



Memorandum

Date: April 23, 2020
To: CalMod Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)
From: Sebastian Petty, Director of Policy Development
Re: Caltrain Business Plan

PROJECT UPDATE

The following is one in a series of monthly project updates for the Caltrain Business Plan. These updates provide a high level summary of project activities and progress and are paired, when applicable, with a presentation that reflects project materials and messaging shared with stakeholder groups during the subject month. The following “April” update covers work completed in late March and April of 2020.

Ongoing Technical Work

In April of 2020 the team focused on ongoing technical work on the Business Plan as well as documentation and reporting as the planning process moves towards completion. Work on the plan is ongoing but has been somewhat delayed by COVID-19, primarily due to staff bandwidth issues and the need to focus on the immediate crisis. Ongoing work during April of 2020 has focused on;

- Completion of a 2040 Funding Strategy for the overall Long Range Service Vision
- Completion of the Equity Assessment and development of recommendations
- Documentation of the Business Plan process and development of summary and technical reports

The funding and equity analyses described above will be presented to stakeholder groups in May for comment and refinement. These items represent the final pieces of technical work to be completed in the Business Plan and will be followed by the release of a draft summary report and accompanying technical documents in summer for 2020.

Meetings and Outreach

Stakeholder outreach and engagement activities in April were severely curtailed due to the COVID-19 crisis and most outreach engagements were delayed or postponed. Staff presented an update of progress on the Business Plan to the Caltrain Citizen Advisory Committee on April 15.

Next Steps

The first part of the Business Plan is focused on the development of a long-range service vision for the railroad accompanied by an assessment of the community-corridor interface and the Caltrain organization. The plan will be completed in summer of 2020.



Memorandum

Date: April 23, 2020
To: CalMod Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)
From: John Funghi, CalMod Chief Officer; Casey Fromson, Gov. Affairs Director
Re: Caltrain Electrification Project E-Update

COVID-19 NOTE:

In response to a significant decline in ridership stemming from efforts to contain the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), Caltrain has made additional service adjustments, effective Monday, March 30. For more information, visit our [Coronavirus Updates Page](#).

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Over the past several months, Caltrain has been performing work on the four train tunnels in San Francisco to pave the way for Caltrain Electrification and to bring the tracks to a state of good repair. On March 29, Caltrain completed the last of the weekend service shutdown needed for electrification work which includes the installation of over 630 drop tubes and over six miles of overhead wire and conductor rail.



Crews also continued installation of poles from Menlo Park to San Jose and performed work on six traction power facilities in San Jose, Redwood City, Sunnyvale, South San Francisco, and San Mateo.

To sign up for weekly construction updates or for more construction information, visit [CalMod.org/construction](https://www.calmod.org/construction).

ELECTRIC VEHICLE UPDATE:

Electric train manufacturing continues to advance. In April, headlights on the first trainset were installed and progress was made on the windows and interior wall installations. Wiring was also strung for the Salt Lake City test track.



To see more photos of our new trains, visit [CalMod.org/Gallery](https://www.calmod.org/Gallery).

EARTH DAY, EVERY DAY

April 22 is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, but soon our new electric trains will have us celebrating Earth Day everyday. Fully electrifying our old diesel fleet will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 97%. Additionally, excess electricity created by the electric trains when braking will power auxiliary devices like lighting and air conditioning on the trains, and even the local electricity grid.



To learn more about the benefits of the program, please visit CalMod.org/Project-Benefits.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

JPB Board Meeting – May 7 at 9:00 a.m – Please note, this will be remote only

For more details, and a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit CalMod.org/Events.

DETAILED PROGRESS REPORT

- [February 2020 Monthly Progress Report](#) presented to Caltrain Board on March 5, 2020



CALIFORNIA High-Speed Rail Authority

Memorandum

Date: April 23, 2020
To: Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)
From: Boris Lipkin, Northern California Regional Director
Re: California High-Speed Rail Program Update

STATEWIDE UPDATE

In his recent program update, CEO Brian Kelly highlighted the following statewide developments:

Changes to Authority Board of Directors

Chairman Lenny Mendonca, has stepped down from his multiple roles in the Newsom Administration, including his role on the Authority Board, to focus on his personal business endeavors at this time. The Authority Board of Directors will elect a new chair at the June meeting. In the interim, Vice Chairman Tom Richards will assume the role. The Governor's Office will fill Lenny's vacancy on the Board.

Draft 2020 Business Plan Comment Period Extended

At the request of the Legislature and due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Authority is delaying the transmittal of the 2020 Business Plan to the Legislature until July 1st. The adoption timeline is being adjusted to allow for more robust public comment and for potential legislative hearings. Along with the change in the submittal date, the Authority is also extending the public comment period on the Draft 2020 Business Plan until June 1st. The Final 2020 Business Plan will come to the Authority Board for adoption at their June meeting so that it can be submitted to the Legislature by July 1st.

