



JPB Board of Directors
Meeting of August 2, 2023

Correspondence as of August 3, 2023

<u>#</u>	<u>Subject</u>
1	FW_ Please forward this to Chairman Jeff Gee - thank you
2	RE_ Problem with policy_staff
3	RE_ Train noise has become UNBEARABLE in Palo Alto

From: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Board (@caltrain.com))
To: [Gee, Jeff \[jgee@redwoodcity.org\]](mailto:Gee, Jeff [jgee@redwoodcity.org])
Subject: FW: Please forward this to Chairman Jeff Gee - thank you
Date: Monday, July 31, 2023 8:06:17 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.emz](#)
[image004.png](#)

FYI

From: Jeff <jeffmarinoff@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 30, 2023 10:50 PM
To: Board (@caltrain.com) <board@caltrain.com>
Subject: Please forward this to Chairman Jeff Gee - thank you

You don't often get email from jeffmarinoff@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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[CALTRAIN ELECTRIFICATION SPECIAL EVENT SAN JOSE 07-29-23](#)



CALTRAIN ELECTRIFICATION SPECIAL EVENT
SAN JOSE 07-29-23

Hi Jeff,
Congratulations on the electrification of Caltrain. I am a lifelong proponent and advocate of electric mass transit. Over the many years, I've seen far too many overhead catenary wires cut down. It does my heart good to see what's happening at Caltrain. Many transit systems can take a lesson from what you're doing.

That was a great, well run, well attended special event that you had at San Jose on July 29, 2023 to preview your new MU train sets. From the video I saw, the public seemed to be quite enthusiastic. It was great for promoting the use of mass transit. By the way, I hope the automobile that was raffled off was electric. Does Caltrain have charging facilities for electric vehicles at your station parking lots? We do at N. J. Transit.

Would you be so kind as to send me one of the Stadler E MU models for my collection. It would be a treasured prize. An event ticket would also be sincerely appreciated, as would one of those black t-shirts (XL). I also thought I saw a small pennant in the video.

I thank you very much and I look forward to hearing from you.

Jeff Marinoff

E-Mail: jeffmarinoff@yahoo.com

Mailing address: 1. South Vassar Square - Ventnor City, N.J. 08406

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NJ TRANSIT



JEFFREY MARINOFF

2ND VICE CHAIR


SOUTH JERSEY TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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ONE PENN PLAZA EAST
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A man in a red t-shirt and sunglasses is smiling and holding up a raffle ticket. The ticket is white with a red Caltrain logo and the text "ELECTRIC TRAIN MODEL". He is standing under a white canopy tent. To his left, a woman in a black t-shirt and red sunglasses is taking a photo with her smartphone. In the foreground, a person's arm is visible holding a camera. To the right, a man in a black t-shirt and a grey cap is partially visible. A podium with the Caltrain logo is in the foreground. In the background, there are trees and a sign with rules like "One vehicle per space", "No Camping", and "No Loitering".

ELECTRIC TRAIN MODEL RAFFLE PRIZES

HO SCALE?





WV
AD

CHANGING
TABLE

EMERGENCY
UNLOCK
SWITCH UP

→ OF

Welcome
Aboard



TRASH
RECYCLE

Caltrain

ELECTRIC TRAIN TOUR

SATURDAY JULY 29, 2023



CHAN

C



Caltrain

**ELECTRIC
TRAIN TOUR**

Group #3





JEFFREY MARINOFF WITH MODEL
He'll present it to Muni manager
—Examiner Photo

Electric Transit Buff Hails BART

It's not surprising for Jeffrey B. Marinoff to say that BART trains are what other communities are looking for — quiet and non-polluting transportation.

The 27 year old transportation consultant from Ventnor City, N.J., who took his vacation to coincide with BART's opening, is an avid promotor of electric-powered transit.

So enthusiastic is he, that he also has a hobby of building models of electric - powered transit vehicles. Which is the second reason he came to San Francisco.

