

**Bicycle and Active
Transportation Advisory
Committee**

Correspondence as of

September 19, 2023

From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain Successfully Completes Three Major Milestones Towards Completion of Electrification Project
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 3:20:10 PM

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NEWS

September 18, 2023
Media Contacts: Dan Lieberman

Caltrain Successfully Completes Three Major Milestones Towards Completion of Electrification Project

Caltrain today announced that it has completed the installation of every pole for the Overhead Contact System (OCS), which provides power to the electric trains, upgraded the signal system that allow electric trains to operate along the Caltrain corridor and successfully tested the new electric trains at maximum track speed of 79 mph. These three major milestones bring the Caltrain Electrification Project closer to passenger service in fall 2024.

Caltrain and contractor Balfour Beatty have worked to install 2,569 pre-engineered poles and upgraded the existing signal system that will allow the electric trains to operate in an electrified corridor along the nearly 160-year-old right-of-way, which has continued to be active railroad during this process. The work in upgrading the existing signal system included upgrading every grade crossing on the electrified corridor. The steel poles were safely lifted and elevated into place and then mounted on concrete foundation, a process that involved ongoing collaboration and hours of work around the clock to complete. A video of the final pole installation can be found [here](#).

With the final OCS pole installed, crews can now hang the last of the wire, as well as finish the final work on the OCS that will provide power to the electric trains, which will be tested along the full corridor from San Francisco to San Jose later this year.

Additionally, Caltrain and the vehicle manufacturer Stadler, have successfully run tests using the OCS and the upgraded signal system with the new electric trains operating at maximum track speed to ensure that

all the individual systems are working together as intended. Cameras were placed atop the trains to ensure that the interface between the pantograph on the train and the OCS was fully integrated and operating as designed and constructed. The trains were first tested at walking speed and with each subsequent test the speed was increased until reaching the maximum authorized track speed of 79 miles per hour.

“These three milestones are a big step forward for the Caltrain Electrification Project and we’re now even closer to completing this transformative project,” said Caltrain’s Executive Director Michelle Bouchard. “I’m grateful to the tireless work of our staff and partners who have gotten us to this point, and I’m excited for the public to have another chance to see these world class trains this Saturday in San Francisco.”

The South San Francisco Traction Power Facility went live in August, making it possible to fully power the entire Caltrain electrified corridor once the testing and OCS is complete this fall. Trains are currently being tested on the southern end of the corridor and will be expanding to more parts of the system in the months to come.

The 51-mile Caltrain Electrification Project will be the first 25KV OCS system on the west coast and will provide power to the new [state-of-the-art-electric trains](#).

As crews continue to install more poles and wire for the electrification system, Caltrain is embarking on a public outreach campaign to educate passengers, residents and businesses about best safety practices along the corridor. The agency has sent out mailers, hosted community meetings and embarked on social media campaigns to remind everyone that all overhead wires on Caltrain property should be assumed to be energized now. More safety information about Caltrain Electrification is available [here](#).

The electrification of the Caltrain system will deliver major benefits to the communities that it serves. Electrification will reduce Caltrain’s greenhouse gas emissions and eliminate the particulate matter caused by the aging diesel engines. Engine noise created by the trains will also be reduced.

Service will become both more frequent and more comfortable as state-of-the-art electric trains replace the 30-year-old diesel fleet. Caltrain electrification has also created thousands of jobs locally and throughout the country, both to electrify the corridor and to assemble the new trains, which were [debuted to the public](#) in July and are available for a public tour in San Francisco on Saturday, [September 23](#). The infrastructure that is being installed will be compatible with future high-speed rail on the corridor.

###

About Caltrain: Owned and operated by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, Caltrain provides rail service from San Francisco to San Jose, with commute service to Gilroy. Serving the region since 1863, Caltrain is the oldest continually operating rail system west of the Mississippi. Looking to the future, Caltrain is set to electrify the corridor by 2024, which will reduce diesel emissions and add more service to more stations while advancing the agency's equity goals.

Follow Caltrain on [Facebook](#) and [X](#).

Free translation assistance is available.

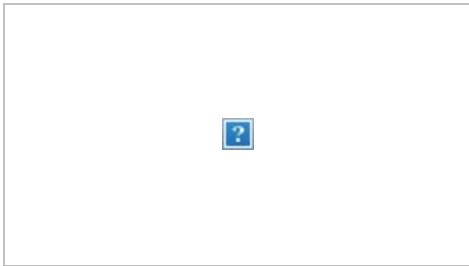
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From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain to Operate New Schedule Starting this Fall
Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 10:58:37 AM

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NEWS

September 13, 2023

Media Contact: Dan Lieberman, 650.622.2492

Caltrain to Operate New Schedule Starting this Fall

On September 25, Caltrain will operate a new [weekday schedule](#) that will align better with new BART schedule at Millbrae, provide faster local trains in the evening, increase Gilroy service with a fourth roundtrip train and temporarily adjust service to/from Tamien Station to accommodate midday work on the Guadalupe Bridge Rehabilitation Project. Caltrain will continue to run its highest ever level of service, with 104 trains every weekday.

The weekday schedule will be adjusted to better align [Caltrain/BART transfers](#) at Millbrae with BART's schedule change effective September 11, 2023. Evening Local trains will operate with improved runtimes.

Caltrain will add a fourth daily round trip on weekdays and adjust Gilroy service on weekdays based on feedback received from the South County Survey conducted in June 2023. In the morning, Train 305 will now start at Gilroy Station departing at 7:29 a.m. and stop at all stations between Gilroy and San Jose Diridon. Afternoon Train 308 and Train 410 will arrive at Gilroy at 5:40 p.m. and 6:17 p.m. respectively and stop at all stations between San Jose Diridon and Gilroy. Train 412 will end at San Jose Diridon at 6:27 p.m. Train 310 will be the last train of the day serving stops between Capitol and Gilroy.

