



JPB Board of Directors
Meeting of May 1, 2025

Correspondence as of April 4, 2025

Subject

1. Re_ New Caltrain Fleet Feedback
2. FW_ Please fund and continue to improve public transit in the Peninsula and Bay Area
3. Draft Environmental Impact Report Comment Period Extended - PG&E Power Asset Acquisition Project
4. Re_ Full bike car train causing massive issues
5. Re_ Your new trains look nice from afar. I hope they are comfortable and frequent
6. Re_ Why cant we have coordinated BART and CT schedule at Millbrae_
7. Re_ Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house
8. Re_ Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house (Customer response)

From: [Nate Wittenberg](#)
To: boardsecretary@caltrain.com; [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)
Subject: Re: New Caltrain Fleet Feedback
Date: Thursday, April 3, 2025 9:30:53 AM

You don't often get email from 1awesometransitfan@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Actually, scratch the Coradia Multilevel from the fleet. I think the Alstom Multilevel III EMU's would be the most efficient and accessible to accommodate the California High Speed Rail trains when platforms are elevated for high-level boarding. My recommendation is to order up to 40 four-coach sets, in order to run 20 trains formed of 8 coaches (maybe a few more if that's not enough). Would you be available to speak to Alstom Transport about this fleet suggestion?

Thank you!

- Nate

On Tue, Mar 25, 2025 at 9:00 AM Nate Wittenberg <1awesometransitfan@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello,

I am a passenger and train enthusiast from the San Francisco Bay Area writing this email to you because I want to give out some suggestions for further improvements to the new Caltrain service. I have been very impressed with the new Stadler KISS Fleet as they take off so fast. I think two other fleets would also be quite handy and extremely helpful with the low platform boarding, extra Limited and Express round trips daily plus additional journeys south of San Jose (including weekends and federal holidays - I would suggest Limited/Express in both directions in San Francisco/San Jose at each hour until 6 or 7 AM to 7 or 8 PM in both directions), and to accommodate passengers with high speed rail platforms at the Salesforce Transit Center which will be part of the future extension for Caltrain, especially when the section south of Tamien is electrified. There are two types of coaches that Chicago's Metra, New Jersey Transit and Virginia Railway Express are purchasing to replace and/or supplement their Gallery coaches and vintage Arrow III EMU's.

When I looked at news of the coaches being purchased for those companies, I looked all around to find some benefits they can include and they include the following: wide sets of doors, a good floor height inside the coaches adjacent to low level platforms (Coradia Multilevel) and doors to line up with high level platforms for California High Speed Rail (Multilevel III). New Jersey Transit plans to get an EMU style of the Alstom Multilevel III EMU while Metra and VRE are purchasing the Coradia fleet. My recommendation is purchasing an

EMU style of these fleets with 4 semi-permanently connected coaches each, attaching two sets together to make an 8-coach train. Another benefit they can include is additional toilet facilities on the train, which I noticed passengers complain about on the Stadler KISS fleet. Passengers might also be intrigued to see these decorated for future holiday trains. Additionally, I think Caltrain might be intrigued to use these and their Stadler fleet for Christmas trains decorated inside and out each weekend in December, and passengers would enjoy travelling on them to meet Santa Claus and his holiday crew while enjoying the holiday cheer onboard the train.

However, if you want to purchase the Multilevel III EMU style of sets to be used on Caltrain, the only component I would suggest changing is two sets of double doorways with steps that raise/lower to the ground, easing passenger flow for those boarding and exiting the trains at low-level platform stations or stations accommodating the California High Speed Rail platform height. My recommendation for these is a Nathan Airchime K5LA as the horn, being loud enough for safety, and ordering these with 4-digit numbers. Here are the fleets I am describing. There may need to be another new maintenance facility or two with this.

Alstom Multilevel III EMU: <https://www.railway.supply/en/multilevel-electric-train-car-multilevel-iii-unveiled-by-alstom-in-the-u-s/>

Alstom Coradia Multilevel: <https://www.alstom.com/press-releases-news/2021/3/alstom-supply-200-multilevel-commuter-rail-cars-chicagos-metra-eu650-million>

I hope the ideas I provided for further improvements on Caltrain make you and Caltrain customers happy, and look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,
Nate Wittenberg.

