Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB) Liaison Report
Meeting of November 6, 2025

<u>Report of the Executive Director</u> - Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director, provided a report which included the following:

- Safety activities: Transit police high-visibility patrols, Suicide Prevention engagement
- State Bridge Loan for Bay Area transit agencies application due by January 10, 2026
- Senate Bill (SB) 63 efficiency review required for Caltrain; Caltrain must adopt selected strategies by July 1, 2026
- Upcoming meetings to address budget shortfall including March 2026 Board of Directors
- Looking at improvements at grade crossings; Refreshed all signage for 9-8-8 texting
- Budget Workshop; data-driven recommendations and preparation of budget shortfall
- September: On-time performance 94 percent; over 1 million riders, total ridership recovery at 66 percent; maintained cleanliness at stations
- Special events partnership with Peninsula sports teams; upcoming preparation for FIFA and Super Bowl
- December 13 - Holiday train onboard experience

Theodore Burgwyn, Director, Rail Networks and Operation Planning, provided an update on the recent fleet challenges that included the following:

- October mechanical issues and Caltrain fell below 14 trainsets which is below the 16 trainsets minimum to run full weekday revenue service
- Stadler sent additional engineers to work on affected trainsets
- Mitigating the issue with the four new trainsets being manufactured

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

- Monthly updates until trainset mechanical issues are resolved
- Train fleet size based on goal for electrification delivery; four train sets are being manufactured with 2026 delivery; total train set size will be 24
- SB 63 polling results with support by county; San Mateo County and Santa Clara County weak support for SB 63 however survey respondents support of Caltrain

<u>JPB Board of Directors Received and Approved the Following Items:</u>

- Approval of Meeting Minutes for October 9, 2025
- Adopt 2026 Meeting Calendar
- Accept Statements of Revenues and Expenses for the Periods Ending June 30, 2025, and August 31, 2025
- Amend and Increase the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Budget from $66,491,608 to $92,641,608

- Authorize Amendment 2 to Contract with Olson Remcho LLP for General Counsel and Other Legal Services*

Item 10.d. *Amend and Increase the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Budget from $66,491,608 to $92,641,608* was pulled for further discussion. Staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding the removal of $5 million San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) funding as discussions with SFCTA are ongoing.

The City and County of San Francisco will not provide additional member contribution to Caltrain or the Guadalupe Bridge Project until the governance conversation has been concluded.

Adopt Proposed Fare Structure and Caltrain Charter Train, Bike Locker, and Parking Fee Document Changes – Melissa Jones, Deputy Director for Policy Development, Bruce Thompson, Manager, Fare Program Operations, and Michelle Louie, Title VI Social Equity Administrator, provided the presentation that included the following information:

- Current ridership levels, fare product usage, and zones travelled; Clipper usage at 71.6 percent
- Recommended fare structure gradual, incremental fare increases
- Considerations: future ridership trends, price sensitivity, economic growth
- Revenue growth is primarily driven by ridership growth, not fare increases
- Current equity programs available for riders and upcoming with Clipper 2.0
- Recommended charter train flexibility in price negotiations based on customer needs; set rates case-by-case basis
- Title VI equity analysis: looked at data from Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) ridership, 2024 customer survey, and current/proposed fare structure; determined no disparate impact or disproportionate burden

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

- Rider survey data was completed pre-COVID; no rider survey data post-COVID
- Base-fare and zone-fare increases; distance-traveled
- Low south Santa Clara County (SCC) ridership levels; ridership growth in south SCC essential for growth and survival of Caltrain system
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) partnership for marketing and ridership growth
- South County users hurdle with transferring between trains
- In-depth fare study; rider demographic changes post-pandemic; current rider elasticity; commute, weekend, off-peak, infrequent rider demographics
- Gradual fare increases to cover costs; static fare price all hours all days

- Clipper discount and market share, and ticket machines
- Accepting cash and low-income rider equity; access for riders over a range of income levels
- Disconnect between increased ridership growth and rate of revenue growth
- GoPass and city partnerships

Receive Results of the Annual Caltrain Customer Satisfaction Survey – Julian Jest, Manager of Market Research, provided the presentation that included the following information:

- 93 percent Caltrain riders satisfied with overall experience
- Increased service and frequency levels important to riders; also valued cleanliness, comfort of ride, and onboard Wi-Fi
- Safety – lower rate of growth year over year but already at high satisfaction levels
- Overall satisfaction level drivers: on-time performance, onboard announcements, train interior cleanliness, current schedule, conductor announcements about delays, printed materials, communication of delays and train arrivals
- Addressing rider priorities

Receive State and Federal Legislative Update – Information in packet. Accepted without presentation.

Monthly Reports were provided on the following items:

- **Report of the Citizens Advisory Committee** – Adrian Brandt, Chair, provided an update, which included the following:
    - Citizens Advisory Committee zoom issues that those online were not heard within the public meeting room
    - Customer Satisfaction Survey Results
    - Wi-Fi, restrooms, malfunctioning onboard screens
    - Fare structure changes
    - Distance-based fares
    - Automatic Passenger Counters (APC)
    - Tamien bus bridge
    - Bayshore Station elevator outages
    - Train brakes squeaking

- **Report of the Chair –** Chair Heminger stated United States Representative Nancy Pelosi will be eligible to have a train named in her honor and for staff to explore the option.

  Appointment of JPB Representative to SB 63 Oversight Committee - Chair Heminger announced the appointment of Director Gee as the JPB representative to the Senate Bill 63 Oversight Committee.

- **Report of the Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)** – Chair Burt stated there was nothing to report.

- **Report of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA)** - Chair Gee stated there was nothing to report.

Director Burt requested an item for the December Board meeting to discuss conducting a performance audit of shared services.