Trains 107, 108, 112, 113, 116, 117, 120, 121, 125 and 313 will temporarily not serve Tamien Station to accommodate work on the

[Guadalupe Bridge Rehabilitation Project.](#)

Northbound Train 143 will depart San Jose Diridon Station later at 10:30 p.m. to improve evening post-event service from the South Bay.

Caltrain will continue to have temporary weekend service shutdowns throughout the rest of 2023 to finish critical Caltrain Electrification construction and testing. Learn more at caltrain.com/status.

More details on BART service can be found at www.bart.gov.

Caltrain also recently began offering four new fare promotions, offering discounts for [families, groups, youth and hybrid workers](#). Additionally, parking at Caltrain stations is 50% off, costing only \$2.75 to park for the day.

###

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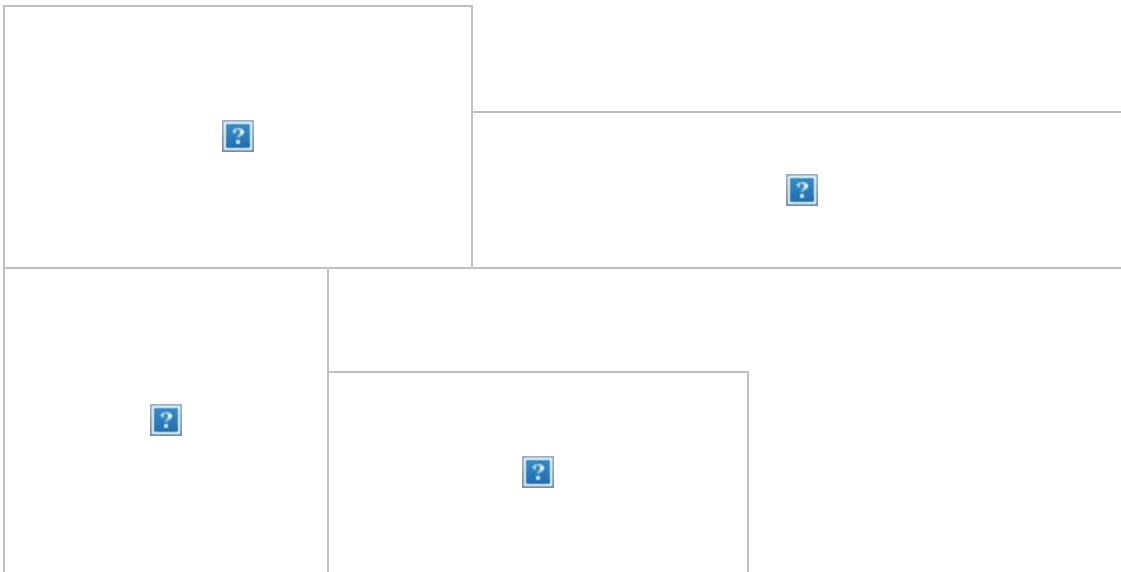
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From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: More Weekday Caltrain Service from Gilroy/Morgan Hill to San Francisco
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:12:48 AM

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NEWS

September 12, 2023

Media Contact: Dan Lieberman, 650.622.2492

More Weekday Caltrain Service from Gilroy/Morgan Hill to San Francisco

Caltrain, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), and the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill are thrilled to announce a significant enhancement to the weekday Caltrain service that will further strengthen the transportation network for South County residents. Starting Monday, September 25, a fourth train will be introduced to the Gilroy/Morgan Hill morning and evening weekday service, offering commuters greater flexibility and convenience when traveling by Caltrain.

The decision to expand the service comes as a result of collaborative efforts between Caltrain, VTA, and the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill, with a strong focus on improving accessibility and connectivity for residents in these areas. The additional train aims to accommodate the

growing demand for commuter rail services, ultimately enhancing the overall transportation experience.

This development has been met with enthusiastic support from local officials and community leaders, recognizing its significance in addressing the region's transit needs.

Gilroy Mayor Marie Blankley expressed her excitement, saying, "We are ecstatic about the expansion of weekday Caltrain service from Gilroy and Morgan Hill to San Francisco. Until now, weekday service from Gilroy has been limited to three, sometimes two trains. This enhancement to a four-train schedule will provide our residents with more convenient and reliable transit options, reducing congestion on our roads and contributing to a greener, more sustainable future. While we are not yet where we'd like to be, it's a significant step forward in making Gilroy and Morgan Hill even more connected to the job growth of the wider Bay Area, fostering economic growth that includes south Santa Clara County, and improving the quality of life for our communities."

Commenting on the collaborative effort that brought the fourth train to South County, Morgan Hill Mayor Mark Turner added, "The addition of the fourth train is both a short-term and long-term victory for South County residents. A lot of credit goes to those staff members from Morgan Hill and Gilroy who have remained committed to seeing this day come to fruition. My sincerest gratitude to the Caltrain and VTA Board and staff for their part in bringing this fourth train to South County. Generating more connectivity options to other Bay Area locations through mass transit positively impacts our environment. Caltrain's vision and efforts toward electrification will be an additional benefit by reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

"Caltrain will soon offer the best rail service South County has ever seen," said Jeff Gee, Chair of the Caltrain Board of Directors. "We want to make sure that everyone can take advantage of all the benefits Caltrain has to offer, and with this fourth train, residents all over South County can find out for themselves."

County Supervisor, Caltrain Board of Director Representative, and VTA Board Vice Chair Cindy Chavez added, "I am thrilled about the addition of a fourth train to Morgan Hill and Gilroy. This is an important connector for South County and has been a long time coming."