From: [Public Comment](#)
To: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)
Subject: FW: Please fund and continue to improve public transit in the Peninsula and Bay Area
Date: Thursday, April 3, 2025 11:53:20 AM

From: Aileen Sweeney <aileen@studioquadrifoglio.biz>
Sent: Thursday, April 3, 2025 11:51 AM
To: Public Comment <publiccomment@caltrain.com>
Subject: Please fund and continue to improve public transit in the Peninsula and Bay Area

You don't often get email from aileen@studioquadrifoglio.biz. [Learn why this is important](#)

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders.

Dear Caltrain leaders,

My name is Aileen Sweeney. I live and work in Redwood City and am an active user of Caltrain.

Public transit is critical to the health of our region. It supports our economy, our quality of life and our health by reducing traffic congestion, improving air quality, and helping companies attract talent. In fact, proximity to Caltrain was a driving force in my decision to purchase a home and live walking distance from the Redwood City Caltrain station.

I knew taking Caltrain would enable me:

- to avoid commuting in miserable traffic, which is frustrating, results in an unhealthy sedentary lifestyle, and pollutes our air
- to exercise by walking to and from the station, get work done while in transit, and feel good about not contributing to air pollution.

I understand that SB 63 is a work in progress, including ongoing polling and discussions about expenditures.

I strongly, strongly support regional transit solutions that:

- prevent cuts for all agencies
- provide funding and policies that support seamless coordination of fares, schedules and signs.

Additionally, I strongly support state budget support for transit.

Public transit is a centerpiece of economically vibrant, healthy communities. Please provide the funding and policy support to make public transit viable and effective for the long-term.

Best regards,
Aileen Sweeney

From: [CPC.PGEPowerAssetsEIR](#)
To: [CPC.PGEPowerAssetsEIR](#)
Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report Comment Period Extended - PG&E Power Asset Acquisition Project
Date: Thursday, April 3, 2025 4:36:44 PM

You don't often get email from cpc.pgepowerassetseir@sfgov.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

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The San Francisco Planning Department published a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the PG&E Power Asset Acquisition Project on March 19, 2025, available at [Environmental Review Documents | SF Planning](#). This email is an update to inform you that **the public review period has been extended to May 19, 2025.**

If you wish to comment on the adequacy of the Draft EIR, you may submit comments in either or both of the following ways: (1) in person at the San Francisco Planning Commission public hearing on April 17th; or (2) written comments to San Francisco Planning department due by 5 p.m. on May 19, 2025.

Julie Moore

Principal Environmental Planner

Environmental Planning Division

San Francisco Planning Department

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400, San Francisco, CA 94103

Direct: 628.652.7566 | www.sfplanning.org

From: [Caltrain BOD Public Support](#)
To: ld_fiske@apple.com
Cc: [Public Comment; Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)
Subject: Re: Full bike car train causing massive issues
Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 11:03:50 AM

Hello Lionel,

Thank you for your feedback and for your patience as we roll out our new electric train service. We're thrilled to see high demand for our bike cars but recognize that there may be times when not all customers with bikes can be accommodated. For this reason, Caltrain offers several options to meet your needs.

If you have flexibility in your travel times, consider taking trains just before or after your usual time. During peak hours, trains run every 15 to 20 minutes at 16 stations. Local service is now 23 minutes faster between San Francisco and San Jose, with all other services taking less than an hour. For more details on specific stations, please visit [this link](#).

Additionally, for those who only need a bike on one end of their journey, Caltrain offers alternatives such as bike valet, bike rooms, and eLockers. [Secure bike parking](#): Caltrain has over 300 eLockers available on demand at 22 stations, with more coming in early 2025. eLockers are just 5 cents per hour, and first-time users of the BikeLink app will receive 100 free hours.

For those using bikes to reach their destination, we also have [controlled access bike rooms](#) available at San Francisco, Palo Alto, and Mountain View stations, with more to come in 2025. If you're interested in bike and scooter share programs, [BayWheels](#) bike share is available in San Francisco and San Jose, with other options at select stations.

