



JPB Board of Directors  
Meeting of May 2, 2024

Correspondence as of April 12, 2024

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1	Consideration of riders on Caltrain
2	FW_ Environmental Data - CY2022 Fuel Consumption
3	Re_ Ensuring Safety at Palo Alto Rail Crossings for Our Children and Community
4	RE_ Consideration of riders on Caltrain
5	RE_ Caltrain Horn for 15 minutes straight
6	Caltrain.Com's support for Black-owned businesses during Black History Month
7	3 Days Left to Vote! Best of San Mateo - What Are Your Favorites

**From:** [jackie.leonard-dimmick](mailto:jackie.leonard-dimmick@caltrain.com)  
**To:** [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Board (@caltrain.com))  
**Subject:** Consideration of riders on Caltrain  
**Date:** Sunday, April 7, 2024 10:59:53 AM

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Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Members:

We will be getting a whole new rail system this fall.. Would it be possible to fine tune some rules and regulations in conduct when it comes to riding Caltrain? This idea would apply to any form of public transportation. The unnecessary use of cell phones and all audio devices should be discouraged.

There is a lot going on in our world today that needs some quiet attention. It can be very discouraging to be striving to keep one's consciousness uplifted with healing thoughts for the world, when one is forced to listen to a carmate's cell phone conversation or someone's radio.

Maybe there could be a "NOISY" car for those who want to talk loudly, be on a cell phone or listen to a radio. Passengers that feel a need for entertainment should at least be required to wear appropriate head phones, to confine the sound.

We all have work to do to uplift the thought and actions of the world and it begins with our own individual thinking. Caltrain would be blessed and everyone on the train.

On a slightly different topic: Since all or most of you have served in some way in city and county government, may I share another idea about Caltrain? It appears we are facing a housing crisis. Caltrain is getting all new cars. Have you ever thought of using the old Caltrain cars for TEMPOARY housing, instead of building more and more PERMANENT housing?

Thank you for letting me share these ideas with you.

Jackie Leonard-Dimmick

**From:** [Margaret Tseng](#)  
**To:** [Dora Seamans](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Environmental Data - CY2022 Fuel Consumption  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 7:31:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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Will do!

Thanks,

Margaret

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**From:** Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2024 6:03 PM  
**To:** Margaret Tseng <TsengM@samtrans.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Environmental Data - CY2022 Fuel Consumption

H please handle. Thanks

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**From:** Nico Kent <[nkent@rinconconsultants.com](mailto:nkent@rinconconsultants.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2024 4:37 PM  
**To:** PRA <[pra@caltrain.com](mailto:pra@caltrain.com)>; Board (@caltrain.com) <[board@caltrain.com](mailto:board@caltrain.com)>  
**Cc:** Emily Saul <[esaul@rinconconsultants.com](mailto:esaul@rinconconsultants.com)>  
**Subject:** Environmental Data - CY2022 Fuel Consumption

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Hello,

My name is Nico Kent from Rincon Consultants and I am working with the City of Palo Alto on their 2022 GHG Inventory update. I am emailing on the City's behalf to acquire diesel fuel consumption for Caltrain's commuter rail system for calendar year 2022 (scaled down for Palo Alto based on ridership). According to the previous consultants, CY 2021 commuter rail fuel consumption was provided by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Power Board.

Please let me know if you are able to provide this data. Thank you!

Best,

Nico Kent, MS, Sustainability Analyst  
805-644-4455 Main  
[nkent@rinconconsultants.com](mailto:nkent@rinconconsultants.com)



RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC. SINCE 1994

**From:** [Navdeep Dhaliwal](#)  
**To:** [Aslihan Biyikoglu](#)  
**Cc:** [city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org); [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Board (@caltrain.com)); [Burt\\_Pat \[Pat.burt@cityofpaloalto.org\]](mailto:Burt_Pat [Pat.burt@cityofpaloalto.org]); [Lydia.Kou@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Lydia.Kou@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Julie.LythcottHaims@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Julie.LythcottHaims@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Ed.Lauing@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Ed.Lauing@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Greer.Stone@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Greer.Stone@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Greg.Tanaka@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Greg.Tanaka@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Vicki.Veenker@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Vicki.Veenker@CityofPaloAlto.org); [mcrowdwell@gmail.com](mailto:mcrowdwell@gmail.com); [steve.ross@gmail.com](mailto:steve.ross@gmail.com); [Josaxe@icloud.com](mailto:Josaxe@icloud.com); [Lori Low](#); [Casey Fromson](#); [Sarah Nabong](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Ensuring Safety at Palo Alto Rail Crossings for Our Children and Community  
**Date:** Monday, April 8, 2024 1:56:51 PM

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Dear Aslihan Biyikoglu,

Thank you for reaching out. At Caltrain safety is a core value and we are committed to partnering with the City and community in Palo Alto. We are currently working on near-term safety improvements at the railroad crossings in Palo Alto, including fencing to further secure the alignment, and enhanced traffic management systems at the Churchill Avenue intersection, a widened pedestrian crossing area near the railroad tracks to accommodate the large volume of pedestrian traffic from the adjacent school, and the implementation of enhanced pavement markings that effectively facilitate the movements of pedestrians and bicyclists. Additionally, Caltrain is also exploring opportunities of increased signage, improved lighting, and pavement markings to prevent further tragedies.

We are also in agreement that grade separations and closures are important long-term safety improvements. To achieve this, we are continuing to coordinate with the City of Palo Alto's Connecting Palo Alto grade separation projects. We are committed to working closely with city staff to advance project planning and ensure informed decisions are made regarding the future of grade separation projects, prioritizing the safety and well-being of our community members.

Caltrain also addresses safety through a comprehensive, ongoing program that focuses on the "Three E's" of railroad safety – Education, Engineering and Enforcement. The railroad has historically collaborated with suicide prevention agencies to prevent intentional deaths on the rails by posting crisis hotline signage at points all along the corridor, and partnering with local behavioral and mental health organizations in San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. These organizations meet with Caltrain bi-monthly as part of Caltrain's Suicide Prevention Partnership Group. In September 2023, Caltrain's Board of Directors, in conjunction with Operation Lifesaver, reaffirmed Caltrain's commitment to provide safe and efficient rail service between San Francisco and Gilroy by designating September as Railroad Safety and Suicide Prevention Month.

Caltrain recognizes that although we are advancing these crucial initiatives, there's always room for progress and we are committed to continuing our partnership and dialogue with the community.

For any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly, Navi Dhaliwal,

Government and Community Affairs Officer at Caltrain.

Sincerely,

Navi Dhaliwal, MPP |Government & Community Affairs Officer  
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board  
1250 San Carlos Ave. San Carlos, CA 94070  
Phone: 650-730-6077  
Website: [www.caltrain.com](http://www.caltrain.com)

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**From:** Aslihan Biyikoglu <[ab.design@outlook.com](mailto:ab.design@outlook.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 9:05 PM  
**To:** [city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org); Board (@caltrain.com) <[board@caltrain.com](mailto:board@caltrain.com)>; Burt, Pat [Pat.burt@cityofpaloalto.org] <[Pat.Burt@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Pat.Burt@CityofPaloAlto.org)>; [Lydia.Kou@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Lydia.Kou@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Julie.LythcottHaims@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Julie.LythcottHaims@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Ed.Lauing@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Ed.Lauing@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Greer.Stone@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Greer.Stone@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Greg.Tanaka@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Greg.Tanaka@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Vicki.Veenker@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Vicki.Veenker@CityofPaloAlto.org)  
**Cc:** [mcrodwell@gmail.com](mailto:mcrodwell@gmail.com); [steve.ross@gmail.com](mailto:steve.ross@gmail.com); [Josaxe@icloud.com](mailto:Josaxe@icloud.com)  
**Subject:** Ensuring Safety at Palo Alto Rail Crossings for Our Children and Community

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Dear Members of the Palo Alto City Council, Palo Alto Rail Committee, and Caltrain Officials,

We are reaching out with a deep sense of urgency and concern, compelled by the tragic events that have unfolded in our community. Within the first two months of this year alone, we have mourned the loss of two lives due to collisions with Caltrain at railroad crossings in Palo Alto. The most recent incident involved a Palo Alto High School student, a loss that has deeply shaken our community, coming shortly after another devastating loss in January where a pedestrian was fatally struck near the California Avenue station.