To ensure that the new schedule aligns with the needs and preferences of commuters, Caltrain conducted a survey in June 2023 to gather feedback. The new train service was adjusted based on the valuable insights received from the community, making it a truly customer-centric initiative.

For more information about the expanded Caltrain service and to stay

updated on the latest developments, please visit Caltrain's official website.

Joint Press Conference to Celebrate the Fourth Train

Caltrain, VTA, and the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill will be holding a joint press conference to celebrate the fourth train on its first day of service. The press conference will take place at the Gilroy Transit Center, located at 7250 Monterey Highway, Gilroy, California, at 7 a.m. Following the press conference, the members of the press are invited to join elected officials in riding the 7:29 a.m. train from Gilroy to Morgan Hill.

What: Joint Press Conference to Celebrate the Fourth Train

When: September 25, 2023 at 7 a.m.

Where: Gilroy Transit Center, 7250 Monterey Highway, Gilroy

Speakers: Mayor Marie Blankley, Mayor Mark Turner, Board Representative Cindy Chavez, and Board Chair Jeff Gee

###

About Caltrain: Owned and operated by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, Caltrain provides rail service from San Francisco to San Jose, with commute service to Gilroy. Serving the region since 1863, Caltrain is the oldest continually operating rail system west of the Mississippi. Looking to the future, Caltrain is set to electrify the corridor by 2024, which will reduce diesel emissions and add more service to more stations while advancing the agency's equity goals.

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From: [Lori Low](#)
To: [Jamie Perkins](#)
Subject: RE: Caltrain September Service Change - Details
Date: Friday, September 15, 2023 5:01:00 PM

Awesome, thank you!

From: Jamie Perkins <jamieperkins@sfhs.com>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 3:59 PM
To: Lori Low <LowL@caltrain.com>
Subject: Re: Caltrain September Service Change - Details

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Thanks, Lori. We have the promotional fares content shared with our community and will also include the service update. Thanks for sending.

Jamie



On Fri, Sep 15, 2023 at 3:39 PM Lori Low <LowL@caltrain.com> wrote:

Hi Jamie,

Thanks so much for sharing the promotional fare information with your community! Below are more details on the September service change. We'd be very appreciative if you could share this information as well. Thanks!

Best,
Lori

---SEPTEMBER SERVICE CHANGE INFO---

On September 25, Caltrain will operate a new weekday schedule that will align better with the

new BART schedule at Millbrae, provide faster local trains in the evening, increase Gilroy service with a fourth roundtrip train and temporarily adjust service to/from Tamien Station to accommodate midday work on the Guadalupe Bridge Rehabilitation Project. Caltrain will continue to run its highest ever level of service, with 104 trains every weekday. More information and a PDF of the schedule can be found at:

<https://www.caltrain.com/news/caltrain-operate-new-schedule-starting-fall>

From: Jamie Perkins <jamielperkins@sfhs.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 12:45 PM
To: Lori Low <LowL@caltrain.com>
Subject: Re: Caltrain service change and \$1 youth fares

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Hi Lori,

Thank you for sharing the updates. This is very helpful for our community. We will certainly share this out, and once you have the service change announcement, we will make sure to share that as well.

Regards,
Jamie



On Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 4:08 PM Lori Low <LowL@caltrain.com> wrote:

Hi Jamie,

Hope you're doing well. I wanted to share some Caltrain news with you. First, we have a service change coming up on 9/25. Once the new schedule is posted, I'll send you the link and press release and it would be great if you could let your school community know.

Separately, we're thrilled to announce that a range of [new promotional fares](#) are now available

to customers including a \$1 youth pass. This is an incredible offer for our younger riders, and this pass provides one-way rides for just one dollar.

We believe these new offerings not only enhance the value of our service but also highlight our commitment to making travel more accessible and affordable for a diverse range of passengers. To help promote these exciting fare products we have attached shareable graphics for use on social media. We hope you'll help spread the word.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to Caltrain. Together, we're moving forward toward electrification and putting the needs of our riders at the forefront.

Lori Low, Manager, Government & Community Affairs

1250 San Carlos Ave San Carlos, CA 94070

Cell Phone: 650.740.6264

Email: lowl@caltrain.com

Website: Caltrain

Caltrain logo with Safety Tagline



Caltrain logo with Safety Tagline



From: abuniem@samtrans.com on behalf of [Mahmoud Abunie](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain Recognizes September as Rail Safety & Suicide Prevention Month
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 2:00:10 PM

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NEWS

September 5, 2023

Media Contact: Mahmoud Abunie, 650.730.6201

Caltrain Recognizes September as Rail Safety & Suicide Prevention Month

Trains have been running service on the Caltrain corridor since 1863, making the sight of trains going up and down the peninsula a regular occurrence. However, complacency around heavy commuter trains can lead to tragedy if one fails to use common sense and comply with safety guidelines.

To highlight the importance of safety around train tracks and the high rate of intentional deaths on the rails, Caltrain participates in Rail Safety & Suicide Prevention Month. A proclamation to that effect goes before the Caltrain Board of Directors at its meeting on September 7.

“Safety is paramount at Caltrain, and ensuring our daily train service is safe from San Francisco to Gilroy is our highest priority,” said Caltrain Executive Director Michelle Bouchard. “At Caltrain, safety is a core value that we practice every day, and while we use this month to get the word out about how to stay safe around our trains, we stay committed to making this railroad safe year-round.”

In honor of Rail Safety & Suicide Prevention Month, Caltrain will be promoting rail safety tips and suicide prevention resources on its various social media platforms. Caltrain also is planning two rail safety events in September to engage community members.

On September 19 Caltrain and the Transit Police unit will be doing a Rail Safety Blitz event to educate drivers and pedestrians at specified grade crossings with rail safety educational brochures. In addition, Caltrain will be hosting a rail safety booth at the agency’s next public [Electric Train Tour](#) event Saturday, September 23.

