JPB Board of Directors
Meeting of May 6, 2021

Correspondence as of April 26, 2021

# Subject

1 Proposed Fare Structure
Caltrain Board Of Directors (PCJPB) Finance Committee Meeting,  April 26, 2021.

Comments on Agenda, Consent Calendar Item 4b: Call for a Public Hearing on Proposed Fare Structure Changes, from Jeff Carter.

I am support of extending the 20% discount on the Monthly Pass fare product through June 30, 2023, and beyond.

From the Minutes of March 4, 2021, PCJPB Board Meeting:

“Mr. Hartnett announced that Caltrain is temporarily reducing its monthly pass price by 20 percent; staff will be bringing back a comprehensive fare package for the Board’s consideration in the Spring, and there would be an adjusted schedule effective March 22.” Emphasis added.

The Staff Report does not indicate any comprehensive fare package?  Is there going to be a comprehensive fare package?

Now with lower ridership would be a perfect time to drop the unfair and inequitable zone system and introduce fair and equitable point-to-point fares.  Having long, bulky 13-mile zones make the base fare and per-zone fare unreasonably high.  If you have the misfortune of using a station at the zone boundary, you must pay significantly higher fare to travel one or two stations in one direction compared to travelling one or two stations in the opposite direction.

A point-to-point fare system would be consistent with the Fare Policy which considers structuring fares to incentivize rider behavior in support of the agency’s policy goals.  A lower base (and per station) fare would incentivize more people to try Caltrain for short trips, this is a no-brainer.

Thank-You for your time and consideration,

Jeff Carter