### Report of the Executive Director

JPB Board Meeting June 5, 2025







### • Safety Installation and AI Technology

Location (date installed)	# vehicles on the track, per week before installation	After Installation	Notes
Broadway, Burlingame (Jan 2025)	3 per week average	0	Worked with city on adjustment signals / traffic control
Churchill, Palo Alto (April 2025)	4 observed	0	Continue signal / traffic control analysis
16th Street, San Franisco (planned late June)			



- Started rotating monthly internal roadshow, promoting safety culture and knowledge (CEMOF 5/28)
- EMU exercise w/ 200 firefighters / police SF (5/31)
- Safety Workshop APTA Rail (6/28)
- Full-scale emergency exercise Redwood City (planned August)



# Budget Workshop – 5/28

Key Topics:

- FY26 & FY27 Operating Budget
- 10-Year Strategic Financial Plan
- Strategies to Address Operating Shortfall
  - Cost Containment
  - Fare Revenue
  - Ridership Growth
  - Non-Fare Revenue Strategy



Capital Budget & Funding Strategy (July Finance Committee; August Board)



# **Board Workshop Summary**

### Where Should Staff & Funding Resources Go?

### **Grow Ridership**

- Promoting electrified service
- Special events
- Partnerships and promotions
- Engage employers in return-to-office efforts



- Reduce rail operator costs
- Ongoing effort to control and reduce wage and benefit costs
- Control and reduce non-labor costs



### **Increase Fare Revenue**

- Increase price for existing fare products
- Go Pass reform and promotion
- Evaluate alignment of ridership and • revenue growth



### **Funding Advocacy Efforts**

- Operating funding support from State
- SB 63 Regional Measure
- Transit Development Act reform
- Cap and Invest program •



### **Generate Non-Fare Revenue**

- Advertising & Naming Rights
- Fiber Optic Leasing
- Energy Storage and Solar
- Transit Oriented Development
- Real Estate assets/lease management





- Feasibility of contributions for operations
- Partner with member agencies to utilize the funding dedicated to Caltrain timely and effectively
- Explore Caltrain-only measure •



## **Board Workshop Summary**

### Where Should Staff & Funding Resources Go?



### **Next Steps**

- Adoption FY26 Operating and FY26-FY27 Capital Budget (Today)
- Continue advocacy / support regional measure discussions
- Fare Increase Recommendation (Fall 2025 Board, Implementation Jan 2026)
- Fiber and energy storage project implementation plans update (Fall 2025)
- Ridership growth effort /G o Pass updates (December 2025)
- Next 10-Year SFP update (Winter 2025/2026)
- Real Estate and TOD related policy and strategy update (TBD)
- Ongoing FY27 Operating Budget development/strategy effort:
  - Workshop (Feb/March 2026) and adoption (No later than June 2026)



## **OTP and Ridership**

Achieved 94.82% On Time Performance May (\*preliminary data as of Mon 6/2)

Month of April

- 58.1% recovery vs 2019
- Monthly +60.1% vs April 2024
- Weekday +52.9% vs April 2024
- Weekend +112.4% vs April 2024

#### Monthly On-Time Performance Since Electrification Launch



#### **Ridership in the Past Year**



## 2025 Schedule Change

### Electric Service between Tamien and Diridon Stations Suspended (6/16/25 to early 2026)

- Related to Guadalupe Replacement Bridge Project
- Temporary bus bridge between Tamien & Diridon Stations
- South Santa Clara County Connector Service remains
  - No impact including service to Tamien Station
- <u>Caltrain.com/Status</u> for more information

### No system-wide service change August 2025

- Continued coordination with BART and regional services
- Regional schedule changes: January and August every year



Guadalupe Bridge



# **Apprenticeship Program**

- 2.5-year program HS Grads & older
- Earn college credit, access to funding and grants.
- Graduate as Multi-Disciplined (Overhead Contact System and Traction Power) Professionals.
- First cohort: Fall 2026 Start









### Long-Range Service Vision Update

• Reconfirm Core Service Vision goal for future rail service on corridor (Moderate Growth Scenario in Caltrain Business Plan)



• Eliminate language for Expanded Growth (High Growth Scenario in Caltrain Business Plan). Eliminating expanded growth will reduce costs to major projects, free up more ROW that was reserved for expanded growth infrastructure. More realistic given current financial environment.



Schedule: Draft Update (Today); Adoption Service Vision Update (August) Copy of the proposed updates to Service Vision language in reading file and at your table



## **Special Events**

- All Aboard Transit Day Press Event (5/6)
- Valkyries WNBA inaugural season (5/16)
- Bike to Wherever Days, tabling (5/15)
- Bay to Breakers (5/18) nearly +4k riders (2 special trains)
- Kendrick Lamar & SZA Car @ Oracle (5/29)
  - +1K riders (2 decorated cars); overall +5,700 riders
- Coldplay @ Stanford Stadium (5/31 & 6/1)
  - First-time large-scale concerts at Stanford, +8K riders

Upcoming

- Pride: San Mateo (6/14) Half Moon Bay (6/22) SF (6/27)
- APTA Electric Train Tours (6/30 & 7/1)



Lamar Car



Coldplay @ Palo Alto Station



### **California Transportation Commission Tour**

- Hosted tour for California Transportation Commissioners and regional leaders (5/15/25)
  - 40 attendees
  - Train ride and South San Francisco infrastructure / station tour
- Presentation to Commission during their regular meeting





## **APTA Rail Conference**

- San Francisco (June 20 July 2)
- Panels with Caltrain Participation:
  - Grade Crossings, Safety, Trespassing & Suicide Prevention Workshop
  - Electrifying Caltrain: Balancing Service and Infrastructure Upgrades
- Hosting two Caltrain Electric Train Tours







# Caltrain Marketing Plan

- "Go Faster. Go Caltrain." (May 2025)
  - Website landing page
  - Digital billboards on 101
  - Spotify and other digital advertising
  - DMV Ads & KOIT Radio Ads



- Sports Partnerships w/ SF Giants, BayFC, and Golden State Valkyries
  - Social promotion (ongoing) and onboard promotion via digital displays (June 2025)
- Summer Activations (June August 2025)
  - Coasters, DJ Sets, Tai Chi, violinist, Mister Frostee and Hawaiian Ice, special train cars for concerts, Downtown Destinations, social media giveaways, and more
- Website: www.caltrain.com/go



### **Caltrain Electrification Awards**

- California Transportation Foundation
  - Railroad Project of the Year Award
  - Award ceremony (6/12)
- Construction Management
  Association of America
  - NorCal Project Achievement Award
  - Award ceremony (6/25)



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# Bay Area TRANSFER Plan

- Operator-led "Bay Area TRANSFER Plan"
  - Goal: To provide a more cohesive rider experience for Bay Area transit passengers
  - Schedule changes align in January and August
    - Caltrain started January 2025
- Transfer Pilot Hubs
  - Phase 1: El Cerrito del Norte BART, San Rafael Transit Center
  - Phase 2: Palo Alto Caltrain, Daly City BART, Concord BART, Dublin/Pleasanton BART
- Palo Alto Caltrain: Goal to improve transfers for Dumbarton Express and SamTrans
- Detailed report on the process, analysis and proposals is being finalized this month for 4x Phase 2 hubs (August 2025 implementation)





### **SF Boarding Improvements**

- Staff implemented snaking barricades to manage crowds in plaza
- Separated pre-boarding and general passenger flow
- Staff saw improved passenger flow and experience
- Continue to pilot and refine process based on staff and customer feedback