Also, the railroad has historically collaborated with suicide prevention agencies to prevent intentional deaths on the rails by posting crisis hotline signage at stations and points all along the corridor. Caltrain has been partnering with local behavioral and mental health organizations in San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties for years.

Caltrain addresses safety through a comprehensive, ongoing program that focuses on the “Three E’s” of railroad safety – Education, Engineering and Enforcement. For the last 20 years, Caltrain has planned or participated in an annual rail safety event in conjunction with Operation Lifesaver. Since 2009, [California Operation Lifesaver](#) has declared September as Rail Safety Month. As one of the nonprofit organization’s community partners, Caltrain joins in their efforts to promote rail safety initiatives.

To be a part of the conversation during Rail Safety & Suicide Prevention Month, passengers and local residents can pick a favorite safety tip and share it on social media with #CaltrainSafe and #RailSafety.

Examples of tips:

- If you encounter an emergency on Caltrain or see something suspicious, call the Transit Police at 1.877.SAF.RAIL (1.877.723.7245).
- A typical Caltrain train can take nearly a mile to stop, even when emergency brakes are applied.
- It is never safe to stop closer than 15 feet from the rails, and a train is at least three feet wider than tracks on both sides.
- Only cross Caltrain tracks at designated crossings when it is safe to do so. While it might not be the quickest route, it is the safest.
- Caltrain’s new electric infrastructure carries up to 25,000 volts, so you should never interfere with the overhead wires and avoid any downed wires you see. This is another important reason to never be on the tracks other than at a designated crossing, as a downed wire could energize another object such as a rail or fence without your knowledge, making them highly dangerous.

For more information, visit www.caltrain.com/rider-information/safety-security.

###

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Follow Caltrain on [Facebook](#) and [X](#).

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From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain, Balfour Beatty and PG&E Celebrate Major Milestone of Electrification Project with Energization of Second Traction Power Substation
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 2:29:48 PM

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NEWS

August 30, 2023

Media Contacts: Dan Lieberman (Caltrain), 650.622.2492, Tamar Sarkissian (PG&E), 510.529.5710, Ashley Melesse (Balfour Beatty), 214.451.1706

Caltrain, Balfour Beatty and PG&E Celebrate Major Milestone of Electrification Project with Energization of Second Traction Power Substation

Energization of transformative undertaking completed this past weekend

For the first time, the Caltrain Traction Power Substation in South San Francisco, constructed by Balfour Beatty and its industry partners, was energized with power from Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). This milestone achievement in the [Caltrain Electrification Project](#) signifies major progress in expanding Caltrain's ability to test and run electric trains along the corridor.

"Energization of the second traction power substation is a momentous milestone for the Caltrain Electrification Project and continues to keep us on track for launch of Electrified service in fall of 2024," said Michelle Bouchard, Caltrain Executive Director. "We want to thank the hundreds of people that have been involved in the work and coordination to get us to this moment. Soon we be able to test electric trains along our entire corridor and we are excited to deliver a world-class system for the public."

"We're so proud for the opportunity to work with Caltrain in delivering

clean, modern, electrified transit service to San Jose, San Francisco and all our hometowns in between,” said Sandra Cullings, Senior Director, PG&E Projects and Construction. “I’m grateful for all the work by my PG&E coworkers who are playing a part in helping Caltrain eliminate diesel emissions, reduce traffic and improve public transit for the Bay Area.”

“We are proud to provide the infrastructure that powers progress on the Caltrain Electrification Project,” said Mark Konchar, Balfour Beatty US Civils President. “This milestone is attributed to the joint efforts of Balfour Beatty, PG&E and Caltrain’s ongoing commitment to collaboration. We look forward to continuing our vital work on the corridor, including the delivery of the Overhead Catenary System, to help our client provide a reliable, safe and sustainable commuter rail service in the area.”

Caltrain’s substation in South San Francisco is also one of two main traction power substations along the Caltrain corridor, in addition to the San Jose location which was energized last August. Together, with eight other smaller facilities along the corridor, power substations provide, distribute, and regulate electricity to the overhead wires which will power Caltrain’s new high-performance electric trains.

Caltrain, PG&E and Balfour Beatty’s work to complete the energization was substantial and needed to be safely conducted while maintaining reliable service to more than 20,000 customers also served by the existing infrastructure.

The infrastructure upgrades include:

- Construction of two, double-circuit 115 kV transmission connections from the East Grand Substation in South San Francisco and the FMC Substation in San Jose to Caltrain traction power stations in those communities.
- Rebuilt the East Grand and FMC substations that enabled PG&E to support Caltrain’s request for redundant transmission feeds.
- Additional upgrades to three PG&E and two third-party remote end substations.

As crews continue to install more poles and wire for the electrification system, Caltrain is embarking on a public outreach campaign to educate passengers, residents and businesses about best safety practices along the corridor. The agency has sent out mailers, hosted community meetings and embarked on social media campaigns to remind everyone that all overhead wires on Caltrain property should be assumed to be energized now. More safety information about Caltrain Electrification is available [here](#).

The electrification of the Caltrain system will deliver major benefits to the

communities that it serves. Electrification will reduce Caltrain's greenhouse gas emissions and eliminate the particulate matter caused by the aging diesel engines. Engine noise created by the trains will also be reduced.

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About PG&E: PG&E, a subsidiary of [PG&E Corporation](#) (NYSE:PCG), is a combined natural gas and electric utility serving more than 16 million people across 70,000 square miles in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit [pge.com](#) and [pge.com/news](#).

