

COVID-19 Recovery Planning

**Draft
Equity, Connectivity,
Recovery & Growth
Framework**

August 6, 2020



Ongoing Recovery Planning Efforts

Caltrain has pivoted its Business Plan effort to focus on COVID-19 Recovery planning. This work is spread across multiple streams as shown on the right.

Caltrain staff will engage regularly with the Board, stakeholders and the public as recovery planning proceeds over the next several months.



Equity, Connectivity, Recovery, & Growth Framework



Near Term Service Planning



Financial Analysis



Scenario Planning

DRAFT

Framework for Equity, Connectivity, Recovery, and Growth

Purpose

The following draft "Caltrain Framework for Equity, Connectivity, Recovery and Growth" has been developed for consideration by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board to provide guidance to staff and transparency to the public as the railroad navigates a prolonged period of intensive challenges and transformation. In fall 2019, the JPB adopted the Caltrain 2040 Long Range Service Vision, setting a blueprint for the future development of the Caltrain corridor and service over the next two decades. The Framework for Equity, Connectivity, Recovery and Growth is a companion document that outlines initial principles and policy for how Caltrain will navigate near- and mid-term challenges while incrementally advancing toward its Long Range Vision.

Framework

The Framework is based on detailed technical analysis undertaken by Caltrain and its partner agencies as part of the "Caltrain Business Plan" process during 2018, 2019 and 2020. It builds on this analysis and outlines the initial principles, policies and actions the railroad must urgently pursue to help the region address the interrelated and compounding crises of the COVID-19 pandemic and longstanding systemic inequality and racism. The Framework is also a starting point. Over the coming months and years there is more work that Caltrain will need to do as we navigate a new and rapidly changing business environment and as we strive to better understand our role and responsibility in making the Bay Area a more inclusive and equitable region for people of all races and income levels.

Building on the Business Plan

The 2020 confluence of the COVID-19 Pandemic and urgent, widespread calls for racial justice have provided an impetus for reflection and action on the part of the railroad



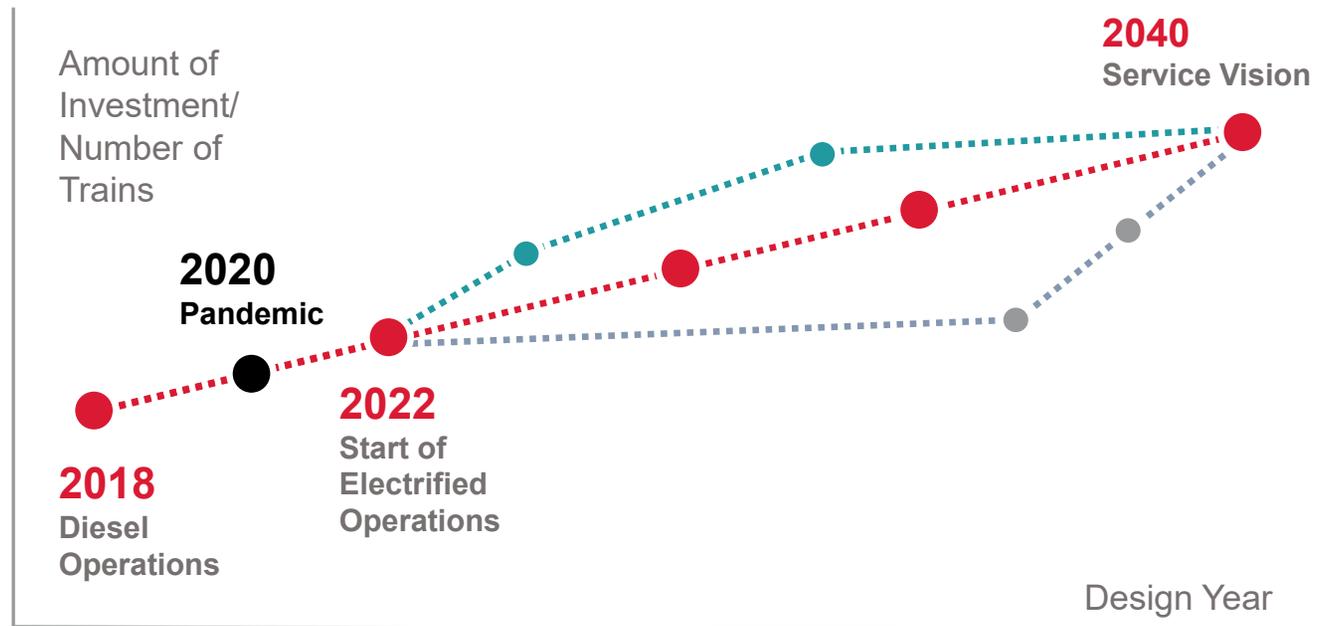
Source: SFGate

Building on the Business Plan

Caltrain had assumed a future where the railroad and its operations would remain relatively stable until the rollout of initial electrified service – this is no longer the case

