



JPB Board of Directors  
Meeting of December 3, 2020

Correspondence as of November 13, 2020

# Subject

- 1 South San Francisco Station Improvements Construction Project
- 2 EMU Procurement Price Forms
- 3 Stadler Maintenance Option Price Forms
- 4 Representative Eshoo Thank You
- 5 University Ave Beige Pole Color

**From:** [Daniel Liang](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment; Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** South San Francisco Station Improvements Construction Project  
**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2020 8:27:34 AM

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Dear Caltrain Board,

I would like to draw your attention to the gross mismanagement of the Caltrain South San Francisco Station improvement project. The gross mismanagement has delayed the completion of this project by more than two years, and has substantially increased the construction cost. This results in gross waste of public funds. Wasteful spending of public funds is not only unethical, it is also illegal.

In addition, the SSF Caltrain construction management team is also guilty of retaliating against a whistleblower for bringing up his/her concern of mismanagement.

Please look into this matter. I will be available to provide additional information to assist you with your investigation.

Thank you!

Daniel Liang of Daly City

**From:** Roland Lebrun <ccss@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:37 PM  
**To:** Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>  
**Cc:** PRA <PRA@samtrans.com>  
**Subject:** EMU Procurement Price Forms

Dear Chair Pine,

Pursuant to Government Code §6250 et seq., please direct staff to provide a copy of the completed EMU Procurement Price Forms submitted by Stadler Rail.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Roland Lebrun

PS. I am attaching the original (blank) Price Forms for your convenience

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**From:** Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 12, 2020 10:03 AM  
**To:** 'Roland Lebrun' <ccss@msn.com>; Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>  
**Cc:** PRA <PRA@samtrans.com>  
**Subject:** RE: EMU Procurement Price Forms

Dear Mr. Lebrun,

This is to confirm receipt of your request.

Staff will respond to your request with the responsive documents.

**From:** Roland Lebrun <[ccss@msn.com](mailto:ccss@msn.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2020 4:49 PM  
**To:** Board (@caltrain.com) <[BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com](mailto:BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com)>  
**Cc:** PRA <[PRA@samtrans.com](mailto:PRA@samtrans.com)>  
**Subject:** Stadler Maintenance Option Price Forms

Dear Chair Pine,

Pursuant to Government Code §6250 et seq., please direct staff to provide a copy of the completed Maintenance Option Price Forms submitted by Stadler Rail.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Roland Lebrun

PS. I am attaching the original (blank) Price Forms for your convenience

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**From:** Board (@caltrain.com) <[BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com](mailto:BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 12, 2020 10:04 AM  
**To:** 'Roland Lebrun' <[ccss@msn.com](mailto:ccss@msn.com)>; Board (@caltrain.com) <[BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com](mailto:BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com)>  
**Cc:** PRA <[PRA@samtrans.com](mailto:PRA@samtrans.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Stadler Maintenance Option Price Forms

Dear Mr. Lebrun,

This is to confirm receipt of your request.

Staff will respond to your request directly for “a copy of the completed Maintenance Option Price Forms submitted by Stadler Rail” as soon as they are ready.

Thank you



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 12, 2020

The Honorable Anna E. Eshoo  
U.S. House of Representatives  
202 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Eshoo:

On behalf of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain), I write to personally thank you for your recent letter to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) in support of our proposed grade crossing safety pilot project in Palo Alto. We also appreciate your leadership in garnering the support of your colleagues on this issue.

Prior to COVID-19, Caltrain was experiencing an average of one grade crossing incident per week along the corridor, placing the safety of drivers, the general public, and transit riders at risk. The proposed grade crossing pilot project at Churchill Avenue in Palo Alto is a low-cost opportunity to quickly implement at-grade crossing safety enhancements that have been proven effective at other transit properties.

We will keep your office updated on our conversations with the FHWA, FRA, and Caltrans. Thank you again for your continued support of public transportation. We truly appreciate all of your efforts and willingness to help.

