CALTRAIN BICYCLE AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Caltrain Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee

FROM: Lori Low, Manager, Government & Community Affairs

SUBJECT: Draft MTC Letter Re Bikeshare

The attached letter has been submitted by Caltrain BATAC Vice Chair Cliff Bargar for the Committee's consideration and approval.

DRAFT

July 20, 2023

Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Caltrain Citizens Advisory Committee 1250 San Carlos Ave. San Carlos, CA 94070

Re: MTC Exploration of Bikeshare as Part of Plan Bay Area 2050 and Regional Funding Measure

Dear Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board and Caltrain Citizens Advisory Committee,

The Caltrain Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee (BATAC), a committee of Caltrain riders representing the interests of passengers who access the train by bicycle and other forms of active transportation, encourages MTC to plan for a true regional shared micromobility system for incorporation in a possible 2026 transit funding measure and as a strategy for reaching transportation and sustainability goals in Plan Bay Area 2050.

In order for Caltrain to meet long term ridership projections and equity goals after electrified service begins it's crucial that more options be made available for passengers to reach the train. Towards this, Caltrain has made huge strides in increasing the availability of secure bike parking at stations in recent years, expanding access for people riding a bike (or other device) to get to or from the train.

As most local jurisdictions in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties are not a part of the existing regional Baywheels system, Caltrain staff have engaged meaningfully with partners along the corridor to support the efforts of jurisdictions in establishing and expanding bikeshare and other shared micromobility systems. While this has been a strong step in the right direction it's clear that most local jurisdictions in the Bay Area would benefit from a broader regional approach including funding and coordination that Caltrain may not be able to offer on their own. Establishing a regionally integrated and coordinated system would make it easier for Caltrain riders to access transit with convenient first- and last- mile connections. Relying on primarily profit-driven shared micromobility systems also leads to higher usage fees, hindering Caltrain's goal of diversifying ridership.

The Caltrain BATAC thus encourages MTC to raise the necessary funds to expand bikeshare across the Bay Area in an accessible and equitable manner. Ideally such a system will be seamlessly integrated with our existing transit network (including Caltrain), providing sustainable transportation options for first- and last-mile access to public transportation.

Sincerely,

The Caltrain Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee

Cc:

MTC Commissioners

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