

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
Board of Directors Meeting
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos CA**

Draft Minutes of March 2, 2023

Members Present: P. Burt, C. Chavez, D. Davis (Vice Chair), R. Mueller, R. Medina, J. Gee (Chair), S. Heminger,
S. Walton

Members Absent: M. Zmuda

Staff Present: M. Bouchard, J. Harrison, A. Myles-Primakoff, S. Sargent, T. Bartholomew,
C. Fromson, P. Shrestha, D. Seamans, K. Scribner, M. Tseng

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Jeff Gee called the meeting to order at 9:01 am and Director Chavez led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Roll Call

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

3. Consideration of requests, if any, of Directors to participate remotely due to Emergency Circumstances – There were no requests made.

4. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Aleta Dupree commented on wanting to experience the new Caltrain soon and the importance of continuing work with Clipper.

5. Report of the Executive Director

Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director, provided a report which included the following:

- Partial weekend shutdowns held in February and March to accommodate targeted construction activities between San Francisco and Millbrae. Ms. Bouchard thanked staff station ambassadors for volunteering to help customers understand the changes and navigate the bus bridge service.
- Special Board Workshop on Caltrain's financial outlook on March 29th - the railroad continues to face serious fiscal challenges despite closing the PCEP (Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project) funding gap. This will allow Board Members to weigh in on priorities regarding service scenarios, state of good repair needs, member contributions, and Measure RR funding.
- March 15th Appreciation Event with Representatives Kevin Mullin, Anna Eshoo, and other key supporters who have championed the importance of finding additional funding for the Electrification Program, culminating in last month's announcement of the \$367 million TIRCP (Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program) award.
- Go Pass Donation Program - continue to encourage organizations serving low-income and marginalized communities to apply to the Go Pass Donation Program and help drive ridership growth. Recipients of donated Go Passes completed over 20,000 rides on Caltrain in 2022 alone and half of these riders were also new to the Caltrain system.

- Diridon Plaza TOD (Transit-Oriented Development) Community Meeting – was held earlier this week and Caltrain staff participated in a virtual community meeting hosted by the City of San Jose on the Diridon Plaza Transit Oriented Development project.
- New draft of the CARB (California Air Resources Board) In-Use regulation was released and under staff review and staff will submit comments during the comment period. A notable change in the draft was the inclusion of the alternative fleet milestone option, as a better compliance path for Caltrain, as the railroad transitions to a fully zero emissions fleet. Ms. Bouchard thanked CARB director, Davina Hert, and other CARB Board members and staff for their continued advocacy.

Public Comment

Jeff Carter, Millbrae, complimented staff on the bus bridge this past weekend and inquired whether there will be any open houses with the EMU (electric multiple unit).

Adina Levin, Friends of Caltrain, commented on the finance workshop and the need to include the two-year budget cycle and long-term diversification of the rider base on the agenda.

Adrian Brandt commented on the proof of payment fare collection model that is being used and voiced his concerns with how it is being administered.

Aleta Dupree commented that funding is essential for finishing the electrification project.

6. Consent Calendar

- 6.a. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2023 and Work-Program-Legislative-Planning (WPLP) Minutes of January 26, 2023**
- 6.b. Chief Financial Officer Update on Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending January 31, 2023**
- 6.c. Authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) For Planning of the San Francisco Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) Enabling Work at 4th and King Railyard** *Approved by Resolution 2023-14*
- 6.d. Authorize Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) for Salinas Extension** *Approved by Resolution 2023-15*
- 6.e. Authorize Use of Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC) Project Delivery Method for the Broadway Grade Separation Project** *Approved by Resolution 2023-16*
- 6.f. Capital Projects Quarterly Status Report - 2nd Quarter Fiscal Year 2023**
- 6.g. State and Federal Legislative Update and Approval of Legislative Proposal: Support ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry)**
- 6.h. Link21 Update**
- 6.i. San Francisco Downtown Rail Extension (DTX) Project Update**
- 6.j. Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)/Regional Update**

Director Chavez pulled Item 6.d for further comment and discussion. The Board had a robust discussion on TAMC service and adding another train, which included the following:

- Ms. Bouchard thanked Sam Sergeant and VTA (Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority) staff for engaging on all issues, acknowledged a concrete plan for a fourth train to Gilroy in fiscal year 2025, and reaffirmed a commitment to South County for the extension. An extension to Gilroy would build more demand and provide ridership to Gilroy line up into the main corridor.
- Director Chavez expressed concern a loss of opportunities for current partners as we reach out to future partners and received clarification and confirmation from staff on the intent, taking action today, and future processes to reinforce prioritization of the expanded level of service. The intended purpose is to continue the possible partnership with Monterey County and assure people of Gilroy and Morgan Hill of their needs and requests.
- Sam Sergeant, Director of Policy and Strategy, responded to and will provide more details to Director Burt's inquiry about insights on ridership estimates from TAMC extension and stops planned for population centers between Salinas and Gilroy.

Public Comment

Gilroy Mayor Marie Blankley spoke on language regarding Salinas extension feasibility study from 2020 and how it is not enough without reference to the promised expanded service to Gilroy. She asked for equitable service to Gilroy and Morgan Hill before expanding service elsewhere.

Todd Muck, TAMC Executive Director commented on supporting increased service to Gilroy. He expressed disappointment in making it a condition to provide service to Salinas and said tying service to Gilroy will add another layer of complication that is not necessary or helpful.