His mission this week — after riding BART trains most of last week — is to present a handmade 18-inch model of a new type of electric bus to John M. Woods, general manager of the Municipal Railway.

Exact Scale Model

"It's an exact scale model of the experimental bus the Muni has ordered from Flyer Industries of Winnipeg, Canada," he said.

"It is ridiculous to even think of putting Diesel buses on Market Street when the beautification is finished. The trolley flyer is far better and the overhead trolley wires could be so designed so they wouldn't even be noticeable."

The Canadian-built bus will be delivered late this year to the General Electric plant in Emeryville for installation of the motor and control equipment. Overall cost is \$42,500.

Marinoff rode the first BART train to roll out of the Lake Merritt station on opening day, Sept. 11.

Prop. 20 Trip

Mills Charges PG&E Spying

SAN LUIS OBISPO — (UPI) — A state senator leading a group of bicycle riders on a 600-mile coastal journey in support of Proposition 20, the coastline initiative, has charged PG&E with assigning "hired hands" to trail the cyclists.

Senate leader James R. Mills also said yesterday as the group stopped over here that PG&E was misrepresenting the proposition.

Mills, a San Diego Democrat, said "not only is PG&E opposing the initiative, but it has assigned some of its hired hands to follow the Proposition 20 bicycle riders down the coast."

Company Cars

"These portly gentlemen in their big company cars have been trailing us since we left San Francisco last Thursday, misrepresenting

the facts, as PG&E spokesmen do, whenever they are told to," Mills declared in a statement.

"I wonder if the PG&E stockholders and ratepayers approve of its employes dogging a group of cyclists down the California coast," Mills said.

"I think their time would be better spent preventing the kind of degradation of California which PG&E has become famous for."

Master Plan

The initiative, which is supported by conservationists, would create state and regional commissions to regulate coastal development while a state panel draws up a masterplan for the shore areas.

The California Coastal Alliance, which sponsored the proposition, also has enlisted the help of cartoon character Dennis the Menace.

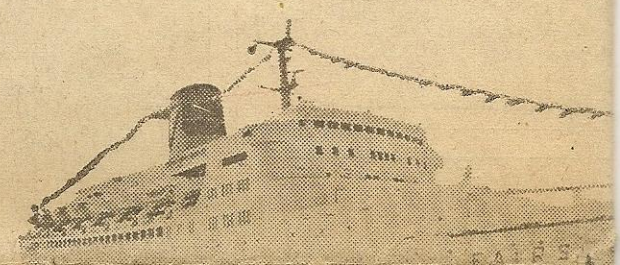
One of the cartoons to be used in the campaign for the measure will show Dennis returning from a family outing and remarking to a young friend:

"We went to the beach but it was gone."

Bank Director

LOS ANGELES — Walter B. Gerken, president of Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Co., was elected to Security Pacific National Bank's board of directors.

THE GREAT CR ENTIRE



From: [Sarah Nabong](#)
To: [Nick Carbone](#); [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)
Subject: RE: Problem with policy/staff
Date: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 9:52:31 AM

Dear Nick Carbone,

Your message to the Caltrain Board of Directors was referred to me for response. The Board members will receive a copy of our correspondence.

Thank you for contacting Caltrain, though we regret it was due to issues with our service. We are in receipt of your correspondence, please note this has been filed as Report #896331.

In order to aid us in our investigation, would you mind giving us a little more detail? If possible, would you be able to provide location at which this occurred, direction traveling, and train number?

We know it is extra hassle on top of everything else you have had to deal with but providing us with such information will help the process immensely.

We sincerely apologize for the trouble.

Best regards,

From: Nick Carbone <italianguy91@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2023 5:22 PM
To: Board (@caltrain.com) <board@caltrain.com>
Subject: Problem with policy/staff

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Please tell me why a group of 3 in front of my girlfriend and I who had their hand holding open the door to board the train last minute were allowed on, but the two of us directly behind them were not? It was still 4:59 and the train departs at 4:59. A staff member pushed us back off the train. Please tell me why this happening?

