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## Caltrain Awards Contract for 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Grade Separation Project

Today, the Caltrain Board of Directors approved award of an \$82.9 million contract to Oakland-based Shimmick/Disney Joint Venture for the <u>25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Grade</u> <u>Separation Project</u>.

Construction on the project is scheduled for fall 2017 and is expected to span two and a half years.

Caltrain, in cooperation with the City of San Mateo, will raise the tracks between State Route 92 and Hillsdale Boulevard and slightly lower the road (grade separate) at 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue in San Mateo. This will improve safety for both motorists and pedestrians, and it will reduce local traffic congestion in San Mateo. In addition, the project will provide an opportunity to complete east-west street connections at 28<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Avenues.

As part of the project improvements, Caltrain will build a new elevated Hillsdale Station at 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The new station will offer updated amenities and will allow for better safety and reduced traffic.

In early 2019, Hillsdale Station will be closed for up to five months to allow for the building of a new elevated Hillsdale Station. During this time, enhanced Caltrain service will be provided at the Belmont Station, as well as enhanced <u>SamTrans</u> bus service along El Camino Real. Shuttle service will continue during morning and afternoon rush hours between Belmont and Hillsdale Station.

Additionally, the work requires the closing of E. 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue for approximately two months, with construction on the street occurring from spring/summer 2019. All businesses on E. 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue will remain open during this time.

The \$180 million project is included in Caltrain's capital budget and is comprised of funding from the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, California High Speed Rail Authority, California State Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the City of San Mateo. The City of San Mateo is the sponsoring partner, who began planning the 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Grade Separation Project in 1999.

For more information on the project, please visit www.caltrain.com/25thGS.

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 enjoyed five years of consecutive monthly ridership increases, surpassing more than 60,000 average weekday riders. 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 system, reduce diesel emissions by 97 percent by 2040 and add more service to more stations.

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