Adrian Brandt commented that serving Salinas and intermediate stations will increase demand even on the existing stations as well as concerns on ridership and frequency.

Motion/Second: Chavez/Davis moved approval with an amendment to add a fourth train for more service in advance of expansion further South and any change would return to the Board for approval.

Ayes: Burt, Chavez, Heminger, Medina, Mueller, Walton, Davis, Gee

Noes: None

Absent: Zmuda

7. Women's History Month Resolution

Tasha Bartholomew, Communications Manager, provided highlights on the resolution and shared information on hosting a Women's leadership brown bag reception that will feature Michelle Bouchard along with other female leaders in the agency.

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree expressed appreciation for educational component and supported resolution.

Motion/Second: Davis/Chavez moved to approve with amendment to 6d

Ayes: Burt, Chavez, Heminger, Medina, Mueller, Walton, Davis, Gee

Noes: None

Absent: Zmuda

8. Reports

8.a. Report of the Citizens Advisory Committee

David Tuzman, Vice Chair, provided an update on CAC discussions regarding:

- Members of the public shared concerns on the following: lack of weekend shutdown directional signage at Millbrae, getting better search engine results for timely information on the weekend shutdowns and asked for a new approach to track ridership with fare structures, such as distanced based and other equitable strategies.
- Presentation of roles, responsibilities, and timeline of the CAC body and review of the Measure RR audit, and a suggestion to post information on the CAC webpage.
- Presentation of TAMC JPB MOU regarding extension of Caltrain service from Gilroy to Salinas. Staff clarified that the mainline schedule will not be adjusted to accommodate additional service.
- A Member indicated fare evasion statistics seemed very low. Staff stated the number of citations does not equal to number of passengers found without proof of payment. 800 passengers were told to leave train without citation. CAC members stated this is not best practice and to rethink policy.
- A Member requested vehicle on the tracks data also include time of day in order to help formulate a suitable treatment around those crossings that are problematic.
- Chair Gee requested clarification on the fare evasion component. Ms. Bouchard will review the fare policy for areas where correction is needed in the field and follow up at next meeting.

8.b. Report of the Chair

Chair Gee expressed gratitude to Directors and staff with the launch of the new committee structure and how it will allow detailed conversations.

8.c. Report of the Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)

Chair Burt provided an update on LPMG discussions regarding the following:

- The focus of the group this year is the grade separation initiative, supporting it, being informed, and working with staff on upgraded technical standards and driving down costs in the corridor. The role of cities in working with Caltrain to have a comprehensive funding approach.
- Consider the future leadership role for Caltrain on the corridor-wide grade separation and funding for this mega project.
- Couple of alternatives in what Caltrain's future role will be in the corridor-wide grade separation and the prospect of Caltrain moving into the leadership role in a mega project type of funding for the grade separations.

8.d. Report of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA)

Chair Gee reported on the February meeting, the Board authorized the executive director to request industry engineering and to take all necessary steps to do that. He noted that this will be a regular agenda item for Caltrain Advocacy and Major Projects (AMP) Committee Meetings.

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree commented on seeing the value in de-escalation for fare evasion.

Adrian Brandt commented on the fare evasion topic and said the critical point to remember is proof of payment and risk for fine. For LPMG, he expressed concern that transit funds are not used for grade separations.

9. Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project (PCEP) Monthly Progress Report

Pranaya Shrestha, CalMod Chief Officer and Casey Fromson, Chief Communications Officer, provided the presentation, which included the following information:

- Service date reconfirmed for Fall 2024, budget remains at \$2.44 billion, and they successfully completed signal install and testing.
- First two weekend shutdowns completed in February and three more in March are scheduled.
- Next two electric trainsets expected to arrive in April 2023.
- The short circuit testing for the electric trains from Santa Clara to San Jose failed and both Balfour Beatty and Caltrain have independent audits underway before new test dates will be determined.
- Balfour Beatty configuration management issues identified and are being currently addressed.
- No payments to Balfour Beatty since December and continuing to withhold payments until they meet full contract requirements and have a clear workplan and schedule.
- Phase 1 of shutdowns were coordinated with BART for closures from San Francisco to Millbrae.
- Phase 2 shutdowns are from Millbrae to Hillsdale. Bus bridge being provided to those who absolutely need it and strongly encouraging alternate transportation.
- The Board had a robust discussion with clarifying questions and feedback to staff on the need for a successful project to be completed with revenue service by September 2024.

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree commented on seeing a typo for linear miles but should be linear feet and expressed concern on the failed electrical tests.

Jeff Carter spoke in support of Board Member comments and expressed interest in hearing more about the short circuit test failures.

Jay Adams said he viewed the videos of the new electric trains and noticed that there is one restroom on trains, and he said there should be two or one restroom on each car. He also requested information on the number of cars on electric trains and the frequency.

Adrian Brandt spoke in support of the Board comments.

Doug DeLong expressed concerns with Balfour Beatty's management, bandwidth, and management experience.

Adina Levin commented on the importance of documentation and noted that inaccurate earlier documentation on things that happened earlier has impacted electrification, and the responsibility to ensure accurate documentation is maintained for future generations.

10. Correspondence

Chair Gee noted the correspondence was available online.

11. Board Member Requests

There were no Board Member requests.

12. Date/Time of Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 9:00 am.

The meeting will be accessible via Zoom and in person at the San Mateo County Transit District, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA.

13. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 am

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at www.Caltrain.com. Questions may be referred to the Board Secretary's office by phone at 650.508.6242 or by email to Board@Caltrain.com.