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About Balfour Beatty: [Balfour Beatty](#) is an industry-leading provider of general contracting, at-risk construction management and design-build services for public and private sector clients across the United States. Performing heavy civil and vertical construction, the company is part of Balfour Beatty plc (LSE: BBY), a leading international infrastructure group that provides innovative and efficient infrastructure that underpins our daily lives, supports communities and enables economic growth. Balfour Beatty is ranked among the top domestic building contractors in the United States by Engineering News-Record.

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From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain Introduces New Fare Product Promotions
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023 10:53:16 AM

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NEWS

August 24, 2023

Media Contact: Dan Lieberman, 650.622.2492

Caltrain Introduces New Fare Product Promotions

On Friday, September 1, Caltrain will introduce four new temporary [fare products](#) designed to give riders more options as to how they travel, making it easier to save money by using Caltrain.

The \$1 Youth Pass provides one-way rides for merely a dollar for everyone 18 and under. The Three Day Pass offers passholders unlimited rides for three days immediately upon purchase (including the day of purchase) – a great option for the hybrid commuter working three days during the week.

The Family Day Pass allows two adults and up to four youths (18 and under) to ride together for the cost of two adults and one youth. All Family Day Pass travelers must travel together in the same train car.

The Group Day Pass allows a group of four to six people to travel together for 15% off the cost of four tickets. All Group Day Pass travelers must travel together in the same train car and must be in the same fare class (Adult, Youth, Eligible Discount).

The Three Day Pass, Family Day Pass and Group Day Pass can be purchased via the [Caltrain Mobile app](#) or at a Ticket Vending Machine at a Caltrain station. The \$1 Youth Pass is only available via a [Clipper Youth Card](#).

In addition to these fare promotions, Caltrain also is reducing the price of parking at stations by 50%, costing \$2.75 per day starting September 1 or \$41.25 for a monthly parking permit.

Caltrain's ridership continues to increase, with the Average Weekday Ridership currently at approximately 20,000 per weekday. The latest [survey data](#) show opportunity for even greater growth by modifying prices. By providing a wider range of fare products, Caltrain can better appeal to the needs of potential riders and their changing travel patterns.

Fares were expected to increase this year, but Caltrain implemented a promotional fare discount that will keep fares at their current levels until December 31, 2023.

Caltrain's historic electrification project is the first undertaking in North America in a generation in which diesel trains and their infrastructure components are transitioned to an electrified system. The project will improve the customer experience by increasing the number of trains, modernizing service and adding new safety elements. The new trains, which were [debuted to the public](#) for the first time in July, will feature on board displays with digital trip information, increased storage capacities, baby-changing tables, Wi-Fi and power outlets at every seat. Electrification will also help meet ambitious regional and state climate action goals by lowering greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality and relieving traffic congestion. Additionally, electrified service will advance equity along the corridor by reducing noise and air pollution while increasing access for priority equity communities. It will also set the framework for California's future High Speed Rail network that will run on the Caltrain corridor.

###

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From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain to Pilot First-in-the-Nation Bi-Level Dual Electric and Battery Powered Train to Expand Zero-Emission Service
Date: Thursday, August 17, 2023 4:38:55 PM

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NEWS

August 17, 2023

Media Contact: Dan Lieberman, 650.622.2492

Caltrain to Pilot First-in-the-Nation Bi-Level Dual Electric and Battery Powered Train to Expand Zero-Emission Service

California Transportation Commission approves funding allocation for one Stadler battery equipped electric train and related maintenance, charging facility upgrades to help with the transition to fully electrified service and expand zero emission service to non-electrified tracks

Today, the California Transportation Commission approved the allocation of funds from an \$80 million award from the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) for one battery-equipped electric multiple unit train (BEMU) and the associated R&D so that Caltrain will be operable with zero-emission trains on both electrified service area of the corridor as well as the portion of the corridor from Tamien Station in San Jose to Gilroy that does not yet have overhead electrified lines.

The BEMU train, which will be purchased on a contract option with Stadler, Caltrain's electric train manufacturer, is an EMU train with additional energy storage capacity. The BEMU will charge while the train runs on overhead power in the electrified service areas and then use battery charge to travel "off-wire" on non-electrified track areas. This will lead the way for Caltrain to operate a fully zero-emission service in the future. Before this option, Caltrain would have had to use diesel trains on the non-electrified corridor. The funding award from CalSTA also covers the cost of testing at the Transportation Test Center in Pueblo, Colo., and upgrades to the San Jose Central Maintenance Facility and Gilroy layover and station area to facilitate charging and maintenance.

The demonstration of the BEMU in-service will be the first time this bi-level technology is in operation on a commuter train anywhere in the United

States. The trainset is also expected to be tested in other intercity and regional rail corridors, as feasible.

“California continues to lead the transition to a clean, electrified transportation system, this time with the nation’s first battery-electric multiple unit passenger rail train,” said **California Transportation Secretary Toks Omishakin**. “This efficient, state-of-the-art train – made possible by an award through our Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program – will lead to improved service for riders and cleaner air between San Francisco and Gilroy, as well as serve as a demonstration train for expanded battery-electric intercity rail service in the future.”

“Today’s unanimous CTC vote was electrifying was both figurately and literally as we fund improvements to a corridor that continues to lead the way to improve the lives for tens of thousands of daily commuters and to show the way for other transit systems throughout the country,” said **CTC Vice Chair Carl Guardino**.

“We’re excited to be the first in the nation to pilot this bi-level hybrid electric and battery service to extend our zero-emission service beyond our electrified service areas,” said **Jeff Gee, Caltrain Board Chair**. “With the BEMU we will not only create a more sustainable and environmentally friendly service, but also faster and more reliable travel times for riders.”

“This is innovation in motion that will improve the lives and health of our residents who use Caltrain and those who live and work along the rail lines,” said **Caltrain Board Member and Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez**.

