**Authorize Executing the Necessary Agreements** and Amendments and to Act as the Project Lead to **Deliver Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Clearance** Work for the Connecting **Palo Alto Project** 

TOPS Committee November 20, 2024





#### **Proposed Actions**

- 1. Authorize the Executive Director, or designee, to execute a Cooperative Agreement for reimbursement with the City of Palo Alto and the Valley Transportation Authority to Act as the project lead to deliver preliminary engineering and environmental clearance work for the Connecting Palo Alto Project for \$17,000,000 of reimbursable Caltrain expenses; and
- 2. Amend the Project budget from \$106,677 to \$17,106,677, to include additional \$17,000,000 reimbursable expenses from the Agreement.



## Background





# Background

- Caltrain entered into a service agreement with the City in June 2023 to review five alternatives
- In June 2024, Palo Alto's City Council confirmed the following alternatives for further study:
  - Churchill Avenue Partial Underpass alternative, paired with a bicycle and pedestrian undercrossing at Seale Avenue
    - Churchill Avenue Closure as a backup
  - Meadow Drive/Charleston Road Hybrid
  - Meadow Drive/Charleston Road Underpass



## Scope

- The Scope of Work for the Cooperative Agreement addresses the technical work to be performed, project roles, and public engagement
  - Targeted studies to obtain information required for durable selection of preferred alternatives at each location
  - Preliminary engineering to 35% design and environmental clearance (NEPA and CEQA)
  - Regular public engagement throughout the process



# Budget

- Total project budget for this phase is \$20M
- VTA has allocated \$14M through Measure B
- City secured a \$6M grant through an FRA Rail Crossing Elimination grant
- The three parties have allocated Caltrain \$17M from the total project budget
- Work is currently expected to be completed in Q4 2027



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### Questions

FOR MORE INFORMATION WWW.CALTRAIN.COM