Caltrain's Long Range Service Vision is an aspirational endpoint- not a single project. There are many paths Caltrain can take to implement and grow toward its Long Range Vision

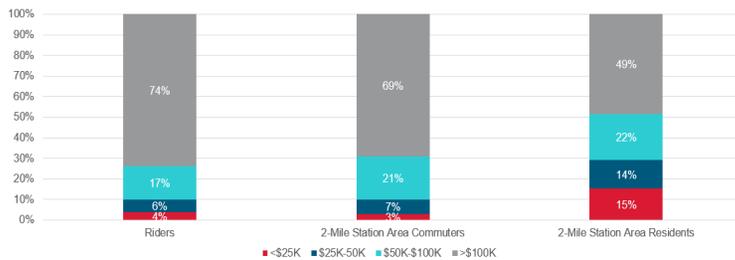
The Pandemic has accelerated the pace of change for Caltrain and complicated our future. The way in which we recover will set the foundation for our long term growth



Building on the Business Plan

Work undertaken as part of the Business Plan related to near-term service planning, connectivity and equity is useful and applicable in helping Caltrain develop an effective response to these crises and has formed the basis for the Draft Equity, Connectivity, Recovery & Growth Framework

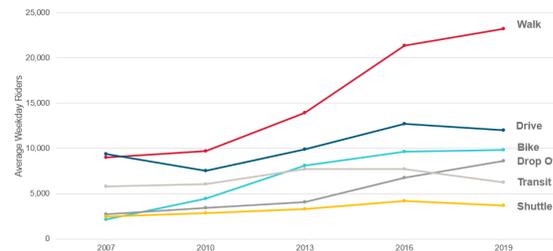
Riders and Residents by Income



Caltrain ridership closely mirrors the income demographics of all corridor commuters

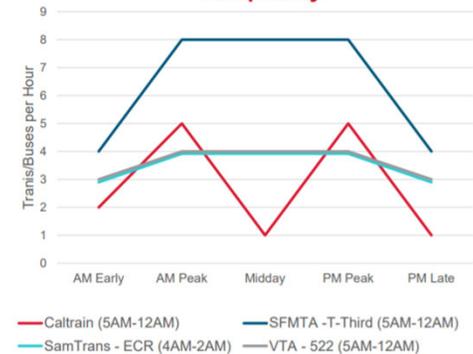
However, Caltrain riders are proportionally higher income and less diverse than the overall population of residents living in the corridor

Mode of Access to Caltrain



A higher share (25%) of Very Low-Income riders take transit to access the Caltrain system – more than any other income group

Frequency



Caltrain's "peaked" service means the railroad is underserving off-peak travel and trips. This has the greatest impact on low-income populations.

Building on the Business Plan

As part of the Business Plan Equity Assessment, Caltrain reviewed existing community based transportation plans along the corridor



Reviewed Existing Plans

1. Bayview Community Based Transportation Plan (2019)
2. Redwood City Citywide Transportation Plan (2018)
3. Moving San Mateo County Forward: Housing and Transit at a Crossroads (2018)
4. San Bruno/South San Francisco Community-Based Transportation Plan (2012)
5. San Mateo County Transportation Plan for Low-Income Populations (2012)
6. East Palo Alto Community-Based Transportation Plan (2004)
7. Community-Based Transportation Plan for East San Jose (2009)
8. Community-Based Transportation Plan for Gilroy (2006)
9. Equitable Access to Caltrain: Mapping and Scheduling Analysis (2019)

Building on the Business Plan

As part of the Business Plan Equity Assessment Caltrain also interviewed community representatives from all three counties



11

Community Stakeholder Survey Responses



6

In-Person Community Stakeholder Interviews - 2 in each Caltrain county



6

Community Stakeholder Phone Interviews



Discussion at Florence Fang Asian Community Garden (SF)

Community Stakeholder Interviews conducted in late 2019 / early 2020:

- TransForm (all counties)
- Youth Leadership Institute (all counties)
- Florence Fang Asian Community Garden (SF)
- Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association (SF)
- Get Healthy San Mateo County (SMC)
- Midcoast Community Council (SMC)
- Paratransit Coordinating Council (SMC)
- Language Pacifica (SMC)
- AbilityPath (SMC)
- North Fair Oaks Council (SMC)
- ALLIES - Alliance for Language Learners' Integration, Education, and Success (SCC)
- Abode Services (SCC)