“Silicon Valley has a reputation for first of its kind innovations, and our transportation sector is no different,” said **Mayor of San Jose Matt Mahan**. “This project will pave the way for Caltrain to retire their diesel fleet and operate a fully zero-emission service for future generations”

“Gilroy is onboard for a modern rail service, with all its comforts and amenities” said **Gilroy Mayor Marie Blankley**. “I’m excited that in the future, we will have zero-emission trains running through South County. Although one in many necessary steps forward yet to come, today’s decision puts South Santa Clara County that much closer to joining in electrified train service of the greater Bay Area.”

“This electric and battery-powered train investment will allow our commuter rail corridor to modernize, create greater system efficiencies, and better integrate the southern segment of the corridor that is not electrified,” said **Morgan Hill Mayor Mark Turner**. “We are grateful to Caltrain staff, the California Transportation Commission, and CalSTA for supporting this innovative effort that will improve train service, reduce greenhouse gases, and enhance the sustainability of commuter rail service for the residents in South Silicon Valley.”

“Stadler is proud to continue our partnership with Caltrain and our shared mission of helping California provide zero emission travel” said **Martin Ritter, CEO of Stadler US**. “With additional double-deck EMUs and this first-of-its-kind BEMU for Caltrain, Stadler is able to expand our overall portfolio for the US market, especially in the zero-emission product line.”

The current demonstration plan will have the BEMU charge while in operations between San Francisco and San Jose, and then operate using battery power on non-electrified tracks between San Jose and Gilroy, with intermittent demonstration trips to Salinas. The goal is to show successful service operations and learn from the implementation to provide a roadmap for future BEMU operations and procurements.

If successful, BEMUs could replace aging diesel locomotives on non-electrified tracks. The benefits of this would not only be a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and improved air quality, but also significant service upgrades. This includes potential improved service times to Gilroy resulting from better performance of the BEMU compared to diesel locomotives, improved travel times on the entire corridor and decreased service costs resulting from removing diesel locomotives from service, and increased reliability should overhead power systems fail or utilities experience outages.

The demonstration of this technology has wide-ranging benefits for rail operations throughout the country. There are currently no bi-level off-wire battery dual mode commuter trains in operations in the United States, and the potential of this technology could make the transition to electrified service easier for other operators by not requiring full overhead line coverage throughout entire train corridors.

The train will go into operations after additional testing and certifications from regulatory agencies. The 4-car vehicle consists of three passenger cars and one battery-head, which houses the battery and power equipment.

Earlier this month, the Caltrain Board also approved exercising the options on its contract with Stadler, for four electric multiple unit (EMU) trains to replace aging diesel trains. These EMU trains along with the BEMU demonstration will allow Caltrain to run over 90% of its service with electric trains, benefiting riders and communities throughout the corridor.

In advance of electrified service in fall of 2024, [Caltrain held a public event for riders](#) late last month to tour the new EMU trains, which was attended by more than 4,000 visitors. The [next tour](#) of the EMU trains will be in San Francisco on September 23, 2023.

###

About Caltrain: Owned and operated by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, Caltrain provides commuter rail service from San Francisco to San Jose, with commute service to Gilroy. While the Joint Powers Board assumed operating responsibilities for the service in 1992, the railroad has provided the community with more than 150 years of continuous passenger service. Planning for the next 150 years of Peninsula rail service, Caltrain is on pace to electrify the corridor, reduce diesel emissions by 97 percent by 2040 and add more service to more stations.

Follow Caltrain on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Free translation assistance is available. Para traducción llama al 1.800.660.4287; 如需翻譯,請電 1.800.660.4287.

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From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain to Hold Public Meeting on Fare Structure Changes
Date: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 4:57:33 PM

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NEWS

August 16, 2023

Media Contact: Dan Lieberman, 650.622.2492

Caltrain to Hold Public Meeting on Fare Structure Changes

Caltrain will hold a meeting on August 21 to receive public comment regarding future changes in the Caltrain fare structure.

In this public meeting, staff will review the following:

- The proposed updated timeline for fare increases
- Changes to the fare structure that will be effective upon board adoption on 1/1/2024
- Changes to the fare structure upon completion of the Clipper Next Generation project
- Lower Go Pass pricing

Public Meeting

Monday, August 21, 5 p.m.

Zoom Info: <https://bit.ly/CaltrainMeetingFares>

Webinar ID: 83683061437

Access via Telephone: 1.669.219:1437; Meeting ID: 83683061437

Public Hearing

Monday, August 28, 2:30 p.m.

(or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard)

Zoom Info: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81843266625?pwd=aDExTGltUUJSOUc5TkNnbU1QMTRHUT09>

Webinar ID: 81843266625

Access via Telephone: 1.669.900.6833; Meeting ID: 818 4326 6625

For translation or interpretation assistance, call Caltrain at 1.800.660.4287 at least three days before the meeting. For questions call Caltrain Customer Service at 1.800.660.4287.

###

About Caltrain: Owned and operated by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, Caltrain provides commuter rail service from San Francisco to San Jose, with commute service to Gilroy. While the Joint Powers Board assumed operating responsibilities for the service in 1992, the railroad celebrated 150 years of continuous passenger service in 2014. Planning for the next 150 years of Peninsula rail service, Caltrain is on pace to electrify the corridor, reduce diesel emissions by 97 percent by 2040 and add more service to more stations.

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From: [Colma](#)
To: planning@colma.ca.gov
Cc: [Colma](#)
Subject: Town of Colma Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, Notice of Public Hearing
Date: Friday, August 11, 2023 6:12:13 PM
Attachments: [Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan NoticeREV.pdf](#)

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

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Good afternoon Colma community,

The Town of Colma is proposing to create its first Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan to develop a safe network of bikeways and walkways, identify roadway improvements, and document programs and policies that will support the Town's goal of becoming a more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly community. A copy of the draft plan is available on the Town's website at the following link: <https://www.colma.ca.gov/bike-and-pedestrian-master-plan>.

