

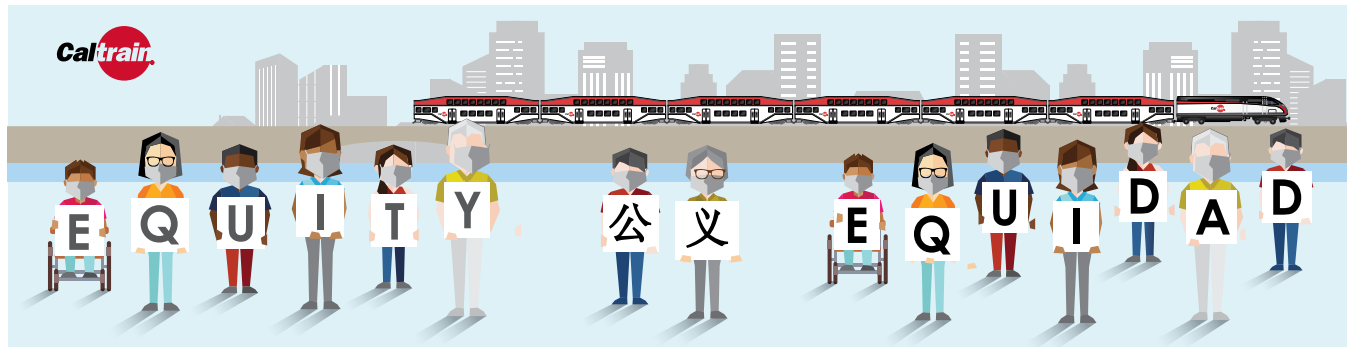


# 2020

FALL REPORT

# MODERNIZING FOR THE FUTURE

## Equity, Connectivity, Recovery and Growth Policy



In August 2020, the Caltrain Board approved the system’s Framework for Equity, Connectivity, Recovery and Growth. The Framework is part of the Caltrain Business Plan, an ongoing effort to define how the service will grow to meet the evolving needs of the region. The equity policies included in the Framework will help ensure that the rail service’s recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic occurs in a way that expands access to low-income individuals and communities of color that have historically been underrepresented in the system’s ridership.

The Equity Framework envisions preserving the 50% low-income fare discount in the longer term, and would facilitate additional steps to increase social and racial equity on the system now, and in the future. The policies in the framework would improve connections to other local and regional systems that disadvantaged riders are more likely to rely on. It would also support increased off-peak service to make the system more relevant for workers with non-traditional work hours. Under the framework, Caltrain would also work toward better regionally coordinated fare and transfer policies.

The Framework includes a Growth and Recovery section that lays out how Caltrain can return to and eventually surpass its pre-pandemic ridership levels, improving the system incrementally over time.

For more information, visit: [www.caltrain.com/equity](http://www.caltrain.com/equity)

# Caltrain Electrification

The transition from diesel to electric technology is a critical step toward Caltrain Modernization. Over the past six months, crews installed foundations, poles, and wire from South San Francisco to San Jose. Work was also performed on eight of the ten traction power facilities in San Francisco, South San Francisco, San Mateo, Redwood City, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale and San Jose. To date, over 1,750 foundations and over 1,100 poles have been installed between San Francisco and San Jose. In May, the first trainset was placed on the special test track at the Salt Lake City manufacturing facility. The track is now powered with 25kv and the train's pantograph--which collects power from the overhead wires--has been raised and connected.



Later this year, the first seven-car trainset will be coupled together and tested at a special test track in Pueblo, Colorado. The new high performance electric trains will include Wi-Fi service onboard the system's new fleet, thanks to funding from the State's Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP).



Caltrain launched a VR tour of the new electric trains in October 2020, allowing the public to experience the look and feel of the future of Caltrain from the comfort of their homes. If you wish to take the VR tour, go to [www.calmod.org/VR](http://www.calmod.org/VR).

For more information, and to see the latest photos of the trainset and construction, visit [www.CalMod.org](http://www.CalMod.org).





