



JPB Board of Directors
Meeting of March 29, 2023

Correspondence as of 03-10-2023

Subject

1 Caltrain Letter in Support of Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA)- 1



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 8, 2023

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: ACA-1 (Aguiar-Curry) Local government financing: affordable housing and public infrastructure: voter approval. – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry,

On behalf of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain), I write to you today in **SUPPORT** of ACA 1. This measure would lower the voter-threshold for the imposition, extension or increase of a special tax by a local government for affordable housing and infrastructure purposes, from two-thirds to 55 percent.

As you know, the California Constitution conditions the imposition of a special tax by a city, county, or special district upon the approval of two-thirds of the voters of the city, county, or special district. In 2020, Measure RR, which authorized a 1/8 cent sales tax to fund Caltrain service, passed by voters in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties with 69 percent of the vote, only 2.4 percent about the two-thirds requirement. Without passage of this measure and the \$100 million per year for Caltrain it provides, Caltrain, which has been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, would be forced to consider deep cuts to service, customer experience, and future projects.

By lowering the voter-threshold for a special tax for local projects from two-thirds to 55 percent, this constitutional amendment would provide a city, county or special district with a renewed ability to generate revenue. These funds will go to much-needed local infrastructure and affordable housing projects that increase access to housing, jobs & schools, reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality.

For these reasons, we respectfully SUPPORT ACA 1. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact Devon Ryan, Government and Community Affairs Officer (ryand@caltrain.com, 650-730-6172) with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MBouchard", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michelle Bouchard
Executive Director

cc: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors

PENINSULA CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS BOARD
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