# Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB) Liaison Report Meeting of April 3, 2025

Closed Sessions: Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (§ 54956.9(d)(1)) [Waltzer v. Cerda, et al, San Mateo County Superior Court, Case No. 22-CIV-03871] - There were no reportable actions.

**Report of the Executive Director** - Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director, provided a report which included the following:

- Achieved 95.4 percent on-time performance in March, first time hitting goal since November
  2021
- Significant increase in cost for components due to tariffs; planning how to track tariff impacts for budgeting
- Fare structure changes, GoPass changes, and implementation
- Recognized Black History Month, Women's History Month, and Transit Employee
  Appreciation Day
- Current train service schedule accommodates special events without extra service
- Station restroom pilot project at Sunnyvale and Redwood City stations
- Sustainability Award from Sustainable San Mateo County for Caltrain Electrification Program
- Caltrain Electrification Project team won John L. Martin Partnering Project of the Year Award

The Board Members had a robust discussion, and staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding peak hour ridership recovery.

### JPB Board of Directors Received and Approved the Following Items:

- Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2025
- Accept Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the Period Ending January 31, 2025
- Adopt Changes to Caltrain Fare Structure and Charter Train, Bike Lockers, and Parking Fees and Receive Report on the Updated Draft GoPass Pricing Structure
- Authorize the Application for and Receipt of Annual Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) Funds for Ridership Recovery Service Enhancement
- Award a Contract to Myers & Sons Construction, LLC for Construction Manager General Contractor Pre-Construction Services for Middle Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Rail Undercrossing Project for \$594,415.98

<u>Receive Update on the Trespasser Prevention Safety Plan</u> – Mike Meader, Chief Safety Officer, provided the presentation that included the following information:

- Methods to address pedestrian and vehicle trespassing
- Impact on persons as well as Caltrain property and reputation
- Peer engagement with transit agencies, mental health crisis and encampment management

- Expand education efforts including:
  - Upstream mental health training for employees
  - o Expand mental health and resources public messaging
  - Crisis Intervention, signage, Psychiatric Emergency Response Teams (PERT), employee trauma counseling services, counselors/social workers to travel with transit police teams
- Explore engineering methods and environmental deterrents and enhancements including:
  - Means restriction, detection, and alert technologies
  - Trespasser panels and access barrier technologies
  - Transit watch apps with public crowdsourcing
  - Enhance Pedestrian crossing channelization, lighting at grade/pedestrian crossings, and explore blue lighting, and audio enhancements at stations
- Increase enforcement, training, and outreach including:
  - Partnership with municipal police departments for enforcement coverage
  - Increase transit police officers
- Budget development and safety improvements evaluation
- Timeline for near-term, long-term efforts, longer term plans and costs benefits

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

- Naming of the activity/program in a respectful and serious manner
- Public crowd sourcing reporting app and potential integration with Caltrain app
- Platform protections measures, station reconstruction integration, and at-level boarding
- Copper theft trespassers
- Initiative ongoing implementation timeline

# Receive State and Federal Legislative Update and Consider Position on State Budget Request for Public Transit – Jason Baker, Director of Government and Communication Affairs, and Devon Ryan, Government Affairs Officer, provided the presentation that included the following information:

#### Federal:

- Full year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act 2025 signed
- Funding elimination of community projects requests; impacts \$3.3 million for South County Wi-Fi project and other Caltrain projects
- Tariffs impact on sales tax revenue and purchasing

#### State:

- Cap-and-Trade Program reauthorization, protect and increase current levels of cap-and-trade funding for public transit, and ensure dedicated high-speed rail revenue
- State budget request efforts to secure additional \$2 billion for public transit over Fiscal Year
  (FY) 2026 and FY27

## Regional:

• Bay Area transit funding efforts by partner agencies

- Polling efforts in San Mateo County and Santa Clara County
- Senate Bill 63 (Wiener)
  - Create new district governed by Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
    including San Francisco County, San Mateo County and Santa Clara County may opt-in
  - o 10 to 15 years duration, focused on public transportation agencies
  - o JPB member agencies would determine financial responsibility for Caltrain
  - o Accountability requirements of MTC consultant to provide financial review; operators and funding recipients action plans; and MTC to provide annual report to legislature
- Senate Bill 79 (Wiener)
  - o Authorizes transit agencies to adopt residential and commercial zoning standards
  - o Transit-oriented development near major transit stops allowed
- Senate Bill 30 (Cortese) diesel-powering on-track equipment; decommissioning; resale and transfer restrictions
- Assembly Bill 1372 (Papan) Caltrain energy bill which Caltrain sponsors; Caltrain eligible for compensation for energy sent back to the grid from regenerative braking

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

- Budget allocation for \$2 billion public transit funding formula across state public transit agencies and allocation specifications
- San Mateo County obligations to fund Caltrain and Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)
- Bridge funding gap until regional funding measure to address public transit deficits

## Monthly Reports were provided on the following items:

- Report of the Citizens Advisory Committee Adrian Brandt, Chair, provided an update, which included the following:
  - Broadway grade separation project
  - GoPass, fare payment structure, and distance-based fares
  - Sustainability program
  - Regenerative energy, solar panels at stations, and battery storage
  - Flat spots
  - Customer Experience Feedback Survey, trains early departures, and wifi issues
- Report of the Chair Chair Heminger stated there was no report.
- Report of the Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG) Chair Burt reported LPMG received updates on Caltrain polling; parking program and station access plan; station activation; regional measure, city advocacy role and support of local county measures; sustainability program, and increasing ridership.
- Report of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) –Deferred