# 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue Grade Separation Project



Caltrain is working in cooperation with the City of San Mateo to separate the tracks from the road at E. 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue in San Mateo. This grade separation will alleviate local traffic congestion, reduce horn noise, and improve safety for both motorists and pedestrians. After completion, there will be new east-west street connections at 28<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Avenues and a new Hillsdale Station with updated amenities at 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The new station will feature a center-boarding platform, offering passengers convenient access to both southbound and northbound trains.

So far this year, the project has made huge strides with the completion of five rail bridge installations and over a mile of retaining walls for the elevated tracks. Excavation and grading of W. 28<sup>th</sup> and W. 31<sup>st</sup> Avenues is well underway, and on May 16, the old Hillsdale station closed and the old platform has been removed. The new station is set to open in winter 2020.

To sign up for project updates and receive invites to events, visit [www.caltrain.com/25thGS](http://www.caltrain.com/25thGS).



# New Bike E-lockers Contract

Following Caltrain's commitment to invest at least \$3 million in wayside bicycle improvements as part of the Electrification Project, Caltrain's Board of Directors approved an award of contract for the expansion of electronic bicycle lockers (e-lockers) in September 2020.

The contract awarded to Berkeley-based eLock Technologies, LLC will provide a guaranteed minimum of 632 e-lockers at six stations along the corridor by the end of 2023, with the option to purchase up to an additional 718 units depending on customer demand and available funding. As with Caltrain's existing e-lockers, bicyclists will be able to securely park their bike at these stations for 5 cents per hour through either a prepaid BikeLink card or Clipper card.



Prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Caltrain served approximately 10,000 bicyclists every weekday, with 10% of customers typically bringing their bike onboard. Survey data has found that many of these riders do so because they do not have a secure place to leave their bike at the station.

To learn more about the amenities Caltrain offers to bike riders, visit [www.caltrain.com/bikes](http://www.caltrain.com/bikes)

# Clipper Compatible Ticket Vending Machines

In an effort to encourage more riders to take advantage of the benefits offered by Clipper, Caltrain has begun to update its Ticket Vending Machines to accommodate the service. Upgraded machines will be installed at Caltrain stations starting in November 2020, allowing riders to purchase or load Clipper cards right on the station platform.

This will allow riders to more seamlessly connect to other transit systems, and take advantage of discounts offered by doing so.



# KEEPING CALTRAIN RUNNING

## COVID-19 Productivity Report



When the statewide Shelter In Place order went into effect, Caltrain took advantage of the opportunity to take advantage of the opportunity to improve and repair our corridor without inconveniencing riders. As a result of this push, over 50 construction projects were completed between March and June of 2020. 5000 lineal feet of track were replaced near the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Station. A new rail lubricator, necessary to reduce noise and protect the rails against excessive wear and tear, was installed in South San Francisco, where some outdated and unused track was also removed. A spring frog, the mechanism that allows the switching of tracks, was replaced in San Jose, along with some old ties. Walkways required by CPUC were installed along Caltrain's rail bridges in San Mateo. As riders return to Caltrain, they will be pleased to find a safer and smoother ride with fewer service interruptions.

## Marin/Napoleon Bridge Improvement Project

Caltrain's tracks in San Francisco cross over the Marin Street and Napoleon Street Bridges near the base of Islais Creek. The Marin Street Bridge requires basic maintenance and some minor safety improvements, while the Napoleon Street Bridge needs a complete replacement to ensure the safety





and structural integrity of the tracks. The new Napoleon Street Bridge will be a center steel bridge, featuring new girders and wing walls, which will also simplify future repairs, decreasing costs. Additional track work between Cesar Chavez Street and Jerrold Avenue may prove necessary as the project continues. Construction is expected to begin in October 2020.

## San Francisco Station Bathroom Renovation Project



This project will fully restore the restrooms at San Francisco Station by installing modern fixtures and finishes and using materials that are both resistant to vandalism and have a proven track record in high-traffic areas. The new bathrooms will have concrete flooring and walls, multiuse shared sinks, air blade type hand dryers, and stainless toilets and stalls.

In conjunction with the renovation, the waiting room will be removed and a new conference room for TASI staff will be created.





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