

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
Work Program – Legislative – Planning Committee (WPLP)
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos CA**

MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: C. Chavez, S. Heminger, C. Stone (Chair)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: M. Bouchard, D. Hansel, J. Harrison, S. Petty, C. Fromson, D. Santoro, B. Tietjen, M. Jones, P. Shrestha, D. Seamans, S. Wong

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Charles Stone called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and Director Heminger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

District Secretary Dora Seamans called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no public comments.

4. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2021

Motion/Second: Chavez/Heminger

Ayes: Chavez, Heminger, Stone

Noes: None

Absent: None

5. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Casey Fromson, Acting Chief Communications Officer, introduced the State and Federal legislative advocates.

Eve O'Toole, Federal Lobbyist, provided an update, which included the following:

- Appropriation of Infrastructure Bill and Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations process
- Proposed Budget and infrastructure bill implementation

Lauri Hettinger, Federal Lobbyist, provided an update which included the following:

- Congress' large infrastructure bill includes \$500 billion in new spending
- Provides mandatory money over the next five years and funding opportunities for transportation, railroad grade crossing, rail car replacement, and trespassing/fatalities prevention

Matt Robinson, State Lobbyist, provided an update which included the following:

- Governor proposed funding for transportation with increased funding amounts

- Transit rail service, High speed rail funding and multiple approaches
- Caltrain's \$410 million funding gap
- Over 3 dozen Congressional delegation members informed on Caltrain issues
- Seamless Bay Area proposal bill and Senate Bill 288

Mike Robson, State Lobbyist, provided an update which included the following:

- Working on two-year bills and introducing new bills through Feb 18
- Redrawn lines
- Caltrain legislators working on budget issues prior to final action on the budget on June 15th

The Board members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification regarding the distribution of funds and whether it will be distributed through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

6. PENINSULA CORRIDOR ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT (PCEP) PROJECT UPDATE

Michelle Bouchard, Acting Executive Director, provided context to the project summary.

Pranaya Shrestha, CalMod Chief Officer, provided a presentation that included the following:

- December activities (BBI re-baselining) and upcoming milestones including the Remediation Plan
- Reset program organization with new executive leadership, legal, and new program director
- Safety and security, construction update, program management, risks, and master schedule
- Signal System and Communication (2 Speed check)
- Crossing Optimization Project
- Program budget, contingency, risks, and incentive

Casey Fromson, Chief Communications Officer, provided a presentation that included the following:

- Funding Update - develop \$410 million funding plan
- Federal Update - tracking notice of funding availability, meeting federal delegation, and discussing capital investment grants funding eligibility
- State Update - Governor's budget included \$9.1 billion for transportation)

The Board members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification regarding the following:

- How the single-phase study will affect the schedule
- Staff hire with PG&E experience
- Segment 2 cutover similarities to segment 4 cutover
- Flagger at grade crossings
- Efficiency in getting trains completely off the right of way
- Reassessing the timeline closer to completion

- The systems for wireless grading crossing and whether the wireless solution will be completed sooner than the primary solution
- Waiting for the backup completion before opening for revenue service

Public comment

Vaughn commented on type of workforce used, high speed rail, climate change, and PG&E.

Jeff Carter, Millbrae, commented on foundation completion, poles, cost increases, the single phase, electric cars, and operations.

Adrian Brandt, San Mateo County, commented on safety statistics, wireless crossing activation system, two speed check increasing gate down time, GPS based systems for crossing downtimes, and quiet zones.

7. SERVICE PLANNING AND RIDERSHIP UPDATE

Ted Burgwyn, Director of Rail Networks and Operations Planning, provided an update which included the following:

- Pandemic travel behavior, Bay Area Council Survey, regional transit ridership levels, and Caltrain ridership patterns
- Case Study: Downtown San Francisco in 2021 versus 2019
- Initial survey results, rider satisfaction, and former rider responses
- Near term outlook, corridor development activity, and next steps

Sebastian Petty, Deputy Chief of Planning, provided an update on the next steps which included the following:

- Fare revenue comparisons
- Longer term change in corridor ridership
- Board Workshop discussion later this year on financial analysis

Michelle Bouchard, Acting Executive Director, emphasized the importance of a Board discussion later regarding reports with other agencies on longer term structural issues with their financing.

Chair Stone left at 4:30 p.m. after appointing Director Heminger Acting Chair.

The Board members had a discussion and staff provided further clarification regarding

- Building a brand-new service for people
- Turning the three-day work week market into an advantage
- Upcoming workshop and potentially meeting in person

Public comment

Vaughn commented on Capital Corridor coordination with Altamont Corridor Express (ACE), commute traffic from the East Bay, and addressing longer trips.

Adrian Brandt, San Mateo County, commented on peaking at about 19 percent pre-pandemic, falling off, and needing to rethink fares and encouraging riders.

Jeff Carter, Millbrae, commented on rethinking the Caltrain schedule, running more service during off-peak hours and weekends, and keeping the price of the monthly pass low.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTS

Director Heminger requested information on whether the wireless connection would be complete before the backup is completed (PCEP).

9. DATE/TIME OF NEXT REGULAR WPLP COMMITTEE MEETING: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021 AT 3:00 PM VIA ZOOM

10. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.