Caltrain has launched a public consultation to allow passengers to shape the design of its new electric train fleet.

Caltrain, which operates commuter rail services in San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara, is planning to invest in a new fleet of electric-multiple units (EMU) to replace around 75 per cent of its diesel trains.

Manufacturers were approached for expressions of interest in May and now the operator it asking its passengers what they would want from the new trains.

Electric trains are one component of a $1.5 billion investment programme. By 2019, Caltrain’s San Francisco-San Jose corridor will be electrified and a new Postive Train Control (PTC) system will have been implemented.