# Caltrain Headquarters **Update** PENINSULA CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS BOARD JUNE 6, 2024





#### **Overview**

- Background and efforts to date
- Headquarters space needs and key considerations
- Evaluation framework and property search
- Next steps



# SamTrans New Millbrae Headquarters

- In December 2023, the District entered a lease-to-purchase agreement for a new headquarters building located adjacent to the Millbrae Caltrain Station
- SamTrans is in the process of refining the design for build-out of the interior space
- Expected move in 2025
- Caltrain has the option to co-locate with SamTrans or to establish a separate headquarters location



FUTURE SAMTRANS HEADQUARTERS 166 NORTH ROLLINS ROAD, MILLBRAE



#### **Caltrain Efforts to Date**

January February March April May June

- Initial exploration of Caltrain options completed
- Board directed staff to pursue two paths:
  - ✓ Move forward with negotiations with SamTrans
  - ✓ Engage in a search process to explore other options
- RFI issued to the real estate community, including refined space program
- 5 RFI responses received

- Broker secured to assist with evaluation and identification of additional options
- Property tours

Board update

Ongoing discussions with SamTrans and input to Millbrae building space plan

# **Current and Planned Caltrain Facilities**



# **Preferred HQ Space Program**

- 27,000 30,000 square feet
- Modern office layout with workstations and offices for up to 163 staff
- Hoteling workstations for visiting staff and consultants
- 12 conference/huddle rooms in a range of sizes
- Layout/collaboration areas
- Breakroom
- Quiet/wellness room
- Mothers' room
- Copy/printer areas
- Storage





# **Staff Preferences from Surveys**

SamTrans conducted two staff surveys to gather input about preferences for a future headquarters office, and provided the results specifically for Caltrain staff

#### **Key survey findings:**

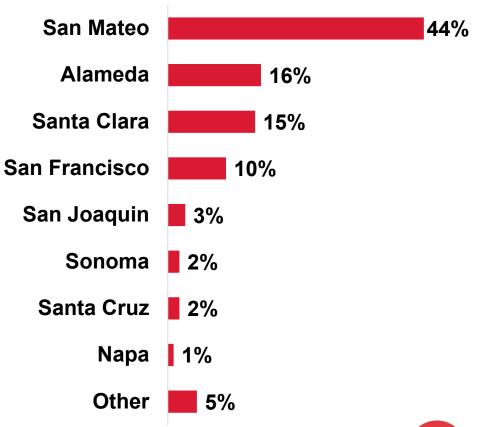
- 48% ranked access to public transit as the most important amenity for a new office space, followed by free parking (33%)
- 40% currently drive alone to work
- 57% commute more than a half hour, and 19% commute over one hour
- Shorter commutes, better transit connections and higher quality office space would encourage staff to come to the office more often
- Desired office features include natural light, assigned desks, fitness facilities, outdoor spaces, and proximity to restaurants and services



#### **Staff Commutes**

- We have obtained zip code data for current staff home locations, which can be used to estimate average commute times to potential office locations
- In general, locations in the central to northern part of the Caltrain corridor tend to offer shorter commutes for most staff
- Millbrae and San Francisco locations both benefit from access by both BART and Caltrain; however, San Francisco is farther for staff commuting from the South Bay

#### **Staff Home Locations by County**





#### **Financial Considerations**

- Caltrain's cost for headquarters office space is currently low, and will increase significantly in any future scenario
  - Caltrain currently pays approximately \$585,000 in annual building costs, including depreciation and facility maintenance
  - This includes the cost of Caltrain dedicated space as well as Caltrain's share of building-related costs associated with shared services staff
- Our assessment of the financial impact of Caltrain's headquarter options will include calculation of both direct costs for Caltrain space and shared services costs
  - This includes estimating any additional costs to provide shared services if Caltrain were to locate separately (e.g., one-time costs for equipment or ongoing costs associated with travel time)
- We have requested estimates of new shared services costs in the new District headquarters and are also evaluating them independently
- With any move, initial estimates suggest that total costs could increase by an estimated \$2M to \$3M annually(1)



### **Evaluation Framework**

Category	Factors
Cost	<ul> <li>Building improvement costs</li> <li>Rent</li> <li>Operating and maintenance expenses</li> <li>Other costs</li> </ul>
Staff Retention and Recruitment	<ul> <li>Impact on staff commutes</li> <li>Proximity to Caltrain station</li> <li>Proximity to shared services staff</li> <li>Neighborhood amenities (restaurants, cafes, etc.)</li> <li>Building amenities (gym, outdoor areas, etc.)</li> <li>Access to regional workforce</li> </ul>
Building Suitability for Caltrain Needs	<ul> <li>Condition of building/space</li> <li>Ability to provide board room</li> <li>Parking</li> <li>Ability to expand if needed</li> <li>Other considerations</li> </ul>



## **Property Search Results To Date**

- 5 RFI responses + 28 additional properties = 33 identified for initial consideration in addition to the Millbrae option
- Properties were narrowed from 33 to 16 based on an initial screening
- Staff and consultants toured these properties, which were in a variety of locations along the Caltrain corridor from San Francisco to San Jose



# **Next Steps**

- Original schedule was to bring recommendations regarding next steps to Board in June
- Given that we were not able to secure a contract for broker assistance until May, the new proposed schedule is to bring a short list of properties for closed session discussion with the Board in August, followed by final Board decision in September
- Over the summer, staff and consultants will continue to evaluate Caltrain's options including continued discussions with SamTrans about the option to co-locate in Millbrae
- We will also continue to provide updates to staff as we proceed





# Thank you!

