Thinking Big
Crafting a 2040 Vision
What is the Caltrain Business Plan?

What

Addresses the future potential of the railroad over the next 20-30 years. It will assess the benefits, impacts, and costs of different service visions, building the case for investment and a plan for implementation.

Why

Allows the community and stakeholders to engage in developing a more certain, achievable, financially feasible future for the railroad based on local, regional, and statewide needs.
Milestones that Shaped the Railroad’s Future

- **2008**: CHSRA specifies its alignment
- **2011-2013**: “Blended System” introduced
  - CHSRA Business Plan confirms Blended System
  - Senate Bill 557 funds Prop 1A and codifies 2-track blended system
- **2013-2017**: Peninsula Corridor Electrification Program environmentally cleared
  - Receipt of Federal Full Funding Grant Agreement
  - Full Notice to Proceed issued
Framing the Challenges

Crafting a 2040 Vision

Framing the Challenges

Exploring the Opportunities

Next Steps
Improving Caltrain is Vital to the Health of the Region’s Economy
Railroads are Complex Systems

Caltrain’s role and context extend beyond the Bay Area. The system influences and is influenced by many different scales.
Caltrain’s Corridor is Varied and Constrained

- Mostly 2 Tracks
  - Some 4-Track Sections
- Width Varies
- Multiple Tenants
- At-Grade Crossings
- Bridges & Tunnels
- Ownership Varies
  - Especially at Stations

Caltrain Owns Tracks

Union Pacific Railroad Owns Tracks. Caltrain Has Access Rights
The Corridor is Woven into the Diverse Communities it Serves

**Benefits**
- Mobility options
- Regional connectivity
- Land use diversity
- Sustained economic growth

**Challenges**
- Grade crossings
- Impacts to corridor-adjacent neighbors
- Diverse community approaches to land use planning
Exploring the Opportunities
Caltrain’s Ridership and the Region’s Economic Growth are Mutually Supportive

Caltrain Average Weekday Ridership (Thousands)
1997 – 2017
The Caltrain Corridor is Already Exceptional

The unique geography of the Caltrain Corridor and the booming Bay Area economy have helped the system become one of the most intensively used and productive passenger railroads in the country.

National Transit Database Facts

• Caltrain is the 7th largest commuter rail system in the country by ridership.
• Caltrain is the second most dense commuter railroad in the United States with nearly 20 million annual unlinked passenger trips per 150 track miles.
• Caltrain serves 50 percent more riders than Metrolink (LA) using a quarter of the track.
• Caltrain has the highest farebox recovery rate of any major commuter rail system in the country.
• Since 2010 Caltrain ridership has increased by nearly 75% as compared to an average of 30% for the ten largest commuter rail systems in the US.
Electrification is the Foundation for Growth with Plans for More
Multiple Sources Offer Potential Funding for the Corridor

**Existing**
- FTA
- STA and SB1
- Regional (RM3)
- Local partner funds and sales tax measures
- CHSR investment

**Potential**
- SB797 (?)
- Private sector (?)
- Value Capture (?)
- New state or regional funding sources(?)
What Will the Business Plan Cover?

Technical Tracks

Service
- Number of trains
- Frequency of service
- Number of people riding the trains
- Infrastructure needs to support different service levels

Business Case
- Value from investments (past, present, and future)
- Infrastructure and operating costs
- Potential sources of revenue

Community Interface
- Benefits and impacts to surrounding communities
- Corridor management strategies and consensus building
- Equity considerations

Organization
- Organizational structure of Caltrain including governance and delivery approaches
- Funding mechanisms to support future service
What are the opportunities for Caltrain customers?

Why is the future of the Caltrain corridor important to you?
Communication is a Key Success Factor

Meeting Schedule

**Monthly: Board**
- JPB Ad Hoc Committee
- Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB) (monthly memos, quarterly presentations)

**Monthly: Stakeholder**
- Project Partner Committee (PPC)
- Local Policymaker Group (LPMG)
- City/County Staff Coordinating Group (CSCG)

**Quarterly: Stakeholder**
- Partner General Managers (PGM)
- Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
- Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)
- State and Federal Elected Officials (SFO)
- Caltrain Commuter Coalition (C3)
Next Steps

- Crafting a 2040 Vision
- Framing the Challenges
- Exploring the Opportunities

Next Steps
Project Focus Areas

First 6 Months

Service Vision
- Service
- Business case
- Organization
- Community interface

Second 6 Months

Implementation Plan
- Business Plan development
- Funding and Implementation Plan
Meeting Look-Ahead

**August**

- Service planning: Elements critical to designing a rail service
- Service Vision: Assumptions and priorities
- Exploring the corridor-community interface

**September**

- Travel market assessment
- Economic and community benefits of Caltrain