

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
Board of Directors
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070
Minutes of November 7, 2024**

Members Present: Margaret Abe-Koga (arrived at 9:20 am), Pat Burt, Monique Zmuda, Steve Heminger (Vice Chair), Devora “Dev” Davis (Chair)

Members Present via Teleconference: Rico E. Medina

Members Absent: Jeff Gee, Ray Mueller, Shamann Walton

Staff Present: J. Baker, M. Bouchard, C. Fromson, J. Harrison, L. Lumina-Hsu, D. Ryan, M. Tseng

- 1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Safety Moment** – Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and delivered the safety briefing.
- 2. Roll Call**
Acting District Secretary Margaret Tseng called the roll and confirmed a Board quorum was present.
- 3. Consideration of requests, if any, of Directors to participate remotely due to Emergency Circumstances** – There were none.
- 4. Request to Change Order of Business**

Public comments
Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, commented on the new headquarters locations, spoke in support of the Millbrae location, and commented on the Public Employee Performance Evaluations.
- 5. Closed Session: Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Executive Director (Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1))**
- 6. Closed Session: Public Employee Performance Evaluation: General Counsel (Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1))**
- 7. Closed Session: Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code § 54956.8)**
 - 7.a. Property: 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA
 - 7.b. Property: 166 N. Rollins Road, Millbrae, CA
 - 7.c. Property: 153 Townsend Street, San Francisco, CA
 - 7.d. Property: 305 Main Street, Redwood City, CA
 - 7.e. Property: 488 South Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, CA

8. General Counsel Report – Report Out from Above Closed Session

James Harrison, Legal Counsel, reported that there were no reportable actions.

9. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Dennis Bogusz commented on train horn noise frequency and sound level.

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, commented on electrified train schedule.

Vaughn Wolffe commented on schedule syncing with other train transit agencies to encourage people traveling long distance to ride the trains.

10. Report of the Executive Director

Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director, provided a report which included the following:

- Weekly On-Time Performance (OTP) since electrification hard launch
- Addressed known issues and action items, reduced train horn decibel levels to the lowest legal requirement and followed strict legal compliance requirements, and localized grade crossing tools that can be installed
- Low Carbon Fuel Standards (LCFS) credits received and accounted for in strategic financial plan
- Google and Waze GPS (global positioning system) navigation updates completed after meeting with companies and scheduled a meeting with Apple
- Grade crossing enhancements at grade level crossings incorporating new technologies of LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging), CCTV (closed caption television), Analysis and Alert (AI)
- Pilot installation of bike decals on platforms at Palo Alto and Redwood City stations
- Locomotives and gallery cars fleet disposition update with Lima, Peru municipality interest in 90 gallery cars and 20 retired diesel locomotives; vehicles to be used only for passenger service to ensure maximum reduction of air pollution
- 10-year Capital Investment Program (CIP) reprioritizes projects that will deliver the greatest benefit

The Board Members had a robust discussion, and staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding the following:

- Grade crossing optimization
- Contingency planning for restoration of up to five trains an hour at major stations
- Storage, transfer, and delivery costs of diesel locomotives and terms and conditions under negotiation with Lima, Peru municipality

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, commented on train horn, emergency stop reduction, and mini-high platforms.

Jeff Carter commented on electrified trains, bike car seating, and train horn noise levels.

Adrian Brandt commented on bike decals on platforms, grade crossing optimization systems, and wheel flat spots.

Adina Levin, Friends of Caltrain and Seamless Bay Area, commented on electrified train service, Wi-Fi, and CIP level boarding project.

Ms. Bouchard clarified staff is working on the wireless crossing function, the inhibit function is not currently turned on as the function needs to complete testing, with an aim to have it in service by end of November.