Project Status during the COVID-19 Crisis

While the Authority is continuing to take necessary precautions to follow COVID-19 public health guidance (including additional safety measures on the Authority's construction sites), we are proud to inform you that work on the project is continuing:

1. In recent weeks, our weekly number of workers dispatched to the construction sites topped 800, roughly 4 times the number dispatched one year ago, with a total of more than 3,700 total workers dispatched.
2. Our capital expenditure per month on construction now exceeds \$60 million, a tripling of the monthly expenditures from one year ago.
3. The number of structures now completed or under construction has doubled from this time last year.

We have taken important steps for public safety and social distancing at all job sites and are working closely with the State Building and Construction Trades to emphasize important safety and hygiene practices for all workers. We are monitoring the situation closely and will continue to follow public health guidance as it evolves.

Outside of construction, the Authority has transitioned its staff to teleworking and has been able to maintain progress across the program. This includes the upcoming release of the Draft EIR/EIS for the San Jose to Merced project section (due out on April 24th). We are currently

evaluating potential contingency plans for outreach and engagement during the 45-day public comment period on the Draft EIR/EIS to transition to online/telephonic formats in-lieu of in-person meetings. If/when those changes are made, they will be announced on the Authority’s website (www.hsr.ca.gov).

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA UPDATE

Spring 2020 Community Working Group Outreach Recap

Throughout the month of March, the Northern California team met with its San Jose to Merced and San Francisco to San Jose Community Working Groups (CWGs). The aim of these meetings was to brief CWG members on the Draft 2020 Business Plan and to provide a primer on the upcoming release of the draft environmental documents, including how to find information in the document and how to provide comments. Due to the ongoing shelter-in-place mandate, these meetings were held remotely via online webinar. Detailed meeting summaries are currently in development and will be posted to the Authority website at:

https://www.hsr.ca.gov/communication/info_center/events.aspx

Below is a summary of the dates and attendance of these meetings.

MEETINGS	PARTICIPATION
Morgan Hill–Gilroy CWG March 9 at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.	4 CWG members 4 members of the public
San Jose CWG March 11 at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.	12 CWG members 8 members of the public
South Peninsula CWG March 23 at 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.	Meeting Canceled
San Mateo County CWG March 23 at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.	7 CWG members 4 members of the public
San Francisco CWG March 26 at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.	6 CWG members 2 members of the public

Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statements (EIR/EIS)

Note that this section is a repeat from our February LPMG Memo due to last month’s meeting being cancelled. The Authority is developing contingency plans for the in-person meetings described below due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the continued shelter-in-place orders in California.

The Northern California team is preparing for its next significant milestone: the release of the Draft EIR/EIS Documents for the San Jose to Merced and San Francisco to San Jose Project Sections.

Late last year, the Authority team completed the administrative drafts for both project sections and submitted them to the Authority’s cooperating agencies for review. The administrative draft represents the first complete draft of the environmental documents. After receiving and addressing comments from the cooperating agencies, the Draft EIR/EIS for each project section will be finalized and are planned for public review starting on April 24 (San Jose to Merced) and June 26 (San Francisco to San Jose).

The release of each document will be followed by a 45-day comment period. During this time, the Authority is planning to conduct outreach with interested organizations, agencies, and members of the public to let them know that the documents are available for review and how to provide comments.

The Authority is developing contingency plans for how to conduct this planned outreach under the shelter-in-place orders if they are still in effect at the time. The open house and public hearing information below is tentative and may change as part of that. The Authority team will provide additional information and notification of any changes as the dates get closer.

After the close of the 45-day comment period, the Authority will work over the next year to respond to each comment in writing and make any necessary adjustments to the EIR/EIS.

San Jose to Merced Open Houses and Public Hearing (Tentative Dates, Subject to Change)

- May 11: **San Jose Open House**, San Jose City Hall Rotunda, 200 E Santa Clara St, San Jose, CA 95113
- May 14: **Gilroy Open House**, Veterans Memorial Hall, 74 W Sixth St, Gilroy, CA 95020
- May 18: **Los Banos Open House**, Los Banos Community Center, 645 Seventh St, Los Banos, CA 93635
- May 27: **Public Hearing**, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors' Chambers, 70 W Hedding St, San Jose, CA 95110

San Francisco to San Jose Open Houses and Public Hearing (Tentative Dates, Subject to Change)

- July 9: **Redwood City Open House**, Redwood City Library, 1044 Middlefield Rd, Redwood City, CA 94063
- July 15: **Santa Clara Open House**, Wilcox High School, 3250 Monroe St, Santa Clara, CA 95051
- July 20: **San Francisco Open House**, Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale St, San Francisco, CA 94105
- August 3: **Public Hearing**, Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale St, San Francisco, CA 94105

RECENT AND UPCOMING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- April 8: Santa Clara Valley/Pacheco Pass Wildlife Stakeholders Webinar
- April 8: Grasslands Ecological Area Stakeholders Webinar
- April 16: Redwood City/San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Online Presentation
- May 11: San Jose Open House
- May 11: San Jose to Merced Draft EIR/EIS Staff Office Hours
- May 14: Gilroy Open House
- May 18: Los Banos Open House
- May 20: San Jose to Merced Draft EIR/EIS Staff Office Hours
- May 27: San Jose to Merced Public Hearing
- May 27: San Jose to Merced Draft EIR/EIS Staff Office Hours