



JPB Board of Directors
Meeting of May 7, 2020

Correspondence as of May 7, 2020

Subject

1 High Speed Rail Public Comment

From: [Eric Reese](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Caltrain Board Meeting Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 4:17:15 PM
Attachments: [Caltrain Board Meeting Public Comment.docx](#)

Good Afternoon,

My name is Eric Reese. I am emailing in regards to tomorrow's Caltrain Board Meeting. I was wondering if you could please forward my public comment (general public comment) to the board for inclusion in the Caltrain meeting minutes. I have attached my public comment below. Thank you for your time and help. Have a great day.

Sincerely,
Eric Reese

Caltrain Board Meeting Public Comment

Dear Caltrain Board Members,

Good Morning, my name is Eric Reese. My comment for future consideration would be for the board and staff to work with the Capital Corridor JPA/Amtrak, California High Speed Rail Authority, and the Transportation Agency for Monterey County in acquiring the Union Pacific tracks from Gilroy to San Jose/Capitol. Acquiring the right of way would consist of partnering with Amtrak to use Amtrak's eminent domain ability to acquire the tracks at fair market value. By acquiring the right of way from Union Pacific, this allows Caltrain the ability to work with the California High Speed Rail Authority in jointly upgrading the San Jose to Gilroy corridor to become a high-speed rail corridor with grade separations and travel speeds up to 125 mph, allowing for reduced travel times. This would work similar to the planned shared use for the Caltrain Corridor west of San Jose. By purchasing the existing right of way, this would allow Caltrain the ability to extend electrification efforts system wide therefore allowing Caltrain the ability to completely eliminate diesel trains from service. Other benefits include ability to expand service to Gilroy and Salinas, ability to dispatch and maintain the corridor to Gilroy, and cost savings by phasing out diesel service and through elimination of host railroad fees. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important proposal that can help reimagine the Caltrain experience.

Sincerely,
Eric Reese