Part I: Guiding Principles

Caltrain's Framework for Equity, Connectivity, Recovery & Growth directs the railroad to undertake both near-term recovery planning as well as the longer term planning and implementation of its services and projects in accordance with guiding principles that prioritize equity, connectivity and future-oriented planning

See Framework Document for Exact Language



Part II: Equity

In accordance with principle 1A, the Framework guides Caltrain toward advancing equity-oriented policies and actions as soon as practicable and financially feasible with the goal of increasing social and racial equity on the system today and in the future. This section of the policy focuses on:

- Equity in Service
- Equity in Fares
- Equity in Planning & Communication

See Framework Document for Exact Language



Part III: Connectivity

In accordance with principle 1B, the Framework further directs Caltrain to advance the following policies and actions to maximize connectivity to other transit providers as part of an integrated regional rail and transit system. Policies relate to:

- Operating a clock face schedule
- Prioritizing transfer point in service planning
- Working toward regionally coordinated fares and transfers

See Framework Document for Exact Language



Part IV: Growth & Recovery

In accordance with principle 1C, the Framework directs Caltrain towards planning for recovery and growth in a manner that looks toward the future and incrementally advances and implements the 2040 Long Range Service Vision over the course of the coming decade. This includes

- Advancing key elements of the Long Range Service Vision
- Working toward and 8 tph level of service
- Continuing to advance key regional and state projects

See Framework Document for Exact Language



Outreach and Feedback

July Stakeholder Outreach



Additional Outreach Methods

Virtual Public Meeting



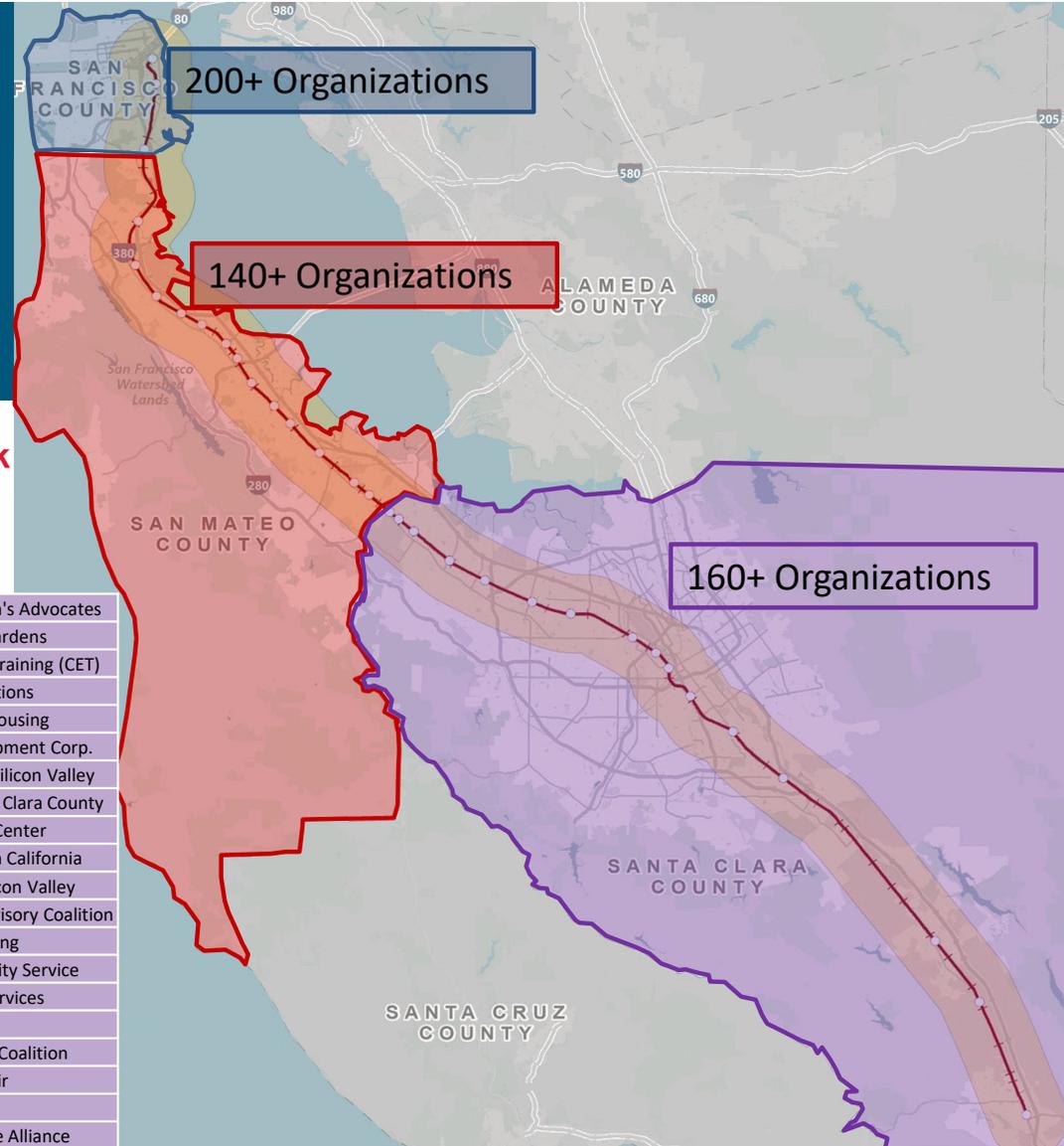
- 45-50 Live attendees
- 250+ Total views
- 2,400 Impressions