If we do not have on-board bike capacity, we encourage you to submit a bike bump report [here](#). This will help us identify greater service needs and improve our offerings.

Lastly, we want to remind everyone that this is a new service schedule, and we plan to review all comments and concerns to help improve it in the coming months.

Thank you again for your understanding, and we hope these alternatives help you continue to rely on Caltrain for your commute.

Sincerely,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Public Comment <PublicComment@samtrans.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 8:39 AM

To: Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>; Caltrain BOD Public Support <CaltrainBODPublicSupport@caltrain.com>

Subject: FW: Full bike car train causing massive issues

From: Lionel Fiske <ld_fiske@apple.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 8:37 AM

To: Public Comment <publiccomment@caltrain.com>

Subject: Full bike car train causing massive issues

You don't often get email from ld_fiske@apple.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders.

Hello,

I am a worker who relies on the Caltrain to get to the South Bay. Two times in the last week I have been late to work because the bike car on the train was full with no warning. Last week, the train was a half hour late and the next train also wouldn't let me on. This morning the following car was completely full.

Please either add an additional bike car or run another express train in the 8oclock hour. If this happens again I'll have to swear off the Caltrain entirely and go back to driving.

Lionel

From: [Caltrain BOD Public Support](#)
To: ritamwelsh@gmail.com
Cc: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#); [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Re: Your new trains look nice from afar. I hope they are comfortable and frequent
Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 12:42:40 PM

Dear Rita Welsh,

Thank you for reaching out to Caltrain and sharing your feedback. We are continuously working with our neighboring transit agencies, including BART, VTA, MUNI, Amtrak, ACE, and others, to improve transfer connections at our stations.

For more information on transferring and connecting, please visit our webpage here:
<https://www.caltrain.com/transfers>.

We appreciate your input and are always looking for ways to enhance your experience with us.

Best regards,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Rita Welsh <ritamwelsh@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 9:14 PM
To: Public Comment <publiccomment@caltrain.com>
Subject: Your new trains look nice from afar. I hope they are comfortable and frequent

You don't often get email from ritamwelsh@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders.

It's amazing how when I travel to Europe I find it easy to go from place to place on transit. In our area it's much more difficult. Please try to coordinate your schedule with all of the other transit agencies in our area.

Thank you.

Rita Welsh

From: [Caltrain BOD Public Support](#)
To: lyndaswanson@me.com
Cc: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#); [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Re: Why cant we have coordinated BART and CT schedule at Millbrae?
Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 12:48:12 PM

Dear Lynda Swanson,

Thank you for reaching out to Caltrain and sharing your feedback. With the launch of our new electrified service in September 2024, Millbrae Station now sees 4 trains stopping per hour during peak commute times and 2 trains during off-peak hours and weekends. This means there is a train stopping every half hour in either direction.

Additionally, Caltrain and BART are working together to continuously improve transfer connections between our two systems at Millbrae. If there is a specific train you're trying to catch for your commute, please let us know, and we'll take it into consideration for future service improvements.

We appreciate your input and look forward to further enhancing your experience with Caltrain.

Best regards,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Public Comment <PublicComment@samtrans.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 2:30:57 PM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik
To: Board (@caltrain.com)
Subject: FW: Why cant we have coordinated BART and CT schedule at Millbrae?

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynda Swanson <lyndaswanson@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 8:47 PM
To: Public Comment <publiccomment@caltrain.com>
Subject: Why cant we have coordinated BART and CT schedule at Millbrae?

[You don't often get email from lyndaswanson@me.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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from unknown senders.

It goes on and on! Years and years! I have to drive to MB to be sure to get train to Palo Alto as BART arrives minutes before CT leaves and No Way to get off BART and down stairs in time! Many many many times! Then have to wait an hour at MB!!!!!!! So many people stranded no matter which direction! A crime!!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Caltrain BOD Public Support](#)
To: [Nicholas Tan](#)
Cc: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)
Subject: Re: Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house
Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 12:54:11 PM

Dear Nicholas Tan,

Thank you for your follow-up and your patience as our crews worked to address your concerns. We are pleased to inform you that the work was completed on March 17, 2025.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support. Should you have any further questions or need additional assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Best regards,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Nicholas Tan <nicholastjs@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 10:05 AM
To: Caltrain BOD Public Support <CaltrainBODPublicSupport@caltrain.com>
Cc: Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>
Subject: Re: Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house

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Hi,

I did not meet with any of your team members on 3/7. I was home until 12.30pm and was out for the rest of that day.