I tried to submit a feedback notice, but it doesn't work.

Thanks,

From: [Lori Low](#)
To: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)
Cc: [Burt, Pat \[Pat.burt@cityofpaloalto.org\]](#); [Lydia.Kou@cityofpaloalto.org](#); [Ed.Lauing@CityofPaloAlto.org](#); [Julie.LythcottHaims@CityofPaloAlto.org](#); [Greer.Stone@CityofPaloAlto.org](#); [Greg.Tanaka@cityofpaloalto.org](#); [Vicki.Veenker@CityofPaloAlto.org](#); [Sarah Nabong](#)
Subject: RE: Train noise has become UNBEARABLE in Palo Alto
Date: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 5:25:11 PM

Dear Dr. Stillinger,

Thank you for reaching out. We sincerely apologize for the disturbance. As a public service, the last thing we want to be is a nuisance to the communities we serve. As you mentioned, the application of horns and bells by our trains is done as a safety precaution, and their use is regulated by Federal law.

Nevertheless, we at Caltrain understand noise pollution is a frustrating problem, and we are doing what we can to reduce horn usage while still adhering to Federal regulations. For example, we were able to shorten the necessary pattern at our stations that had platforms and tracks separate from the street in 2017, and we have supervisors making regular inspections to ensure our horn use remains only as loud and as long as necessary. We know this does not entirely eliminate the problem, but we are doing all we can to be the best neighbor possible.

As you know, the City of Palo Alto and Caltrain are working on [Connecting Palo Alto](#), a project that would separate the train tracks from the road at E. Meadow, Charleston and Churchill. These are long-term safety improvement solutions **that will significantly reduce train horn noise in the community**. Grade separations and closures remove the requirement that the train use the horn when going through a railroad crossing as vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle travel will be separated from train travel due to the elimination of the crossing. Note that train horns can still be used under emergency circumstances, due to construction crews, or at the engineer's discretion for safety purposes.

Once more, we apologize for the trouble, and we thank you for taking the time to reach out to us. Please feel free to reach out to Caltrain [customer service](#) at 1.800.660.4287 anytime. Individuals can also sign up for a [weekly notice](#) to stay up to date on the latest construction activities.

Best,

Lori Low

From: Connie Stillinger <stillinger@protonmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2023 8:18 PM
To: Board (@caltrain.com) <board@caltrain.com>
Cc: Burt, Pat [Pat.burt@cityofpaloalto.org] <Pat.Burt@CityofPaloAlto.org>; Lydia.Kou@cityofpaloalto.org; Ed.Lauing@CityofPaloAlto.org; Julie.LythcottHaims@CityofPaloAlto.org; Greer.Stone@CityofPaloAlto.org; Greg.Tanaka@cityofpaloalto.org; Vicki.Veenker@CityofPaloAlto.org
Subject: Train noise has become UNBEARABLE in Palo Alto

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ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders.

The train noise in Palo Alto has become UNBEARABLE recently. I live next to the tracks, not far from the Meadow street crossing and lately there has been absolutely no break from the bells, the shrieking horns, and the roaring trains.

Seriously, I'm not sure any of you actually care about the residents around here, but this is unbearable. Electrification will help only marginally because the horns and crossing bells won't change, nor will the sound from the rolling trains.

The increasingly impossible traffic is a topic for another time.

It's time to stop dithering around and wasting money, make a decision about the grade separation and get it done. In the meantime you should be reviewing the policy to blast the train horns at arbitrary levels whenever the driver seems to feel like it. Don't hide behind the Feds on this either -- there are always exemptions and exceptions. And don't hide behind safety excuses either -- train crossing accidents at crossings happen because of suicides or driver stupidity which are not affected by horns.

Thank you, I guess.

Dr. Constance Stillinger
4055 Park Blvd
Palo Alto 94306
stillinger@protonmail.com
650-380-2018