11. Consent Calendar

11.a. Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2024

11.b. Appointment of the Citizens Advisory Committee Representative and Alternate for Santa Clara County

11.c. Accept Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending June 30, 2024, and Approve Retroactive Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget *Approved by Resolution 24-60*

11.d. Accept Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending September 30, 2024

11.e. Authorize Executive Director to Execute Agreement with SamTrans to Add Rail Safety Direct Service Positions* **

11.f. Adoption of Caltrain 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) *Approved by Resolution 24-61*

11.g. Authorize an Amendment to the Contract with Allied Universal for Security Guard Services to Extend the Term by 18 Months and Increase the Contract Amount by \$1,977,976* *Approved by Resolution 24-62*

11.h. Receive Railyards Preliminary Business Case Update and Authorize Execution of Caltrain/Prologis Cooperation Agreement* *Approved by Resolution 24-63*

11.i. Authorize Execution of a Cooperative Agreement with Diridon Partner Agencies to Establish Interim Project Organization Structure* ** *Approved by Resolution 24-64*

Motion/Second: Burt/Heminger

Ayes: Abe-Koga, Burt, Medina, Zmuda, Heminger, Davis

Noes: None

Absent: Gee, Mueller, Walton

Public Comment

Jeff Carter commented on the CIP level boarding project and expressed concern federal funding for public transit improvements.

Adrian Brandt commented on the level boarding project, wheelchair user access, and available amenities on train cars.

12. State and Federal Legislative Update

Casey Fromson, Chief of Staff, Jason Baker, Director of Government and Communication Affairs, and Devon Ryan, Government Affairs Officer provided the presentation that included the following information:

- Select Committee framework approved forwarding all scenarios to the Commission for their review
- Overview of Caltrain funding over 15 years and addressing Caltrain's 10-year deficit for each regional measure scenario
- Reviewed the new San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA)/Operator Proposal option
- Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) favorability poll for all agencies resulted in Caltrain total favorable at 58 percent and unfavorable at 11 percent (within the three counties serviced by Caltrain)
- Caltrain-only measure examples by sales tax and/or parcel tax will need authorization legislation
- Reviewed timeline for a 2026 ballot measure including expected Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) polling in December 2024

The Board Members had a robust discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Board comments and questions, which included the following:

- Caltrain updated deficit numbers will be presented as part of the update to the Strategic Plan to the JPB Finance Committee in November
- Caltrain-only authorization decision discussion and coalition building (ad hoc meeting before Finance Committee)
- Regional measure scenarios prioritization
- Regional measure polling, future economic circumstances, and revenue shortfalls due to reduced ridership
- Contingency plan to fund a public transit agency and measure ballots conflicts
- Per county measure coordination for Caltrain and local transit agencies for a successful path

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, spoke in support of funding Caltrain.

Adina Levin spoke in support of funding that meets Caltrain needs and commented on risks of various funding measures and running measures for each agency per county.

Jeff Carter spoke in support of funding and commented on fare revenue.

Adrian Brandt spoke in support of regional funding measure.

13. Reports

13.a. Report of the Citizens Advisory Committee – Adrian Brandt provided the report which included the following:

- Appointment of Alternate member from San Francisco County
- Rail safety and crossing violations including crossing signs indicating vehicle code and fines
- Proposed pilot program at Burlingame Broadway Crossing with camera enforcement for a proactive approach
- Traffic signal preemption to clear tracks prior to gates activation
- Anti-trespassing panels to prevent cars accidentally driving on the tracks
- Train schedule feedback and external factors out of Caltrain’s control that impacted the train performance such as heat wave, power outages, vandalism
- Bike boarding signage improvements

13.b. Report of the Chair - Chair Davis stated will meet with Directors Walton and Gee on ad hoc nominating committee to bring forward in December; reinstating Board of Directors meeting locations to other counties as represented per quarter and at least once a year; and fare checks and enforcement, train cleanliness, and branding on train car.

13.c. Report of the Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG) - Chair Burt reported CIP update, evolution of corridor crossing strategy for low priority grade separation package improvements to improve capacity and circulation, and horn noise reduction. Mr. Burt expressed appreciation for San Carlos Councilperson Ron Collins, for his active and valuable role on LPMG for over 12 years and thanked him for his lasting contributions.

13.d. Report of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) – Deferred to next meeting.

Public Comment

Jeff Carter commented on status of automatic passenger counters (APC) for detailed ridership numbers. Ms. Bouchard confirmed to provide update.

14. Correspondence – Available online.

15. Board Member Requests – Director Abe-Koga requested Caltrain staff to work with Santa Clara Valley Transportation Agency (VTA) staff to value engineer the Rengstorff grade separation project and for the project to be agendize to discuss how to reign in the cost rather than continually find funding.

16. Date/Time/Location of Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 9:00 am at San José City Hall Council Chambers, 200 E Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113

17. Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 12:19 pm.