Please see the attached notice of public hearing for more information regarding the August 23rd City Council meeting. We look forward to hearing your feedback.

Thank you!

-Town of Colma staff



**TOWN OF COLMA
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1198 EL CAMINO REAL
COLMA, CA 94014**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the public that the City Council of the Town of Colma will hold a public hearing at the date and time shown to the right, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at an electronically or virtually conducted meeting, in accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 (issued March 17, 2020).

PROJECT PLANNERS:

Farhad Mortazavi

EMAIL:

planning@colma.ca.gov

PHONE:

650.757.8896

PROJECT NAME: TOWN OF COLMA BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN

HEARING DATE: August 23, 2023

HEARING LOCATION: Town of Colma City Council Chamber, 1198 El Camino Real, Colma, CA 94014. Zoom (virtual) alternative available, log in instructions will appear on the posted agenda on the Town website prior to the hearing.

Reasonable Accommodation:

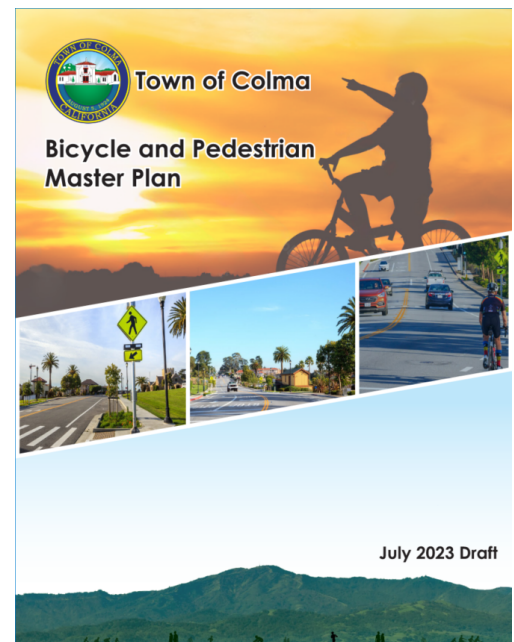
Upon request, this notice will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. Any person with a disability, who requires a modification or accommodation to view the agenda, should direct such a request to Pak Lin, Admin Services Director, at 650-997-8309 or pak.lin@colma.ca.gov. Please allow 2 business days for your request to be processed.

Please Note: that if you attempt to challenge this action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised orally at the public hearing described in this Notice or in writing delivered to the city council at or prior to the public hearing.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Dear Property Owner,
Resident or Tenant:**

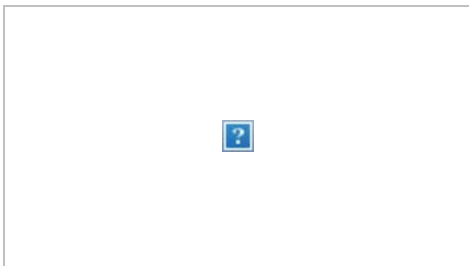
The Town of Colma is proposing to create a Townwide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan to develop a safe network of bikeways and walkways, identify roadway improvements, and document programs and policies that will support the Town's goal of becoming a more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly community. A copy of the draft plan is available on the Town's website at www.colma.ca.gov/bike-and-pedestrian-master-plan.



To review project material, contact the project planner.

From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain Suspends Train Service Between San Francisco and Millbrae on Weekends to Expedite Electrification Project
Date: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 3:26:53 PM

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NEWS

August 8, 2023

Media Contact: Dan Lieberman, 650.622.2492

Caltrain Suspends Train Service Between San Francisco and Millbrae on Weekends to Expedite Electrification Project

Caltrain will be [suspending its service](#) between San Francisco and Millbrae Stations on the weekends of August 12-13, 19-20 and 26-27 in order to accommodate Caltrain electrification construction and testing. Crews will install and test the signal system in San Francisco and continue to erect poles and hang wires for the overhead catenary system (OCS).

Caltrain encourages riders to seek alternative transit options. [Bus bridge service](#) will be available to Caltrain-dependent riders, but passengers should expect delays and longer travel times.

These will be the 17th through 19th of approximately 30 weekends in 2023 in which service will be adjusted to accommodate construction and testing for electrified service, which is expected to launch passenger service in fall 2024. Thus far, construction crews have installed 66 poles this year along with over 557,831 feet of wire and 1,068 cantilevers and drop tubes.

Caltrain is running a public awareness campaign throughout the year to alert riders to potential service disruptions and provide information about the new and improved service that electrification will deliver.

Caltrain's historic electrification project is the first undertaking in North America in a generation in which diesel trains and their infrastructure components are transitioned to an electrified system. The project will

improve the customer experience by increasing the number of trains, modernizing service and adding new safety elements. The new trains will feature on board displays with digital trip information, increased storage capacities, baby-changing tables, Wi-Fi and power outlets at every seat. Electrification will also help meet ambitious regional and state climate action goals by lowering greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality and relieving traffic congestion. Additionally, electrified service will advance equity along the corridor by reducing noise and air pollution while increasing access for priority equity communities. It will also set the framework for California's future High Speed Rail network that will run on the Caltrain corridor.

###

About Caltrain: Owned and operated by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, Caltrain provides rail service from San Francisco to San Jose, with commute service to Gilroy. Serving the region since 1863, Caltrain is the oldest continually operating rail system west of the Mississippi. Looking to the future, Caltrain is set to electrify the corridor by 2024, which will reduce diesel emissions and add more service to more stations while advancing the agency's equity goals.

Like us on Facebook at www.caltrain.com and follow on Twitter [@Caltrain](https://twitter.com/Caltrain).