Thanks,
Nicholas

On Mar 11, 2025, at 9:49 AM, Caltrain BOD Public Support <CaltrainBODPublicSupport@caltrain.com> wrote:

Dear Nicholas Tan,

Thank you for your patience. I wanted to check in regarding the crew visit we scheduled for **3/7/2025**. I'm following up to see if the crew has been able to visit your location and address the flooding concerns.

Please let me know if there's anything else that needs attention or if you require any further assistance.

Best regards,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Nicholas Tan <nicholastjs@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 4:06:17 AM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik
To: Caltrain BOD Public Support <CaltrainBODPublicSupport@caltrain.com>
Cc: Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>
Subject: Re: Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house

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Hi,

Thank you for getting back to me. Please note that this flooding is causing a huge problem to the pavers in my backyard as I highlighted last year. The soil gets so soft that my backyard is sinking, retaining wall leaning and falling apart, pavers kitchen falling apart, etc. If this is not fixed soon, my backyard will incur huge lose if it gets to a point that I need to rebuild everything, let alone the risk of these items falling onto my kids and causing injury.

That's on top of flooding risk in my crawl space basement and it becoming breeding ground for mosquitoes and other bugs.

Please act quickly before things get a lot worse.

Thanks,
Nicholas

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On Feb 18, 2025, at 2:11 PM, Caltrain BOD Public Support <CaltrainBODPublicSupport@caltrain.com> wrote:

Dear Nicholas Tan,

Your message to the Caltrain Board of Directors has been forwarded to me for a response. A copy of our correspondence will also be shared with the Board members. Thank you for reaching out and for sharing the photos with us. I'm sorry to hear that the flooding issue behind your backyard is still occurring despite the previous work done by our team.

I want to let you know that we've referred this matter to our Right of Way team to investigate and address the issue. They will assess the situation and take any necessary actions to help resolve it.

Thank you again for bringing this to our attention. We'll keep you updated on any progress. If you have any additional questions or concerns, feel free to reach out.

Best regards,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Nicholas Tan <nicholastjs@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 5:40:51 AM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik
To: Sarah Nabong <nabongs@samtrans.com>
Cc: Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>
Subject: Re: Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house

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Hi Sarah,

The raining season is here and looks like the work your team has done previously hasn't help alleviate the flooding issue behind my backyard. Please see attached photos that I just took yesterday.

Thanks,
Nicholas

<PXL_20250216_231417869.PANO.jpg><PXL_20250216_231438547.PANO.jpg><PXL_20250216_231554912.PANO.jpg>

On May 22, 2024, at 3:19 PM, Nicholas Tan <nicholastjs@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you Sarah for your update. Yes, I did meet with your contractor and he did share his plan with me.

Thanks,
Nicholas

On May 23, 2024, at 2:48 AM, Sarah Nabong <nabongs@samtrans.com> wrote:

Dear Nicholas Tan,

I hope this message finds you well. Thank you for bringing your concerns about the ongoing flooding issue behind your property to our attention. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and distress this situation has caused you and your family. Your message to the Caltrain Board of Directors was referred to me for response. The Board members will receive a copy of our correspondence.

I understand that you met with our contractor and were informed that when the area dries out a little more, sometime around the end of July or beginning of August, we will be back to regrade the ditch-line. I was notified that you exchanged numbers so that we can update you as we get closer to that time.

Please be assured that we take your feedback seriously, and we are committed to resolving this issue promptly.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to address this matter effectively. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Best regards,

Sarah Nabong, Customer Service Representative 2
1250 San Carlos Ave San Carlos, CA 94070
Websites: [Caltrain](#) | [SamTrans](#) | [TA](#)
<image001.png>

From: Nicholas Tan <nicholastjs@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 27, 2024 6:31 PM
To: Board (@caltrain.com) <board@caltrain.com>
Subject: Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house

You don't often get email from nicholastjs@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi,

I filed a complaint 2-3 years ago about flooding in the Caltrain Land behind my backyard. You have since done some work to try to better slope the land so that water doesn't accumulate there.

