



JPB Board of Directors  
Meeting of January 7, 2021

Correspondence as of December 18, 2020

# Subject

- 1 Making Transit Work for Essential Workers
- 2 MTC 12/15 Commission Item 7d Redirecting surplus VTA CARES Act funding to Caltrain
- 3 Letter to Council Member Davina Hurt

**From:** Adina Levin <adina.levin@friendsofcaltrain.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2020 11:56 AM  
**To:** Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>; Board (@samtrans.com) <Board@samtrans.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Join us on Dec. 16 - Making Transit Work for Essential Workers

Dear Board Members,

A grad student class at UC Berkeley is presenting on a project on the travel patterns and needs of essential workers during Covid.

This may be of interest.

Thanks,

- Adina  
Adina Levin  
Friends of Caltrain / <https://greencaltrain.com>  
Seamless Bay Area / <https://seamlessbayarea.org>  
650-646-4344

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Seamless Bay Area <[info@seamlessbayarea.org](mailto:info@seamlessbayarea.org)>  
**Date:** Fri, Dec 11, 2020 at 10:23 AM  
**Subject:** Join us on Dec. 16 - Making Transit Work for Essential Workers  
**To:** <[aldeivnian@gmail.com](mailto:aldeivnian@gmail.com)>





# Making Transit Work Essential Workers

Reflections from Interviews  
with Commuters During  
the COVID-19 Pandemic

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16 FROM 12-1 P.M.  
WEBINAR FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

Hi Adina,

Nine months after the first shutdown orders went into effect in the Bay Area, our region continues to face unprecedented impacts from the COVID crisis. Transit service changes and cutbacks have made navigating the system even harder for riders, particularly those who transfer between agencies. Multiple Bay Area transit operators have announced that they are planning for additional cuts and layoffs. And in Washington D.C., lawmakers haven't been able to reach agreement on a new stimulus bill, or whether additional funding will include support for public transit.

In this perilous moment, it has never been more important for local, state, and federal leaders to listen to the voices of riders who rely on transit to do their jobs and serve their communities.

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## [Join us on Dec. 16 - 'Making Transit Work for Essential Workers' webinar](#) 📌

Since the first COVID-related shutdown orders went into effect in March, tens of thousands of essential workers in the Bay Area have continued to use transit to commute to work and conduct essential errands.

This fall, UC Berkeley planning and engineering

graduate students Karl Reinhardt, Amy Thomson, and Andrew Tate conducted in-depth interviews with essential workers to better understand their experiences using transit during the pandemic, including tracing their commutes to and from three Bay Area cities: San



Francisco, Oakland, and Palo Alto. Concerns about physical distancing, transit frequency, and public safety were commonly cited across all geographies.

On Wednesday, Dec. 16 at noon, join Karl, Amy, Andrew, and Seamless Bay Area for a free [webinar](#) exploring these findings. The webinar will also explore ideas for making our transit network more accessible and rider-friendly, during the pandemic and beyond. [RSVP here](#).

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## Thank you for supporting our fall campaign! 🎉

Back in October, Seamless Bay Area launched our fall fundraising campaign with an ambitious goal: to recruit 100 donors to support our vision for a seamless transit network.

**Thanks to the generosity of the Seamless community, last week, we hit our target!**

A large orange rectangular graphic with white text that reads "Thank you for your support!". The text is centered and uses a large, bold, sans-serif font. The background of the graphic has a subtle wavy pattern at the bottom.

We're deeply grateful to everyone who contributed to our campaign and spread the word to your networks. Your donations will directly support our advocacy for seamless transit in 2021 - from creating momentum around integrated fares, to advocating on the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force.

Missed our fall campaign but still want to donate? [Make a contribution here](#).

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## What we're reading about transit and COVID 📰

- Streetsblog SF: [Now fare integration is unfair?](#)
- SF Examiner: [Want to simplify regional transit? It's complicated](#)
- SPUR: [A Regional Transit Coordinator for the Bay Area](#)
- CBS SF: [BART joins U.S. transit agencies in demand for federal funding](#)
- New York Times: ['Existential peril': Mass transit faces huge service cuts across U.S.](#)

Read something interesting that's not on our list? We'd love to hear about it! Shoot us an email at [info@seamlessbayarea.org](mailto:info@seamlessbayarea.org).

Stay safe out there!

Stephanie Beechem

*Board Member, Seamless Bay Area*



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Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](https://www.actionnetwork.org). To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from Seamless Bay Area, please [click here](#).