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From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain Reduces Weekday Train Service
Date: Monday, July 31, 2023 4:15:32 PM

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NEWS

July 31, 2023
Media Contact: Dan Lieberman, 650.622.2492

Caltrain Reduces Weekday Train Service

Caltrain will be [reducing its weekday service](#) from Monday, August 7, through Friday, August 25, in order to accommodate Caltrain electrification construction and testing. Construction crews will install and test signal systems in San Francisco and continue to install poles and wires along the corridor.

Caltrain will be running 90 trains per weekday, as opposed to the standard 104. Peak hour service will be reduced to three trains per hour per direction, and Baby Bullet service will be suspended. Regular weekday service will resume on Monday, August 28.

Many trains will depart a few minutes earlier than the current schedule, so please refer to the temporary [schedule](#) to see how your train might be affected. Trains will also be single-tracking in San Francisco, so riders are encouraged to pay attention to announcements at the San Francisco and 22nd Street Stations.

Caltrain is running a public awareness campaign throughout the year to alert riders to potential service disruptions and provide information about the new and improved service that electrification will deliver.

Caltrain's historic electrification project is the first undertaking in North America in a generation in which diesel trains and their infrastructure components are transitioned to an electrified system. The project will improve the customer experience by increasing the number of trains, modernizing service and adding new safety elements. The new trains will feature on board displays with digital trip information, increased storage capacities, baby-changing tables, Wi-Fi and power outlets at every seat. Electrification will also help meet ambitious regional and state climate action goals by lowering greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality and relieving traffic congestion. Additionally, electrified service will advance equity along the corridor by reducing noise and air pollution while increasing access for priority equity communities. It will also set the framework for California's future High Speed Rail network that will run on the Caltrain corridor.

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From: liebermand@samtrans.com on behalf of [Dan Lieberman](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain to Hold First Public Tour for New Electric Trains Saturday, July 29
Date: Thursday, July 27, 2023 2:33:11 PM

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NEWS

July 27, 2023

Media Contact: Dan Lieberman, 650.622.2492

Caltrain to Hold First Public Tour for New Electric Trains Saturday, July 29 *The new state-of-the-art vehicles will be put into service in Fall 2024*

Caltrain will be holding the first public tour of the agency's new electric train cars from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 29. The new train cars will serve as the centerpiece of the transformative [Caltrain Electrification Project](#).

With 3,600 RSVPs thus far, this tour seems likely to attract large crowds. Attendees can enjoy [food trucks, a live DJ and more](#) as they await their opportunity to see the future of Caltrain for themselves. Tours will begin at 10 a.m. after a brief program featuring Assemblymember Ash Kalra, San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan, Caltrain Board of Directors Chair Jeff Gee and Caltrain Executive Director Michelle Bouchard.

The new high-performance trains will offer a better experience for Caltrain riders. The new vehicles offer enhanced amenities, including new digital onboard displays, power outlets at each forward-facing seat, a new seat color palette selected by the public, energy-efficient lighting, coat hooks, security cameras, and expanded storage under the cantilevered seats. They will also generate less noise than their diesel equivalent, making the trip more enjoyable both for riders and residents that live near Caltrain tracks.

Electrification will also help meet ambitious regional and state climate action goals by lowering greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality and relieving traffic congestion. Additionally, electrified service will advance equity along the corridor by reducing noise and air pollution while increasing access for equity priority communities. It will also set the

framework for California's future High Speed Rail network.

Each trainset will have seven cars, as opposed to the current five to six. The new trains also accelerate and decelerate faster than their diesel alternatives, allowing more frequent stops in the same amount of time.

These new trains will go into service in 2024, and is currently undergoing testing to ensure it, and the infrastructure it will rely upon, is in good working order.

The trains were built by Stadler US at their facility in Salt Lake City, Utah. After they were assembled, they were sent to a test facility in Pueblo, Colo. where they were tested at high speeds under numerous conditions as required by the Federal Railroad Administration. The trains were tested for braking, propulsion, ride quality, noise and vibration, door operation, Positive Train Control and Electromagnetic Interference over the course of eight months.

More public tours of the new vehicles are planned for later this year.

The Caltrain Electrification Project will electrify the corridor from the San Francisco Station at 4th and King Streets to approximately the Tamien Station in San Jose, allowing diesel-hauled trains to be replaced by electric trains.

Caltrain's historic electrification project is the first undertaking in North America in a generation in which diesel trains and their infrastructure components are transitioned to an electrified system.

###

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From: abuniem@samtrans.com on behalf of [Mahmoud Abunie](#)
To: [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain_Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: NEWS: Caltrain Seeks Volunteers for Citizens Advisory Committee
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:48:40 AM

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NEWS

July 25, 2023

Media Contact: Mahmoud Abunie, 650.730.6201

Caltrain Seeks Volunteers for Citizens Advisory Committee

The Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB), the entity that manages Caltrain, is seeking volunteers from San Mateo and Santa Clara counties to apply for its Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC).

The CAC currently has four openings available, two each for representatives from San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. In San Mateo County, one vacancy is for a regular seat, full-term, ending in 2026. The other vacant regular seat is for a partial-term ending in 2024. In Santa Clara County, one vacancy is for one regular seat for a term ending in 2026, and the other one is for an alternate seat with a term ending in 2026. Committee members are asked to serve a three-year term.

The CAC is comprised of nine community members who serve in an advisory capacity to the Caltrain board of directors, providing input on the needs of current and potential rail customers.

Residents interested in joining the advisory committee can find an application on the CAC web page [here](#), or by calling 650.508.6347. Applications for the CAC are due by Friday, August 25.

The CAC meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:40 p.m. at the Caltrain headquarters at 1250 San Carlos Avenue, about one block from the San Carlos Caltrain Station. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, visit [Citizens Advisory Committee | Caltrain](#)

###

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