Sincerely,

Jim Hartnett  
Executive Director

*Anna  
Thank you for  
all your do to  
support Caltrans  
Best  
Dave*

Cc: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors

PENINSULA CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS BOARD  
1250 SAN CARLOS AVE  
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070 (650) 508-6200

On 2020-09-30 12:05, [calmod@caltrain.com](mailto:calmod@caltrain.com) wrote:

Dear Martin,

Thank you for contacting Caltrain Electrification. The selection of the beige color was done in coordination with the City of Palo Alto and is a common color for poles located near stations. Most poles are a neutral chrome color along the project area but in some cases, such as near stations, Caltrain staff worked with local cities to identify pole colors that aligned with certain station areas. Once the poles have been procured and placed, we are not able to change the colors of those poles.

Thank you again for reaching out to us.

Best,

The Caltrain Team

On 2020-09-25T10:17:50-07:00, Martin J Sommer <[martin@sommer.net](mailto:martin@sommer.net)> wrote:

Good morning,

Please see the attached picture, of a beige pole placed last night. This creates a real eye sore!!

Questions: 1) Why are you using a beige color vs the std forest green (that blends with the trees), and 2) can these beige poles please be painted forest green, before electrification occurs?

I know that this is a "big ask".

Thank you,

Martin

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Martin Sommer  
650-346-5307

[martin@sommer.net](mailto:martin@sommer.net) <<mailto:martin@sommer.net>> [www.linkedin.com/in/martinsommer](http://www.linkedin.com/in/martinsommer)  
<<http://www.linkedin.com/in/martinsommer>>

"Turn technical vision into reality."

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**From:** [martin@sommer.net](mailto:martin@sommer.net) [<mailto:martin@sommer.net>]

**Sent:** Friday, November 6, 2020 10:20 AM

**To:** [CalMod@caltrain.com](mailto:CalMod@caltrain.com); Board (@caltrain.com) <[BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com](mailto:BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com)>

**Cc:** [city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org)

**Subject:** Re: University Ave Beige Pole Color

Dear Caltrain Board,

The more beige poles that go up at University Ave station, the more unsightly it becomes. At ground level, you might think the beige color matches the station, but from the view of local buildings, you are completely destroying the view of our Santa Cruz Mountains, and local green vegetation on Stanford campus.

Can you please look into a way to fix this? Perhaps, painting any height above 10 feet, to be the standard forest green? Telecom poles can be camouflaged, the same applies here.

Please look in to it, and let me know some options.

Thank you,

Martin

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Martin Sommer

650-346-5307

[martin@sommer.net](mailto:martin@sommer.net)

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/martinsommer>

"Turn technical vision into reality."

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**From:** CalMod@caltrain.com <CalMod@caltrain.com>

**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2020 10:09 AM

**To:** martin@sommer.net; CalMod@caltrain.com; Board (@caltrain.com)  
<BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>

**Cc:** city.council@cityofpaloalto.org

**Subject:** RE: University Ave Beige Pole Color

Hi Martin,

Thank you again for contacting Caltrain on this question. As Jim previously mentioned, the selection of the pole color was done in coordination with the City of Palo Alto and the Historic Resources Board and Architectural Review Board in 2019. These color selections are final and poles cannot be replaced or painted a different color after installation.

Thanks,

**Brent Tietjen, Government and Community Relations Officer**

SamTrans | Caltrain | TA

1250 San Carlos Ave.

San Carlos, CA 94070-1306

[tietjenb@samtrans.com](mailto:tietjenb@samtrans.com)

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**From:** martin@sommer.net <martin@sommer.net>

**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2020 1:55 PM

**To:** CalMod@caltrain.com

**Cc:** Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>; city.council@cityofpaloalto.org

**Subject:** Re: University Ave Beige Pole Color

Thanks Brent,

What about the idea of camouflaging the upper part of the poles, similar to what is done with cell towers? For some reason, these poles have been created with an extremely hard industrial look. This is nothing like, the esthetics put into other electrified rails systems throughout the world.

Martin