

Bicycle Advisory Committee

CORRESPONDENCE

Part 2

March 14, 2014 – March 20, 2014

Averill, Joshua

From: Jenn Rodriguez <jennrod12@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2014 11:30 AM
To: Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Re: Updated Webpages

Thanks, Josh!

Love Caltrain, by the way, commuted on it for 2 years! Now I'm close enough to work that it doesn't make sense.

Jenn

On Thu, Mar 20, 2014 at 8:19 AM, Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com) <baccaltrain@samtrans.com> wrote:

Morning,

I deleted your e-mail address from the BAC subscriber list.

With Regards,

Josh Averill

Assistant District Secretary

San Mateo County Transit District

1250 San Carlos Avenue

San Carlos CA 94070-1306

[650-508-6223](tel:650-508-6223)

AverillJ@SamTrans.com

From: Jenn Rodriguez [mailto:jennrod12@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 5:08 PM
To: Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Re: Updated Webpages

Hi,

I am not able to unsubscribe. It tells me I am not in the list. Can you find a way to unsubscribe me?

Thanks,

Jenn

Jennrod12@gmail.com

On Wed, Mar 19, 2014 at 5:02 PM, BAC@caltrain.com <BAC@caltrain.com> wrote:

The following pages have been updated:

[Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting Calendar](#) - *Wednesday, March 19, 2014 11:30 AM*

You are subscribed to receive updates to the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) Web page. The 3-20-14 BAC Follow-up Report and the Draft Bike Bump Form is now available.

To stop receiving email notifications, please unsubscribe [here](#).

Averill, Joshua

From: Terry Barton <terry.barton@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2014 11:24 AM
To: Board (@caltrain.com); Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com); cacsecretary (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Fwd: Train March 20 San Antonio station 3+ bikes bumped

On train # 135 Bombardier March 20, 2014 at San Antonio station, 3 bikes were denied boarding on the north car as it was already overcapacity Additional bikes were denied from the south bike car, but did not see how many.

Terry Barton

Averill, Joshua

From: Jacky Schuler <jackyschuler@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 7:41 PM
To: Nabong, Sarah
Cc: Bikes on Board; Board (@caltrain.com); Bartholomew, Tasha; cac@caltrain.com; Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Bikes on Caltrain Comment -- bump report

Wed 3/19, Train 289

Redwood City -- not sure how many bikes bumped. I arrived first and got on the front car but all other bikes (3-4) were sent to the rear car. There were already bikes there when I arrived so I suspect there were several bumps because both cars were full at the next stop.

San Carlos -- I only saw one bike get bumped but the conductor in the rear car said it was full as well so I can only assume that several bikes were bumped there as well.

From: Shirley Johnson <dr_shirley_johnson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 11:39 PM
To: Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com)
Cc: Bartholomew, Tasha
Subject: Caltrain draft EIR missing benefits of bikes onboard

Dear Bicycle Advisory Committee,

Caltrain draft EIR does not show the environmental benefits that would be gained by increasing onboard bike capacity. More onboard bike capacity would enable more people to ride Caltrain, but the draft EIR completely ignores this important point.

Section 3.14-8, line 35 of the draft EIR states that 13% of passengers bring their bikes onboard, while only 1% park at the stations. Clearly customers need their bikes onboard to solve the first and last mile problem. Yet section 3.14-59, line 16 states that any unmet onboard demand will be accommodated through increased bike parking. This is the wrong approach. More onboard bike capacity is how Caltrain can increase ridership and encourage mode shift from driving to biking.

The environmental impact assessment is sorely lacking in showing how more bikes onboard is a major environmental benefit.

Sincerely,
Shirley Johnson

=====
Excerpts from the EIR copied below:

Bikes on Board

Line 16 of section 3.14-59

Caltrain would continue accommodating bicycles on board EMUs. Any unmet on-board demand for bikes-on-board could be accommodated through the provision of increased bike parking at stations. This would allow passengers to safely and securely park their bikes before boarding the train. If a passenger is in need of a bike to egress from their destination station, they may also be able to use Bay Area Bike Share, travel by another mode, or to leave a bike securely parked at their destination station to facilitate their last-mile connection. Although long-range future plans for Bay Area Bike Share are not yet available, the program would be expanded to include 1,000 bikes and 100 stations in 2014 (Cabanatuan 2013).

