

Caltrain State and Federal Legislative Update

JPB AMP Meeting
July 26, 2023



Federal

- Rail Safety Act (S. 576)
 - Would place new regulations on rail operators with hazardous substances on their lines
 - Passed Senate Commerce Committee
- Appropriations Process
 - THUD bill advanced out of House Appropriations Committee last week
 - Bill will move to full House for passage but Senate bill version expected to be very different
- Federal Community Project Requests
 - \$500k in community project request from Congressman Mullin and \$500k from Congresswoman Eshoo included for Caltrain's Grade Crossing Improvements Project
 - Project encompasses important safety improvements at six crossings

State

- Legislature
 - Legislature adjourned for Summer Recess until August 14
- State Budget
 - The state budget was passed and signed which restores \$2 billion to the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program, and commits \$1.1 billion for the newly created Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program which will be distributed by formula and can be used for either operations or capital
 - Funding for Bay Area transit agencies will be allocated by MTC
- CalSTA Award
 - Funding for Caltrain's Battery-Equipped Electric Multiple Unit (BEMU) pilot demonstration project was awarded by CalSTA for not to exceed \$80M and allocation is anticipated at the August CTC meeting

Legislative Proposal: Support SB 410

- SB 410 (Becker) – Powering Up Californians Act.
 - Senator Becker introduced SB 410
 - Bill would make it state policy that investor-owned utilities should do everything needed to prepare the grid for the transportation and building electrification needed to meet “state decarbonization goals and federal, state, regional, and local air quality and decarbonization standards, plans, and regulations.” The bill applies to “light-duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty vehicles and off-road vehicles, vessels, trains, and equipment.”
 - **Recommend Support**

Legislative Proposal: Support SB 532

- SB 532 (Wiener) – San Francisco Bay area toll bridges: tolls: transit operating expenses.
 - Senator Wiener introduced SB 532
 - Bill would increase the toll for vehicles for crossing toll bridges in the Bay Area by \$1.50 for five years, and require the revenues collected from this toll to be used by MTC for allocation to Bay Area transit operators that are experiencing an operations funding challenge.
 - Any transit operator seeking an allocation would be required to submit a 5-year projection of its operating need.
 - **Recommend Support**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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