Additional Outreach Tools

- Press Release
- VMS Signage at Caltrain Stations
- Social media posts
- Individual follow-up with prior interviewees
- Requested Cities, SAG Members, and Partner Agencies spread the draft framework through their networks
- E-Blasts and E-News promotion



Community Based Organization Outreach



500+ CBOs/Nonprofits contacted multiple times for feedback
 List derived from internal CBO outreach list and MTC CBO outreach list; framework provided in multiple languages

Bayanihan Equity Center	Ayundando Latinos A Sonar (ALAS)	Asian Immigrants Women's Advocates
Bayview Hunters Point Foundation	Belle Haven Action	Avenida Espana Gardens
Causa Justa :: Just Cause	Chicana Latina Foundation	Center for Employment Training (CET)
Chinatown Community Development Center	Coastside Clinic	Community Solutions
Dogpatch Neighborhood Association	College Track East Palo Alto	First Community Housing
Dolores Street Community Services	Daly City Youth Health Center	Gilroy Economic Development Corp.
Florence Fang Community Garden	East Palo Alto Senior Center	Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley
GLIDE Foundation	EPA CAN DO	Housing Authority - Santa Clara County
Greenbelt Alliance	Fair Oaks Community Center	India Community Center
Healthright 360	Friends of Caltrain	Jain Center of Northern California
La Casa de las Madres	Gatepath	Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley
Mission Economic Development Agency	Housing Leadership Council	Mayfair Neighborhood Advisory Coalition
North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District	Imagine Menlo	Palo Alto Housing
Potrero Boosters	Menlo SPARK	Sacred Heart Community Service
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition	Mid-Peninsula Housing	San Jose Senior Services
San Francisco Rising	NAACP San Mateo County Chapter	SIREN
SF Coalition on Homelessness	Neutra Casa	Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
SPUR	One East Palo Alto, East Palo Alto	Somos Mayfair
Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Coro	Pacifica Climate Committee	TransForm
TODCO	SAMCEDA	Transportation Justice Alliance
Yerba Buena Community Benefit District	Youth Leadership Institute	Youth Leadership Institute

Key Themes

The following are some of the recurring themes that Caltrain staff has heard through outreach and comments received to date.

The majority of comments and input received relate to “Equity” section of the framework and the themes shown to the right specifically touch on areas where significant changes or additions to the policy are anticipated

These and other input received will be incorporated into a revised framework document

Positive Feedback

Overall response to framework has generally been very positive – with bulk of comments relating to ways in which policy could be expanded or implemented

Detailed Comments

Many comments fall within the draft framework, emphasizing specific recommendations or issues – particularly related to fares

Acknowledge Efforts Underway

Describe existing efforts associated with Title VI, ADA compliance and other current programs. Describe equity improvements that will result from PCEP

Passengers with Disabilities

Be explicit as to how the framework will provide improvements for individuals with disabilities



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Land Use and Displacement

Include language related to affordable housing, local land use policies and concerns about the potential for rail investment to spur displacement

Corridor Impacts

Add language addressing the past, current and future physical and environmental impacts of the corridor and capital projects on adjacent communities

Organizational Implications and Actions

Include steps that the organization can take related to hiring practices and internal policies and training

Measurement, Accountability & Implementation

Define “equity” clearly and strengthen accountability language included in the framework. Clarify which policies and actions will be undertaken in the near term



Next Steps

- Comment period extended to August 21st
- Additional outreach and engagement planned including:
 - Further work with Board members, partner agencies, cities, SAG members to leverage their networks
 - Possible equity focused roundtable hosted by nonprofit
 - Targeted follow up with community leaders and Community Based Organizations
- Revised Framework brought to Sept. board for consideration and action

**What do you think about the
Equity, Connectivity, Recovery, and Growth
Policy? [Link to Document](#)**

**Share feedback at equity@caltrain.com
or 650-508-6499**

Deadline: Tuesday, August 21

FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.CALTRAIN2040.ORG

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