Impact

Section 3.14-37

The project would create a significant impact if either of the following criteria is met or exceeded: The project does not meet Caltrain's Comprehensive Access Program Policy Statement or Bicycle Access and Parking Plan. [My added note: The Comprehensive Access Program Policy Statement is that access priority for autos is the lowest priority after transit, walking and bicycles.]

Background Info

Line 28 of section 3.14-8

The top daily access mode for Caltrain passengers traveling to stations is walking (36 percent). The high mode share for walking indicates that a high volume of passengers live or work within reasonable walking distance of their origin station. Travel by transit or public/private shuttle is the second most popular access mode (26 percent) followed by car (23 percent) and bicycle (14 percent).

Line 35 of section 3.14-8

The majority of Caltrain cyclists bring their bicycles on-board rather than parking their bicycle at their origin station. About 13 percent of passengers bring their bicycles on-board compared with only 1 percent who store their bicycles in lockers, racks, or shared bicycle storage at or near stations

Line 16 of section 3.14-21

Bike mode share of ridership has been increasing but the raw number of increased boardings is greater than the increase in the numbers of daily bike boarding. Average daily bike boardings increased by 16 percent from 2011 to 2012, outpacing the total ridership growth rate. From 2012 to 2013, bicycle boarding increased by another 16 percent, compared with a total ridership increase of 11 percent (Caltrain2013b).

Other Sections in the EIR

A search for “bicycle” produced no results in the following sections:

Chapter 2: Project Description

Section 3.2: Air Quality

Section 3.7: Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change

Averill, Joshua

From: Shirley Johnson <dr_shirley_johnson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 11:20 PM
To: Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com)
Cc: Averill, Joshua; cacsecretary (@caltrain.com); Bartholomew, Tasha; Vanderpool, Rick
Subject: Fw: bump report

Dear Bicycle Advisory Committee,

It has been my experience that Caltrain's email client does not always accept emails with attachments. I have sent emails that simply disappear, and I receive no "undeliverable" message. Therefore I am forwarding the email below without the attachment, but with a link to the same document posted on google docs.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7qJ2svk6gEGbIFPdGRQOHNhaW8/edit?usp=sharing>

Best regards,
Shirley

P.S. Caltrain IT is working on the problem, but several of my emails have already apparently not been received. It is a concern that the BAC, CAC, and JPB may be missing emails from others as well.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Shirley Johnson <dr_shirley_johnson@yahoo.com>
To: "bac@caltrain.com" <bac@caltrain.com>
Cc: Tasha <bartholomewt@samtrans.com>; "cacsecretary (@caltrain.com)" <cacsecretary@caltrain.com>; Joshua <AverillJ@samtrans.com>; Rick Vanderpool <vanderpoolr@samtrans.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 11:13 PM
Subject: bump report

Dear Bicycle Advisory Committee,

Please see the attached bumped report.

Best regards,
Shirley Johnson
Leader, BIKES ONboard project
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition
www.sfbike.org/bob

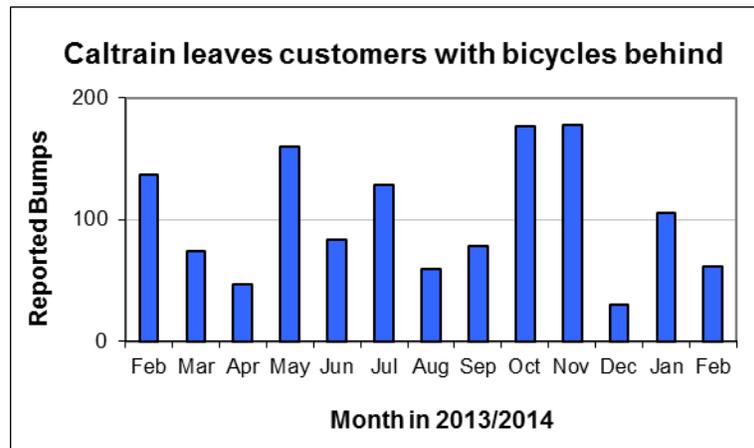
March 18, 2014

TO: Bicycle Advisory Committee

FROM: Shirley Johnson

SUBJECT: **BUMP REPORT**

Cyclists voluntarily report bumps (cyclists denied boarding due to insufficient bike capacity) to the Joint Powers Board (JPB), and these bump reports appear in the JPB correspondence packet. The BIKES ONboard team of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition tallies the bump reports and posts a graph on its web site at www.sfbike.org/bob.



