



JPB Board of Directors  
Meeting of December 3 5, 2020

Correspondence as of November 6, 2020

# Subject

1 University Ave Beige Pole Color

**From:** [martin@sommer.net](mailto:martin@sommer.net)  
**To:** [CalMod@caltrain.com](mailto:CalMod@caltrain.com); [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Board (@caltrain.com))  
**Cc:** [city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org)  
**Subject:** Re: University Ave Beige Pole Color  
**Date:** Friday, November 6, 2020 10:19:45 AM

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Dear Caltrain Board,

The more beige poles that go up at University Ave station, the more unsightly it becomes. At ground level, you might think the beige color matches the station, but from the view of local buildings, you are completely destroying the view of our Santa Cruz Mountains, and local green vegetation on Stanford campus.

Can you please look into a way to fix this? Perhaps, painting any height above 10 feet, to be the standard forest green? Telecom poles can be camouflaged, the same applies here.

Please look in to it, and let me know some options.

Thank you,

Martin

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Martin Sommer  
650-346-5307  
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<http://www.linkedin.com/in/martinsommer>

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On 2020-09-30 12:05, calmod@caltrain.com wrote:

Dear Martin,

Thank you for contacting Caltrain Electrification. The selection of the beige color was done in coordination with the City of Palo Alto and is a common color for poles located near stations. Most poles are a neutral chrome color along the project area but in some cases, such as near stations, Caltrain staff worked with local cities to identify pole colors that aligned with certain station areas. Once the poles have been procured and placed, we are not able to change the colors of those poles.

Thank you again for reaching out to us.

Best,

The Caltrain Team

On 2020-09-25T10:17:50-07:00, Martin J Sommer <[martin@sommer.net](mailto:martin@sommer.net)> wrote:

Good morning,

Please see the attached picture, of a beige pole placed last night. This creates a real eye sore!!

Questions: 1) Why are you using a beige color vs the std forest green (that blends with the trees), and 2) can these beige poles please be painted forest green, before electrification occurs?

I know that this is a "big ask".

Thank you,

Martin

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Martin Sommer

650-346-5307

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