These tragedies underscore a critical and immediate need for action to improve safety at our railroad crossings, alongside expediting and finalizing the grade separation project. The frequency and severity of these incidents within such a short span of time have raised alarm and urgency among Palo Alto parents, residents, and beyond.

In response, our community has rallied together, advocating for change through a petition that has quickly garnered significant support. **This petition emphasizes the urgent need to both expedite and finalize the grade separation project and to implement immediate solutions to enhance safety at railroad crossings. The details of this**

petition and the collective plea of our community can be found at  
<https://chnq.it/FY9qgB59qN>

**From:** [Sarah Nabong](#)  
**To:** [jackie leonard-dimmick](#)  
**Cc:** [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Consideration of riders on Caltrain  
**Date:** Monday, April 8, 2024 2:45:50 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear Jackie Leonard-Dimmick,

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 reaching out to us with your thoughtful suggestions regarding the conduct rules for riding Caltrain. We appreciate your feedback and the time you've taken to share your ideas with us..

We understand your concerns about the use of cell phones and audio devices on public transportation, and we agree that creating a more comfortable and peaceful environment for all passengers is important. Your suggestion of discouraging unnecessary noise and implementing guidelines for the use of electronic devices is noted. We will review our current policies to see how we can enhance the riding experience for everyone.

Your idea of designating a "NOISY" car for passengers who wish to engage in louder activities is intriguing, and we will explore the feasibility of such a concept within our service.

Regarding your additional proposal concerning the repurposing of old Caltrain cars for temporary housing in light of the housing crisis, we find this to be a creative and innovative idea. We will certainly share your feedback!

We value your input and are grateful for your commitment to improving the travel experience on Caltrain. Your ideas will be shared with the necessary parties for further consideration.

Thank you once again for your feedback and for being a valued member of the Caltrain community.

Warm regards,

**Sarah Nabong, Customer Service Representative 2**

1250 San Carlos Ave San Carlos, CA 94070

Phone: 800.660.4287

Websites: [Caltrain](#) | [SamTrans](#) | [TA](#)



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**From:** jackie leonard-dimmick <akita550@hotmail.com>



**Sent:** Sunday, April 07, 2024 11:00 AM

**To:** Board (@caltrain.com) <board@caltrain.com>

**Subject:** Consideration of riders on Caltrain

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Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Members:

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Maybe there could be a "NOISY" car for those who want to talk loudly, be on a cell phone or listen to a radio. Passengers that feel a need for entertainment should at least be required to wear appropriate head phones, to confine the sound.

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On a slightly different topic: Since all or most of you have served in some way in city and county government, may I share another idea about Caltrain? It appears we are facing a housing crisis. Caltrain is getting all new cars. Have you ever thought of using the old Caltrain cars for TEMPORARY housing, instead of building more and more PERMANENT housing?

Thank you for letting me share these ideas with you.

Jackie Leonard-Dimmick

**From:** [Sarah Nabong](#)  
**To:** [Connor Sullivan](#); [PRA](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Caltrain Horn for 15 minutes straight  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:54:44 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear Connor Sullivan,

Thank you for reaching out to Caltrain with your observations. As a public service, the last thing we want to be is a nuisance to the communities we serve.

We do have an agreement with Union Pacific Railroad, which allows them use of our tracks. Other than ensuring horns are at the FRA regulated decibel level and that engineers are obeying the mandated sounding pattern; we are limited in what we can do as rail agencies. Horn decibels are calibrated and tested every 92 days and are within federal regulations. There may be additional whistle noise if there are employees working on the right of way or if additional trains are passing through the area. Any excess or unusual whistleblowing would be due to trespassers on the right of way.

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.

