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Caltrain to Hold Public Meeting on 25th Avenue Grade Separation Project

Caltrain will host a community meeting on the 25th Avenue Grade Separation Project on Tuesday, November 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the CalMod Outreach Office at 2121 South El Camino Real, Suite A-100 in San Mateo. The meeting will include an overview of the project and an update on construction and the project's timeline.

This grade separation project has been a goal of Caltrain and the City of San Mateo for many years. The separation will allow traffic to pass under the tracks at 25th Avenue, as well as complete east-west connections at 28th and 31st Avenues, reducing local traffic congestion and increasing safety for drivers and pedestrians. In addition, the project will result in a new, modernized Hillsdale Station that is scheduled to open in 2019.

Groundbreaking occurred for the project in October 2017. Construction work has been ongoing since then, including relocation of utilities; the building of bridge abutments and girders; and crews are starting to install the MSE walls. While a majority of the construction activities are taking place during the day, some activities need to be conducted during nights and weekends outside of normal train service hours, due to their close proximity to the railroad tracks. Neighbors may experience construction noise and light during these times and can sign up for a weekly construction notice at <u>www.caltrain.com/25thGS</u>.

The project, funded by a combination of City, State, High Speed Rail Authority and San Mateo County Measure A funds, is estimated to cost \$180 million.

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About Caltrain: Owned and operated by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, Caltrain provides commuter rail service from San Francisco to San Jose, with limited commute service to Gilroy. Caltrain enjoyed more than five years of consecutive monthly ridership increases, surpassing more than 65,000 average weekday riders. While the Joint Powers Board assumed operating responsibilities for the service in 1992, the railroad celebrated 150 years of continuous passenger service in 2014. Planning for the next 150 years of Peninsula rail service, Caltrain is on pace to electrify the system, reduce diesel emissions by 97 percent by 2040 and add more service to more stations.

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