

# ***Receive Update on Trespasser Prevention Safety Plan***

**JPB TOPS Committee  
March 26, 2025**



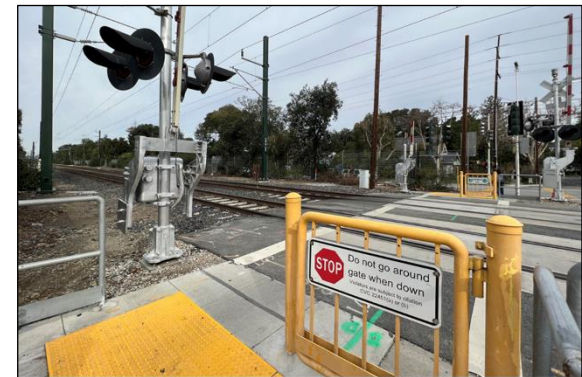
# Trespasser Prevention Safety Plan

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# Trespasser Prevention Safety Plan Overview

- Caltrain is a regional railroad operating in a dense corridor, with 31 stations and 71 at-grade crossings on an unsealed corridor.
- Trespasser and vehicle strikes, including suicides, are a serious issue for Caltrain operations and communities.
- These incidents cause tremendous negative impacts on family members, friends, train crews, passengers, witnesses, emergency responders and rail operations through delays and damage to property and reputation.





# Trespasser Prevention Safety Plan Approach

- Trespasser Prevention Safety Plan will be a part of an overarching Caltrain Strategic Safety Plan (December 2025)
- Utilize a Data-Driven approach (incidents, near misses, reporting): Identify the problem, analyze risk, identify resources/stakeholders, develop mitigation strategies, implement plan, monitor effectiveness
- Incorporate documented best practices from American Public Transportation Association (APTA), FRA, Transportation Research Board (TRB), transit peers, national suicide and local universities and mental health organizations.



# Trespasser Prevention Safety Plan Approach

- Evaluate near term and potential long-term programs and rank for consideration according to cost /benefit (risk reduction) analysis.
- Caltrain is committed to developing this plan to reduce trespasser suicide and the broad ranging impacts following the documented best practice of the “Three E’s” of rail safety: **Education, Engineering, and Enforcement.**



# Best Practices – Peer Engagement

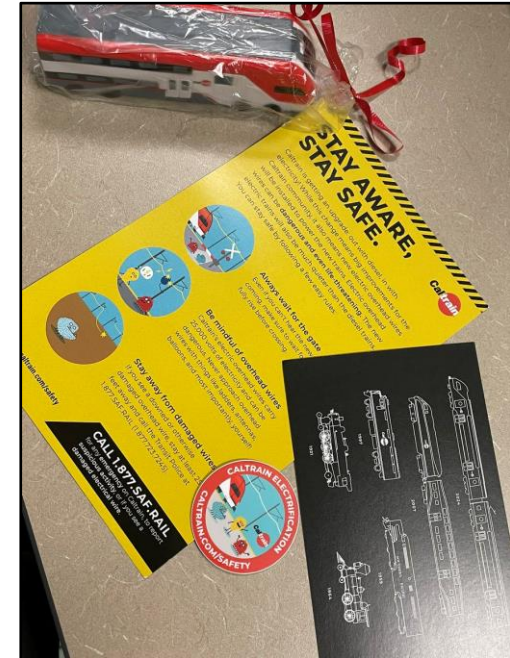
- Caltrain has engaged many industry peers, to understand best practices for suicide prevention, and use of technology and KPIs:
  - All agencies take a “Three E’s” approach.
  - Many have in-house transit police, with larger forces and more technology tools like CCTV.
  - Partnerships including mental health crisis and encampment management.
  - KPIs are harder to come by, heat-mapping is common but often not public-facing.



