

**Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)**  
**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB)**  
**San Mateo County Transit District Administrative Building**  
Bacciocco Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos CA 94070

**Minutes of December 18, 2024**

**Members Present:** L. Acosta, A. Brandt (Chair), A. Kulkarni (Alternate), P. Leung (Vice Chair), K. Linquist, M. Pagee (Alternate), R. Sarathy, P. Wickman (Alternate) (joined at 5:48 pm)

**Members Attended Via Teleconference:** D. Albohm, R. Kutler (joined at 5:51 pm)

**Members Absent:** A. Lohe

**Staff Present:** J. Brook, J. Navarrete, S. Sargent

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

Acting Chair Adrian Brandt called the meeting to order at 5:42 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call**

Jennifer Navarrete, CAC Secretary, called the roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

*Item 4 was heard before Item 3.*

**3. Report of Nominating Committee**

Members Leung, Kutler, and Alternate Member Pagee announced the nominees for the 2025 Chair and Vice Chair positions:

Alternate Member Pagee nominated Acting Chair Brandt as Chair and Member Leung as Vice Chair with Member Kutler as back-up.

Acting Chair Brandt and Members Leung and Kutler accepted the nominations.

**a) Election of 2025 Chair and Vice Chair**

Motion/Second: Pagee/Sarathy

Ayes: Acosta, Albohm, Brandt, Kulkarni, Leung, Linquist, Pagee, Sarathy

Absent: Lohe, Kutler, Wickman

**4. Consideration of Requests, if any, of Committee Members to Participate Remotely Due to Emergency Circumstances**

Acting Chair Brandt noted Members Albohm and Kutler invoked Assembly Bill (AB) 2449 per just cause and attended remotely.

## **5. Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2024**

Motion/Second: Pagee/Sarathy

Ayes: Acosta, Albohm, Brandt, Kulkarni, Leung, Linqvist, Pagee, Sarathy

Absent: Lohe, Kutler, Wickman

## **6. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

Doug DeLong gave a shout-out to former CAC Chair Brian Shaw, the first CAC member to receive a commendation from the JPB Board for his service on the CAC.

Jeff Carter also commended Brian Shaw's chairmanship. He commented on the Holiday Train event in Millbrae on the weekend of December 7 and 8, that Caltrain will be joining SamTrans at the new headquarters in Millbrae in 2026, and requested automatic passenger counters data.

## **7. Chairperson's Report**

Chair Brandt reported on holiday train event. He stated that the track incursions had caused delays and requested that staff install bright lighting in the right of way. He summarized the December 16 Finance Committee meeting and said he had received a report from John Hogan, Chief Operating Officer, Rail, Rail Operations and Maintenance. He commented on problems with the crossing optimization system triggering more gate downtime.

### Public Comment:

Jeff Carter commented on Caltrain getting compensation for the power that is running the meter backwards and back into the grid, and on crossing optimization.

## **8. Measure RR Oversight Committee**

Sam Sargent, Director, Strategy and Policy, Rail Administration, stated that the CAC serves as the oversight committee for the one-eighth percent Measure RR sales tax. He stated he would share the upcoming audit report with the Measure RR Oversight Committee just prior to the January 15 meeting where the CAC members would accept the report.

Chair Brandt confirmed that the three Oversight Committee members were himself, Member Kutler, and Member Sarathy.

Member Kutler suggested it would be useful for members to have the most recent report.

## **9. Staff Report**

Mr. Sargent provided the report that included the following:

- On-time performance
- Track incursion trends
- Uptick in trespasser strikes
- Completion of the MP 36 locomotive overhaul project
- New artwork on Bombardier cars
- Bridge-related project updates in early 2025
- Downward trend in complaints on social media and customer service center

- Ridership recovery
- Diesel fleet retirement project – signed agreement with Lima, Peru regarding locomotive sales and diesel maintenance

#### **a) Customer Experience Task Force**

Mr. Brandt said the report was in the packet.

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

- Executing agreement with Lima, Peru to as part of diesel fleet retirement project
- Rail incursion prevention by including better lighting at crossings
- Wi-Fi and connectivity and vendor doing systemwide tests to monitor performance
- Reporting bike thefts to police and Safety and Security
- Stadler flat spot issue and restroom doors would be added to project list
- Testing of automated passenger count software

#### **b) JPB CAC Work Plan**

Chair Brandt stated he would solicit comments from the membership regarding topics for staff to present at future meetings.

Member Albohm asked if there is feedback about the local trains being scheduled too tightly when one train is late. Mr. Sargent said there would be tweaks to the schedule in January. Member Kutler asked how Caltrain came through the recent storms with trees falling. She noticed resprout on some of the eucalyptus in Burlingame. Mr. Sargent there were no power or service disruptions.

#### Public Comment:

Jeff Carter commented he was pleased that staff was addressing bike theft and was happy that the storms had not damaged the track. Regarding the sale of the diesel locomotives to Lima, Peru, he commented that he was happy to see new life for the retired equipment. Regarding the JPB work plan, he stated he wanted to add distance-based fares.

Doug DeLong requested station-to-station, or point-to-point pricing.

#### **10. Committee Comments**

The following items were discussed:

- Spotty Wi-Fi service in certain locations
- Request for increased weekend service, including from South Bay, and baby bullet from Tamien station
- Bike theft camera surveillance, with screens on the second floor showing views of bikes on the first level
- Tree work in Burlingame
- Raising service from Class 4 to Class 6 for increased speed and efficiency
- Launch of Caltrain Bluesky

- Report on visit to South Bay Historical Railroad Society Depot and Museum

Public Comment:

Jeff Carter suggested running an express train on weekends (one of the 500 series trains between the two locals).

Chair Brandt suggested having electronic billboards with the estimated time to reach San Francisco on Caltrain.

**11. Date, Time, and Location of Next Regular Meeting**

January 15, 2025, at 5:40 pm, via Zoom teleconference or at the Bacciocco Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.