Once more, we apologize for the trouble, and we thank you for taking the time to reach out to us.

Warm regards,

**Sarah Nabong, Customer Service Representative 2**

1250 San Carlos Ave San Carlos, CA 94070

Phone: 800.660.4287

Websites: [Caltrain](#) | [SamTrans](#) | [TA](#)



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**From:** Connor Sullivan <connorsullivan1998@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2024 7:19 AM

**To:** PRA <pra@caltrain.com>

**Subject:** Caltrain Horn for 15 minutes straight

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If the train ever holds down its horn for 15 minutes straight at 7 am again I will become a single issue voter to defund the Caltrain

And I love public transit

**From:** [Miriam Fernandez](#)  
**To:** [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** Caltrain.Com's support for Black-owned businesses during Black History Month  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 8:50:33 PM

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

Hi there,

I saw your page [caltrain.com/blog/2023/04/black-history-month-caltrains-mlk-jr-celebration-train](https://caltrain.com/blog/2023/04/black-history-month-caltrains-mlk-jr-celebration-train), and I wanted to thank you for supporting the Black community.

As this month we're celebrating Black History Month, I looked into some resources to share with my contacts. Actually, that's how I found your piece, which I recommended to some friends :) I thought some of my other findings might also be relevant to your readers. One of them, which a lot of my friends appreciated, is an article that lists more than 150 Black-owned businesses in North America. I was so happy to see that some people care about helping these companies thrive!

The article is here: <https://www.websiteplanet.com/blog/support-black-owned-businesses/>

I think sharing this list on your page would be a great way to help promote these Black-owned sites and stores.

I think it will be a great addition to your site and that your audience will love this new resource!

Best,  
Miriam

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**From:** Best of San Mateo <sales@bestofsanmateo.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2024 1:59 PM  
**To:** Board (@caltrain.com)  
**Subject:** 3 Days Left to Vote! Best of San Mateo - What Are Your Favorites

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## 3 Days Left to Vote!

### What Are Your Favorites?



[Vote Now](#)

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## FEATURED FINALISTS



**NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR UNIVERSITY**

**WINDSOR PLC**

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**SAGE WELLNESS CENTER**

**FIORI DENTAL**

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**MONTERRA CREDIT UNION  
(formerly San Mateo Credit Union)**

**CMIT SOLUTIONS**

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## – Is Your Business a Finalist? –

**Register for a FREE customized (with your business name) "Vote for Us" badge - [CLICK HERE](#)**

**Make it easy for your customers / community to vote for you. Have your business name featured on the ballot.**

### Final Round Featured Listing

A featured listing includes:

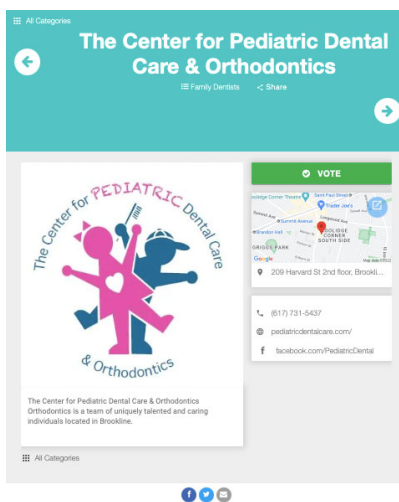
- Appearing above all of the other regular listings
- Dedicated voting page
- Logo
- 2-3 paragraphs about your business
- Address and map
- Phone number
- Website

\$247 per category

[Sign Up Now](#)

*Example of dedicated voting page*

*Example of featured listing*



**Family Dentists**

Featured Entrants



**The Center for Pediatric Dental Care & Orthodontics**

The Center for Pediatric Dental Care & Orthodontics is a team of uniquely talented and caring individuals located in Brookline.

📍 209 Harvard St 2nd floor, Brookline, MA ...

☎ (617) 731-... 🌐 pediatricdentalcare...

📘 facebook.com/PediatricDental

**VOTE**

Best of San Mateo | 875-A Island Drive, Suite 421, Alameda, CA 94502

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