Caltrain Fleet Maintenance Update

Citizens Advisory Committee September 21, 2022 Agenda Item 7





Agenda

- Current Fleet Conditions
- Impacts of Aging Fleet
- Locomotive Reliability Plan
- Heat Advisory Restrictions
- Questions



Current Fleet Conditions

 The majority of Caltrain's existing fleet dates from 1985 and has reached the end of its useful life, leading to breakdowns and increasingly frequent service disruptions.

Fleet Breakdown

- > 29 Total Locomotives
- > 17 Required for Revenue Service
- > Years Built:
 - 1985 (18 locomotives), 1987 (2 locomotives)
 - 1998 (3 locomotives), 2003 (6 locomotives)



Impacts of Aging Diesel Fleet



Locomotive Reliability Plan

- Caltrain is focused on two types of urgent repairs to keep locomotives in a state of good repair through the launch of electrified service:
 - 1. Head End Power (HEP) Replacements
 - 2. In-Frame Engine Overhauls
- Challenges:
 - $\circ~$ Long lead times for procuring necessary replacement parts
 - Limited spares require cycling locomotives through repair process incrementally
 - In order to maintain daily service, only 2-4 locomotives are released at a time for overhaul work. Caltrain currently has 2 locomotives at CEMOF undergoing in-frame engine overhauls and 2 locomotives at Alstom for mid-life overhauls.



Locomotive Reliability Plan

- Head End Power (HEP) Replacements
 HEP is the electrical power distribution which supplies lighting and HVAC
- In-Frame Engine Overhauls
 - Reconditioning of re-usable main frame components and re-assembly with new engine components
- Timeline
 - $_{\odot}~$ 6 HEP engine replacements planned between Feb. '23 and June '24
 - $\,\circ\,$ 4 In-Frame overhauls planned between now and June '23
 - $\circ~$ MP36 mid-life overhauls ongoing in Mare Island, CA



Heat Advisory Speed Restrictions

- Caltrain's diesel fleet is aging and is more prone to mechanical issues caused by extreme heat.
- Additionally, during periods of extreme heat, conditions exist that could affect track structure (e.g., sun kinks or track buckles).
- When a Level 1 or 2 Heat Restriction is in effect, trains using the Caltrain Right-of-Way must operate within the following limits:

Heat Level	Speed Application	Passenger Train MPH	Freight Train MPH
1 (above 95 degrees)	Do not exceed	60	40
2 (above 105 degrees)	Do not exceed	50	30



Extreme Heat Contingency Plans

- Caltrain may proactively suspend Baby Bullet service in extreme heat in order to maintain consistent and reliable service throughout the day.
- Other unplanned train annulments may occur during extreme heat periods depending on the impacts to locomotives.
- Slow-down rules are essential to ensure customer safety. Caltrain will communicate planned service impacts with as much advance notice as possible and inform customers in real-time of unplanned service changes.



Questions?

