Caltrain to Hold Special Workshop Meeting on Electric Train Cars

Caltrain will convene a special community workshop on Wednesday to discuss capacity and design specifications for the agency’s future fleet of electric train cars and their boarding platforms.

As part of its Caltrain Modernization program, the agency will electrify its entire system, requiring the purchase of new Electric Multiple Units (EMUs, or electric train cars) for the railway. The workshop tomorrow will focus on the interior design options of the electric train cars, including details on the benefits and trade-offs of including amenities like bathrooms, increased capacity for bicycles and various seating arrangements.

The workshop will also include a discussion on common platform heights between Caltrain and High Speed Rail. Feedback will be used to develop a staff recommendation for the Request for Proposals scheduled to be brought before the board in July. Details on the workshop are below:

**Wednesday, May 20, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**
Caltrain Central Headquarters
Second Floor Auditorium
1250 San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, CA

Earlier this year, Caltrain released the results of an online survey which asked passengers their preferences on the interior designs of the electric trains. Increased seating capacity ranked as the top priority for the 4,196 passengers who responded to the survey.

Caltrain is scheduled to be operating electrified train service by the end of 2020. Electrifying the Caltrain system will improve corridor air quality by up to 97 percent by 2040, more than double current weekday ridership with increased service and the proposed downtown San Francisco extension, and take more than 600,000 daily vehicle miles off the region’s roadways.

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About Caltrain: Owned and operated by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, Caltrain provides commuter rail service from San Francisco to San Jose, with limited commute service to Gilroy. Caltrain
has enjoyed more than four years of consecutive monthly ridership increases, surpassing more than 60,000 average weekday riders earlier this year. While the Joint Powers Board assumed operating responsibilities for the service in 1992, the railroad celebrated 150 years of continuous passenger service in 2014. Planning for the next 150 years of Peninsula rail service, Caltrain is on pace to electrify the corridor, reduce diesel emissions by 97 percent by 2040 and add more service to more stations.

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