The graph represents a lower bound, because not all bumps are reported.

The graph makes it obvious that Caltrain needs more bike capacity to meet customer needs. Fortunately, Caltrain is in negotiations for eleven new Bombardier cars to run six-car trains. According to Caltrain's own passenger counts, six cars will result in empty seats on the trains again. Therefore, new Bombardier cars provide an excellent opportunity to conduct a pilot of three-bike-car Bombardier trains.

At the JPB meeting on February 6, 2014, Caltrain CEO Mike Scanlon stated that the configuration of the new Bombardier cars had not been decided. I encourage the BAC to work with staff to ensure that some of the new Bombardier cars will be bike cars, so six-car Bombardier trains will have three bike cars to hold 72 bikes per train, comparable to the 80 bikes per train currently held by gallery trains.

Averill, Joshua

From: pat giorni <hogorni@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 1:01 PM
To: Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com); Averill, Joshua
Cc: Board (@caltrain.com); cacsecretary (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Caltrain Capacity Constraints to Adding 3rd Bike Car

Dear Chair Turner,

For more than 3 years the on-board bicycle carriage passengers have been requesting that a 3rd bike car be put on the bombardier consists in order to provide consistent bike carriage, especially when a scheduled Gallery consist is replaced with a bombardier. One would have thought that the BAC would continue to examine and discuss this problem as the bump numbers continue to increase. It is understandable, however, that since the item was presented only once to the BAC on its 9/19/13 agenda as part of the Item 9 Staff Report at the end of the meeting as a one page informational staff report

(http://www.caltrain.com/Assets/_Agendas+and+Minutes/BAC/Materials/2013/9-19-13+BAC+Constraints+to+Add+3rd+Bike+Car.pdf), there was insufficient time to discuss the issue.

Therefore I find it curious that the Citizens Advisory Committee had an in depth 14 slide presentation at its 1/15/14 meeting entitled on its website as [Caltrain Capacity Constraints to Adding 3rd Bike Car](http://www.caltrain.com/Assets/_Agendas+and+Minutes/JPB/CAC/Presentations/2014/1-15-14+JPB+CAC+Caltrain+Capacity+Presentation.pdf) (http://www.caltrain.com/Assets/_Agendas+and+Minutes/JPB/CAC/Presentations/2014/1-15-14+JPB+CAC+Caltrain+Capacity+Presentation.pdf) whereby the minutes reflect a robust discussion. In addition, I wonder why this same presentation has not been brought to you on this month's agenda.

There are a lot of issues important to the BAC that are proving to be glossed over because there is not enough time to cover them at the meetings. Staff also has a tendency to present overly long reports on such topics as Modernization, Electrification, etc. where only a small portion may relate to bicycle issues during the heart of the meetings, and generally leaves important issues, such as bumping, Bombardier space constraints, future rail car purchase and design as end of the meeting Staff Report items that are for the most part informational throwaways because there is no time left for any membership discussion, let alone public comment.

It seems to me if the BAC is going to place a time limit on each meeting to conveniently fit train schedules, then perhaps it should schedule MORE regular meetings, per Charter ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS, Section 1.

The Committee shall call at least six bi-monthly, regularly scheduled meetings per year in addition to any special meetings convened by the Chair.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Pat Giorni
Burlingame.

Averill, Joshua

From: Shirley Johnson <dr_shirley_johnson@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 10:33 PM
To: Averill, Joshua; cacsecretary (@caltrain.com); Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com); Board (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Fw: Bicycle Bump Graph for 2013 without attachment - link to google doc instead

The attachment has been removed from this email. The attachment can be found at the link below:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7qJ2svk6gEGMWROaIViVmplVUK/edit?usp=sharing>

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Shirley Johnson <dr_shirley_johnson@yahoo.com>
To: "board@caltrain.com" <board@caltrain.com>
Cc: "bac@caltrain.com" <bac@caltrain.com>; "cac@caltrain.com" <cac@caltrain.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2014 11:02 PM
Subject: Bicycle Bump Graph for 2013

Dear Caltrain Board,

The attached graph shows bicycle bumps for 2013 tallied from voluntary bump reports in your monthly correspondence packet.