This year during the rain season, water start to accumulate again. The last time there's rain was more than two weeks ago, and there's still a good size pond right behind my house.

This will cause three significant safety risks:

1. Flood in our crawl space. the water in our crawl space is pump towards that area and if thAt area is flooded the my pump will fail to pump the water out, causing flood in my basement (with risk of getting into my living space)
2. Health risk. The standing water there becomes a breeding ground for mosquitoes. This year there's significant increase of mosquitoes around my house, which can be a health risk.

3. Land setting. The soaked and saturated ground becomes soft and the fixture inside my backyard started to sink. The retaining wall is leaning backwards, the outdoor kitchen counter top started to sink and at risk of crumbling.

This issue has been going on for many years and while I saw your effort to try to fix it, it's not fixed and actually got worse.

Can you take action immediately before this becomes a much bigger issue and causing significant damage and health problems to my family?

Thanks,
Nicholas

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From: [Nicholas Tan](#)
To: [Caltrain BOD Public Support](#)
Cc: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)
Subject: Re: Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house
Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 1:05:34 PM

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders.

Hi,

I have not seen any work being done. Even if there is, the fix is not effective because this is a photo I took on 3/30

I'm not understanding why it's so hard to fix this. This has been ongoing for many years now and my backyard is crumbling due to this. I have spent tens of thousands on the pavers, retaining walls, and outdoor kitchen and they are all crumbling. I have been very patient for many years now, but if this continues to deteriorate, I will consider legal action. Your inaction or ineffective actions has caused significant financial loss to my investment in my backyard.

Thanks,
Nicholas



On Fri, Apr 4, 2025, 12:54 PM Caltrain BOD Public Support <CaltrainBODPublicSupport@caltrain.com> wrote:

Dear Nicholas Tan,

Thank you for your follow-up and your patience as our crews worked to address your concerns. We are pleased to inform you that the work was completed on March 17, 2025.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support. Should you have any further questions or need additional assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Best regards,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Nicholas Tan <nicholastj@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 10:05 AM
To: Caltrain BOD Public Support <CaltrainBODPublicSupport@caltrain.com>
Cc: Board (@caltrain.com) <BoardCaltrain@samtrans.com>

Subject: Re: Complaint about flooding on the Caltrain Land behind my house

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I did not meet with any of your team members on 3/7. I was home until 12.30pm and was out for the rest of that day.

Thanks,
Nicholas

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That's on top of flooding risk in my crawl space basement and it becoming breeding ground for mosquitoes and other bugs.

Please act quickly before things get a lot worse.

Thanks,
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I want to let you know that we've referred this matter to our Right of Way team to investigate and address the issue. They will assess the situation and take any necessary actions to help resolve it.

Thank you again for bringing this to our attention. We'll keep you updated on any progress. If you have any additional questions or concerns, feel free to reach out.

Best regards,

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From: Nicholas Tan <nicholastjs@gmail.com>
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I understand that you met with our contractor and were informed that when the area dries out a little more, sometime around the end of July or beginning of August, we will be back to regrade the ditch-line. I was notified that you exchanged numbers so that we can update you as we get closer to that time.

Please be assured that we take your feedback seriously, and we are committed to resolving this issue promptly.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to address this matter effectively. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Best regards,

Sarah Nabong, Customer Service Representative 2

[1250 San Carlos Ave San Carlos, CA 94070](#)

Websites: [Caltrain](#) | [SamTrans](#) | [TA](#)

<image001.png>

From: Nicholas Tan <nicholastjs@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, April 27, 2024 6:31 PM

To: Board (@caltrain.com) <board@caltrain.com>

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This issue has been going on for many years and while I saw your effort to try to fix it, it's not fixed and actually got worse.

Can you take action immediately before this becomes a much bigger issue and causing significant damage and health problems toy family?

Thanks,
Nicholas

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