# Education

## Education Efforts Focused on Collaboration:

- Industry/Community Collaboration for Best practices
- San Mateo and Santa Clara County Behavioral Health
- Stanford University and Project Safety Net
- Operation Lifesaver Initiative (OLI)
- Peer Transit Agencies and Industry Committees
- Suicide and Crisis Organizations
- **Engage with San Francisco Behavioral Health and Homeless Advocacy**
- **Engage with BART, VTA, ACE, etc. for regional events/promotions**



# Education - Continued

## Upstream Mental Health and Safety Information

- Signage at Stations and along the ROW
- Operation Lifesaver Presentations - Schools and Community Groups
- Community Events/Partnerships - MH Awareness
- **Expand Mental Health, Suicide Awareness Training for Employees**
- **Expand Mental Health and Resources messaging on trains, stations, website, social media, etc.**
- **Explore adding FT/PT Community/School Outreach Ambassadors**
- **Explore City/Municipality/Special Interest group partnerships**





# Education - Continued

## Crisis Intervention (CI):

- 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
- Signage at Stations and Ped Crossings along the ROW
- Psychiatric Emergency Response Teams (PERT) – Follow Up
- **Station and Pedestrian Crossing site CI signs, posters, etc.**
- **Provide proactive Trauma Counseling Services for Employees**
- **Explore Adding Counselors/Social Workers to TP Teams**



# Engineering

Means Restriction, Detection and Alert Technologies, and Environmental Deterrents:

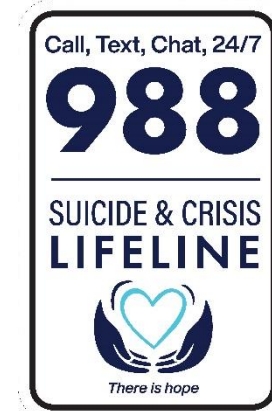
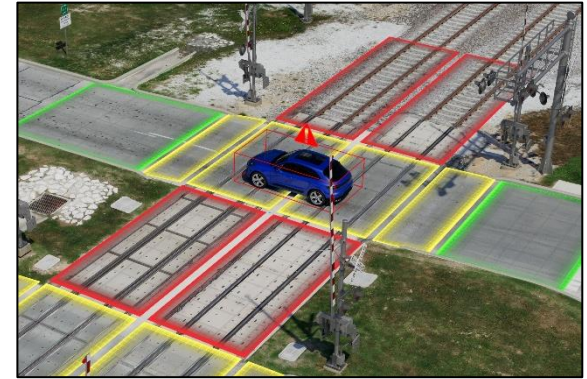
- Fencing – SOGR, New Fencing Projects in High-Risk Areas
- Channelization / Barriers
- Continue to pursue grade separation projects
- **Exploring trespasser panels**
- **Exploring other access barrier technologies for platforms and grade crossings enhancements**



# Engineering Continued

## Detection and Alert Technologies:

- CCTV - Grade crossings, stations, and high-risk locations
- Intrusion detection analytics at platform ends and tunnels
- Rail Sentry or similar technology at grade crossings
- **Exploring other technologies for ROW detection**
- **Exploring Transit Watch Apps – public crowdsourcing**



# Engineering Continued

## Environmental Deterrents / Enhancements:

- Solar Markers and Delineators at Grade Crossings
- Improved pavement markings
- Grade crossing signage / blank outs
- GPS Navigation Instructions
- **Enhance Pedestrian Crossing Channelization / CI Signage**
- **Enhance lighting at Grade / Ped crossings**
- **Exploring blue lighting and auditory enhancements at stations**
- **Exploring Transit Watch Apps – public crowdsourcing**





# Enforcement

Site enforcement, training and outreach. It requires the commitment of safety and security personnel from Caltrain, and municipalities.

- Grade Crossing Enforcement blitzes - ticketing
- Trespasser Report Engagement
- Crisis Intervention Training for Law Enforcement
- **Exploring Partnering with Municipal PD for enforcement coverage**
- **Exploring Increasing Transit Police Officers**



# Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Caltrain is committed to a risk-based data-driven approach to Safety and suicide prevention.

- Trespasser and vehicle incursion data
- Crew reporting/observations
- Contacts/Enforcement made by transit and local police
- Outreach activities including OLI presentation
- Progress on fencing and grade crossing enhancements



# Budget Development

- Caltrain is working with TA's on funding for near- and long-term efforts.
- Efforts will be evaluated and costs assigned.
- Caltrain will evaluate all potential safety improvements based upon risk and cost vs benefit.
- Considering the constrained nature of existing budgets and the opportunity costs of implementation.

# Timeline and Next Steps

- **March** – Plan overview presentation (today)
- **Jun** – Near-term and long-term efforts
- **Sep** – Longer term plans, cost benefit, resource needs update
- **Nov** – Present Final recommended plan for feedback
- **Dec** – Final plan adopted



# Questions and Feedback

