



# Caltrain Level Boarding Discussion

Board of Directors  
October 3, 2013



## Level Boarding Important to Caltrain

- No steps up/down between platform and train
- Key benefits
  - Safety
  - Operating Efficiencies
  - Passenger Convenience
  - ADA
- Examples
  - BART, Muni (no tenants)





## Caltrain Corridor Today

3



## Peninsula Corridor

- 32 Caltrain Stations
- Shared System with Multiple Tenants
  - Altamont Corridor Express
  - Capitol Corridor
  - Amtrak
- Freight

4

## No Level Boarding Today

Platform height 8" above top of rail	
<b>Caltrain Vehicle Thresholds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bi-level               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18" 1<sup>st</sup> step (25" @ floor)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Gallery               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18" 1<sup>st</sup> step (45" @ floor)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Tenant Vehicle Thresholds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACE               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18" 1<sup>st</sup> step (25" @ floor)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Capitol Corridor               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18" @ floor</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Amtrak               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18" @ floor</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



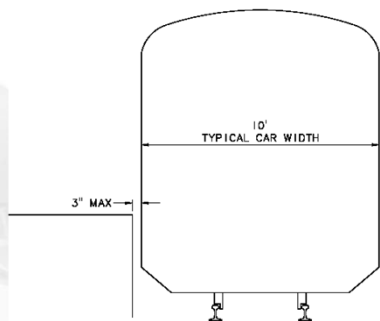
Bi-level



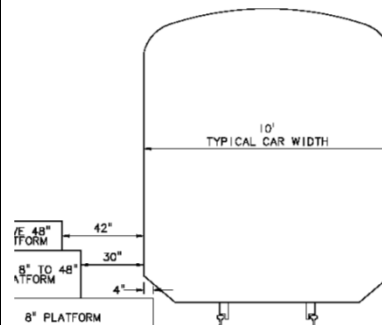
Gallery

## Subject to Conflicting Regulations

**ADA: Platform and vehicle together**

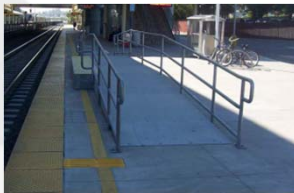


**CPUC: Platform and vehicle apart**



## Regulation Compliance

- Mini highs
- Wayside and onboard lifts
- Hand-crank lifts (backup)



## Future Caltrain Level Boarding

## Intermodal Stations with Dedicated Platforms



Essen Central Station,  
Germany



L.A. Union Station, USA



Denver Union  
Station, USA  
(construction)

## Future Shared Corridor

- Increased Multiple Tenants
- Different Vehicle Thresholds
  - Future Caltrain (25")
  - ACE, CC and Amtrak (18")
  - HSR (50")
- Freight
- Conflicting Regulations

## Future Caltrain System with Level Boarding

- Caltrain level boarding SF to SJ
  - 27 stations
  - Funding needed
  - CPUC waiver (TBD)
- SJ to Gilroy TBD (UP-owned ROW)
  - 5 stations
- Dedicated tenant platforms
  - 4 stations
  - Diridon and Santa Clara (ACE, CC and Amtrak)
  - Millbrae and Transbay Terminal (HSR)

11

## Why 25" for Caltrain?

- Service Proven EMU Options
  - Single Level EMU at 50"
  - Bi-level EMU at 25"
- Bi-level Recommended
  - Maximizes capacity
  - Compatible with existing fleet during mix fleet operations
  - Removable 18" 1<sup>st</sup> step

12

## Next Steps

- Long-term Level Boarding Effort
  - Planning and analysis TBD
  - Timing TBD
- Begin Public/Stakeholder Dialogue
  - CSCG, PCWG, LPMG presentations
  - Friends of Caltrain
- Short-term Inform EMU Discussions