

TA

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as of 3-18-2022

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SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
(650) 508-6200

March 17, 2022

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
Speaker pro Tempore
California State Assembly
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 8320
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: AB 2197 (Mullin) – Funding for Caltrain Electrification - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Mullin:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans) and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA), I write in support of AB 2197, which would appropriate \$260 million to help fund the Caltrain Electrification Project.

Caltrain's Electrification Project is under construction and when operational in fall 2024, will be the State's first electrified commuter rail system. The project will modernize the 150-year-old rail corridor, replacing 75% of the existing diesel fleet with high-performance electric trains.

Recently, Caltrain identified a funding gap due to delays and cost increases arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting supply chain issues, unforeseen site conditions, and resolution of commercial and contractor disputes. Caltrain is seeking \$260M in State funding to help close the funding gap.

Caltrain has made significant progress on the Electrification Project, which began construction in 2017 and continued throughout the pandemic. The civil infrastructure work is now complete, and the project team is focused on constructing the new signal system.

This spring, the first high-performance electric trains will arrive on the corridor. Full corridor testing will start in 2023 and passenger service is on track to begin in 2024.

SamTrans and the TA understand the importance of providing clean transportation options to Bay Area residents and commuters. Working together, we can all take one-step closer to a greener transit system that is vital in the fight against climate change.

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Honorable Kevin Mullin

March 17, 2022

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Thank you again for your leadership in ensuring Caltrain can close this funding gap.

Sincerely,



Carter Mau

Acting CEO/General Manager/Executive Director

cc: San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors
San Mateo County Transit District State Legislative Delegation
San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors
San Mateo County Transportation Authority State Legislative Delegation