**From:** [Roland Lebrun](#)  
**To:** [MTC Info](#)  
**Cc:** [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#); [SFCTA Board Secretary](#); [VTA Board Secretary](#); [general@morganhill.ca.gov](#); [AllCouncilMembers@ci.gilroy.ca.us](#); [cacsecretary \[@caltrain.com\]](#); [SFCTA CAC](#)  
**Subject:** MTC 12/15 Commission Item 7d Redirecting surplus VTA CARES Act funding to Caltrain  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:23:26 PM  
**Attachments:** [VTA \\$124.5M Cares Act surplus.bmp](#)

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Dear Chair Haggerty,

Further to VTA's current projection of a \$55.4M to \$89.9M Cares Act surplus for FY21

<http://santaclaravta.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=6&ID=1494> (slide 2)

and Caltrain's new 2-hourly 64-train timetable effective 12/14

[https://www.caltrain.com/schedules/weekdaytimetable/Weekday\\_Timetable\\_-\\_Effective\\_Dec\\_14\\_2020.html](https://www.caltrain.com/schedules/weekdaytimetable/Weekday_Timetable_-_Effective_Dec_14_2020.html),

please consider directing VTA to collaborate with Caltrain and use a portion of this surplus funding to extend half (32) of these trains to Gilroy for the following reasons:

1. Address equity issues between San Jose and Gilroy by providing relief on VTA bus route 68, the only viable public transit route connecting San Jose to Morgan Hill and Gilroy.
2. Minimize the number of TASI furloughs [https://www.smdailyjournal.com/news/local/caltrain-to-furlough-40-positions-starting-in-january/article\\_466a2bda-35ef-11eb-a9da-eb0aea033b9f.html](https://www.smdailyjournal.com/news/local/caltrain-to-furlough-40-positions-starting-in-january/article_466a2bda-35ef-11eb-a9da-eb0aea033b9f.html).
3. Prove once and for all that the low Caltrain ridership (**including 3 stations in south San Jose**) and massive Highway 101 congestion between San Jose and Gilroy is a direct result of lack of Caltrain service.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Roland Lebrun

## FY2021 Operating Balance Preliminary Projections – (as of December 2020)

	FY21 Current Budget	FY21 Projections		
		Conservative	Base	Optimistic
Subtotal - Sales Tax Related	\$439.6M	\$354.7M	\$369.9M	\$385.2M
Subtotal - Fares	\$38.6M	\$15.5M	\$15.5M	\$15.5M
Subtotal - Other Revenues	\$35.7M	\$30.7M	\$32.7M	\$34.7M
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$513.9M</b>	<b>\$400.9M</b>	<b>\$418.1M</b>	<b>\$435.3M</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$525.5M</b>	<b>\$481.6M</b>	<b>\$481.6M</b>	<b>\$481.6M</b>
OPERATING BALANCE (before applying CARES Act Funding)	(\$11.6M)	(\$80.7M)	(\$63.5M)	(\$46.2M)
CARES ACT FUNDS REMAINING (after budget gap is bridged)	\$124.5M	\$55.4M	\$72.6M	\$89.9M

CARES Act Funding remaining is currently at approximately \$136.1M, which will be used to bridge any negative operating balance at the end of FY2021.



- CC
- Caltrain Board of Directors
- VTA Board of Directors
- SFCTA Commissioners
- Morgan Hill Mayor and City Council
- Gilroy Mayor and City Council
- Caltrain CAC
- VTA CAC
- SFCTA CAC



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(650) 508-6200

December 14, 2020

The Honorable Davina Hurt  
City of Belmont  
One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 340  
Belmont, California 94002

Dear Councilmember Hurt:

Congratulations on your recent appointment to the California Air Resources Board. I wish you the very best as you work to help build a healthier, cleaner and more vibrant future for California.

On behalf of the entire SamTrans family and our partnering agencies, I want to let you know how much we look forward to working with you in your new role. It is our sincere hope that together we can continue to move the Peninsula forward - striving to reduce congestion while also improving air quality and mobility throughout the region.

Please don't hesitate to contact me or Casey Fromson, our Government and Community Affairs Director at [fromsonc@samtrans.com](mailto:fromsonc@samtrans.com) or (650) 288-7625 with any questions or issues.

Again, congratulations on this important appointment and thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jim Hartnett  
General Manager/Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director

Cc: San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors  
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors  
San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors

*Drawn  
This is so  
Exciting. Thank  
you for your continued  
as public service  
Most  
Jim*