27 separate transbay bus lines was only 13,000 riders a day.

AB 455 is unfortunately based upon the false premise that improving bus flow on just the bridge and its approaches is all that's needed to give transbay bus ridership a major boost. We seriously doubt this.

[Continue reading →](#)

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## **When Governments Become Dysfunctional**

April 2021



With the federal government poised to lavish \$2 trillion or more on State and local governments, now might be a good time to take stock of how well equipped the receiving agencies are to use hundreds of billions of incoming new dollars in prudent and productive ways.

Given the Bay Area's dismal recent record of managing large amounts of capital, the prognosis is not good. Before identifying causes it is necessary to provide a small sampling of the results.

[Continue reading →](#)

## Making "Seamless Transit" Real

April 2021

The subject, previously dubbed "integrated transit systems", (now shortened to "seamless transit"), has been discussed for decades.

Yet, even though Seamless Transit is supported in principle by almost everyone, not much has changed. (The Salesforce Transit Center is an exception, but even there the trains are still missing). The region's assorted transit systems are mostly just as chopped up and disconnected as ever. Various reasons are advanced for this.

[Continue reading →](#)



BATWG is a 501 c3 Non-Profit Corporation organized by a group of experienced transportation professionals and activists in 2012. Mostly volunteers, we are dedicated to working with like-minded groups to improve the reliability and appeal of the Bay Area's passenger rail and bus systems and to significantly ease regional traffic congestion. To learn more about BATWG, please go to [batwgblog.com](http://batwgblog.com).

BATWG meetings normally occur on the third Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon. To receive an Agenda please send a note to [BATWGNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:BATWGNewsletter@gmail.com). Dues are \$40 a year, with discounts for seniors and students. To pay dues or otherwise contribute, go to the BATWG website [batwgblog.com](http://batwgblog.com) and click on the donate button, or mail a check to BATWG, P.O. Box 590 888, San Francisco, CA 94159.



**From:** [Roland Lebrun](#)  
**To:** [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)  
**Cc:** [MTC Info](#)  
**Subject:** Caltrain Finance Committee reschedule  
**Date:** Thursday, April 29, 2021 3:08:32 AM

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Dear Chair Zmuda,

Further to Redwood City Council's new Monday start time of 6.00 PM and the resulting conflict with Councilmember Gee's attendance at the Finance Committee, please consider moving the start of the Finance Committee from the 4th Monday at 2.30 PM to the third Wednesday of the month anytime between 1.00 and 3.00 PM and give due consideration to the CAC meeting which starts at 5.40 PM on the same day.

I believe that this rescheduling of the Finance Committee to the 3rd Wednesday of the month would eliminate further scheduling conflicts with MTC's Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force at 1.00 PM on the 4th Monday of the month and evening City Council meetings in the Peninsula which usually start at 5.00 or 6.00 PM.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Roland Lebrun

CC

BRTTF Commissioners

**From:** [211bayarea](#)  
**To:** [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** 211 Santa Clara County COVID Status Update  
**Date:** Thursday, April 29, 2021 10:54:11 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear partner agency,

211 Bay Area – CALTRAIN

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there might be changes from time to time in your agency's operations. We want to keep the community well informed of services available when they call our 211 Contact Center. If there are any updates that you would like us to know about so that we may include them in your listing in our 211 database, please email the information to us at [211bayarea@icfs.org](mailto:211bayarea@icfs.org).

Please also respond and let us know if there have been no changes since you last updated us.

Your agency's current listing in our database is available through this weblink:

<https://na0.icarol.info/resourceview2.aspx?&org=2302&agencynum=6126959>

**Please scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on each program name for details.**

*Warm regards,*  
211 Resource Team  
On behalf of United Way Bay Area