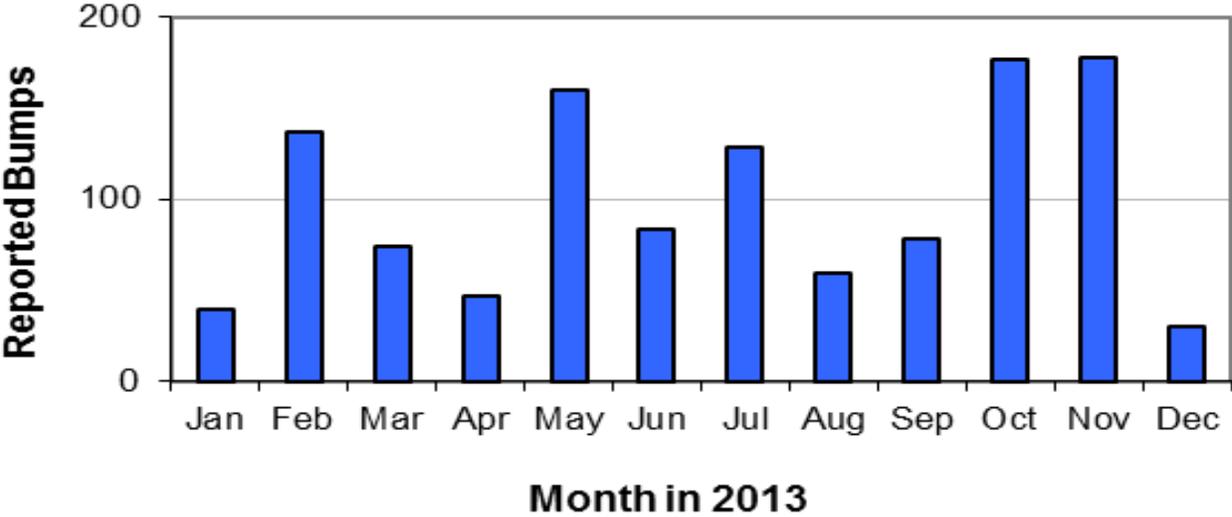
The graph shows that bicycle bumps are a continuing, serious problem. Nearly all bicycle bumps occur due to Bombardier trains holding only 48 bikes instead of 80 bikes as for gallery trains.

As reported in last month's JPB meeting minutes, Caltrain plans to buy Bombardier cars to run six-car trains and to replace a gallery train with a Bombardier train. This will result in a decrease in onboard bike space due to the lower bike capacity of Bombardier trains.

The solution is to make the new Bombardier car a bike car for the six-car trains. Please upgrade Bombardier trains to three bike cars when the new Bombardier cars are added to the fleet. Thank you.

Best regards,
Shirley Johnson
BIKES ONboard project
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition
www.sfbike.org/bob

Caltrain leaves customers with bicycles behind



The graph represents a lower bound, because not all bumps are reported.

Averill, Joshua

From: Ryan Schmidt <rschmidtca@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 6:33 PM
To: lindella@samtrans.com; bikesonboard@sfbike.org; Board (@caltrain.com); Bartholomew, Tasha; cac@caltrain.com; Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com)
Subject: 5 bikes bumped from 279 NB

Just a quick note that at least 5 bikes were bumped from northbound train #279 today in Redwood City. Not good.

It's March and we're seeing lots of bikes bumped on Caltrain. We really need a solution to this before the summertime when loads of commuters will bring their bikes on Caltrain...

Ryan

Averill, Joshua

From: Michael Fitzsimons <fitzsimons.michael@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 5:35 PM
To: Nabong, Sarah
Cc: bikesonboard@sfbike.org; Board (@caltrain.com); Bartholomew, Tasha; cac@caltrain.com; Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Bikes on Caltrain Comment

Bumped on 247 going north at San Carlos. Four bikes on south car were denied access. More bike cars are needed.

Michael