

Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB) Summary
Meeting of October 5, 2023

Report of the Executive Director - Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director, provided updates which included the following:

- Last month was Transit Month, an additional fourth train to Gilroy, and participated in the “All Aboard with Transit CEOs” ride-along event
- Successful San Francisco public train tour with an estimated attendance of 5,000 people and will be hosting the third installment of EMU (electric multiple units) in San Mateo in next few months
- Hosted FTA (Federal Transit Administration) Administrator Nuria Fernandez on a tour of the new EMU and updates on electrification progress, ridership growth actions, and other major projects
- Upcoming APTA (American Public Transportation Association) expo in Florida showcasing new EMU
- Milestones reached in the past month included completing the installation of the last pole for the Overhead Contact System, upgrading our signal system, successfully testing the new electric trains at maximum track speed, and continuing to focus on communication
- Launched new operating schedule on September 25th, offering new fare promotions and monitoring ridership
- Caltrans awarded a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant to fund a climate change vulnerability study, which will provide the basis for future resilience planning and capital investment to protect Caltrain’s system, employees, riders, and service from disruptive climate change impacts
- Safety updates included the following:
 - Had a series of positive team meetings with the NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board) and FRA (Federal Railroad Administration)
 - Received commendations and recognition for efforts as “industry-leading,” including placing a weekly limit on hours of service for roadway workers in charge; invited to FRA November round table in Kansas

JPB Board of Directors Received and Approved the Following Items:

- Meeting Minutes of September 7, 2023
- Renew Findings of an Emergency Regarding the North Channel Embankment of the San Francisquito Creek Bridge Due to Erosion Pursuant to Public Contract Code §22050*
- Accept Unaudited Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending June 30, 2023
- Accept Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending August 31, 2023
- Authorize Executive Director to Execute an Agreement with Caltrans to Receive Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program Funds*
- Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with Transbay Joint Powers Authority for 4th and King Yard Preparation in Support of the Downtown Rail Extension* **
- Approve BayPass Participation Agreement

Item 6.b. Renew Findings of an Emergency Regarding the North Channel Embankment of the San Francisquito Creek Bridge Due to Erosion Pursuant to Public Contract Code §22050* was pulled from Consent Calendar by Director Davis for updated staff presentation.

Robert Barnard, Deputy Chief of Rail Design and Construction, provided the report which, included the following:

- Established a funding plan and negotiated agreements with partners and contacted the California Native American Heritage Commission to determine any prehistoric sacred sites in or traditional cultural properties
- Section 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers remains outstanding. Determined it was necessary to seek review and concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Office. The permit will not be received in time to do the work during the work window, and will obtain the permit for construction during the next dry season in 2024
- The team will be ready to implement a temporary bank stabilization solution if winter weather results in continued erosion and or any flooding

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

- Anticipate labor and materials escalation, but the contract remains the same
- Working with the Army Corps of Engineers to determine and preplan for temporary measures to stabilize the bridge, such as temporary rock embankment or dropping large bags of boulders in place to protect the embankment
- The engineering team fully engaged to ensure all bridges along the corridor are inspected and monitored. Emphasized the need to have the emergency response plans ready and in place

Proclaiming the Month of October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month - Mehul Kumar, Chief Information and Technology Officer, provided highlights on the resolution, which included the following:

- Cyber threats continue to increase, and the impact of cyber-attacks has been debilitating to individuals and organizations; education and awareness are crucial for all
- Maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility, and all should be aware of cyber threats

Resolution Honoring Filipino American History Month - Tasha Bartholomew, Communications Manager, provided highlights on the resolution and shared information

- One of the largest Asian-American ethnic groups in the United States
- Rider survey showed Filipinos and Filipino-Americans make up 26 percent of AAPI (Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders) ridership
- Every person has the freedom to feel valued and respected and condemns racism in rhetoric or action

Proposed Electrified Service Plan for Fall 2024 – Melissa Jones, Deputy Director of Policy Development, provided the presentation, which included the following:

- Launching service in Fall 2024 with a new service plan and having the opportunity to improve frequency with electric trains being able to accelerate and decelerate faster than diesel sets
- Currently in the public review process and speaking with many different communities and committees and collecting feedback for additional analysis to refine the schedule; the final service plan proposal in December will include weekday and weekend service plans
- FFGA (Full-Funding Grant Agreements Guidance) calls for expanded service but seeking a waiver from FTA to delay further service expansion until ridership returns

Theodore Burgwyn, Director of Rail Network and Operations Planning, provided the presentation, which included the following:

- A South County connector train to serve stations on the non-electrified Gilroy segment
- Off-peak service will follow the same pattern as peak-hour local service, which will provide 30-minute headways to all stations all day long
- Express A service will be the fastest option from San Jose and San Francisco
- Continue outreach this month to gather more feedback to refine the final service plan for weekend and weekday service and cost estimates

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

- Greater sense of urgency for transfer coordination with BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit)
- Concerns with Express B being about 10 minutes more than the current baby bullet from San Jose to San Francisco
- Need to recognize whistle mic noise impacts and elevate consideration of quiet zones

Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project (PCEP) Monthly Progress Report - Pranaya Shrestha, CalMod Chief Officer, provided the presentation that included the following information:

- BBI (Balfour Beatty Infrastructure) shared risk pool is \$50 million, and the remainder at the end of the project is shared; the remaining amount is approximately \$67 million with anticipated reduction as risks are addressed
- Overhead Contact System (OCS) wiring is completed, and working on ways to prevent theft of impedance bond cables
- Schedule impacts with October shutdowns and other events happening, such as Fleet Week
- Light impacts on the November schedule, working out details for December, and little impacts in 2024
- Second public train event in San Francisco with thousands of attendees and a future one planned in San Mateo County at the beginning of next year; Caltrain's 106th anniversary in January
- OCS production is at the end of wire pulling, and the only wire pull left is at Guadalupe, which happens at the end of this month

Monthly Reports were provided on the following items:

- Report of the Citizens Advisory Committee – Brian Shaw, Chair, provided an update on CAC discussions, which included the following:
 - Policy for scooters on trains – more scooters seen and occupying bike car
 - Need better wayfinding at Millbrae station and the problem with the mobile app while using dark mode
 - Presentation on safety and suicide prevention; promote the three-digit text number and improve on signage along the corridor; create a map showing incidents where suicides occurred
 - Supported enforcement blitz at Broadway and Whipple
 - The new proposed electrification schedule is inconsistent with prior communications since the schedule is running the same number of trains stopping at more stations and being a little faster versus having more trains running
 - Suggested conversation with State about not meeting expansion requirements
 - Received excessive downed gate time inquiries via social media
 - Fare enforcement is not an effective system, as a large number of riders are not getting cited
 - Amendment to bylaws in October and transit-oriented development and Brown Act training in November

- **Report of the Chair** - Chair Gee thanked Casey Fromson and her team for the block party in San Francisco, with more than 4,500 attendees and close to 4,700 RSVPs. He noted receipt of the Triennial FTA (Federal Transit Administration) report. Had ribbon cutting for the fourth train in Gilroy.

- **Report of the Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)** – Chair Burt had nothing to report as Vice Chair Jen Wolosin substituted as Chair, but he noted that the group received the Update on Rail Safety and Suicide Prevention Initiatives presentation.

- **Report of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA)** - Chair Gee reported on the September meeting: action needed to be able to receive a TIRCP (Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program) grant and upcoming action for the October meeting to consider releasing the RFQ (request for quotation) for the civil and tunnel work for the Portal (the San Francisco downtown extension project).