

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board  
Technology, Operations, Planning, and Safety (TOPS) Committee**

**1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070**

**Minutes of April 23, 2025**

**Members Present:** Pat Burt (Vice Chair), Rico E. Medina (Chair)

**Members Absent:** Shamann Walton

**Staff Present:** B. Baney, M. Bouchard, S. Bullock, C. Fromson, J. Harrison, L. Ko,  
L. Lumina-Hsu, M. Meader

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Medina called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Deputy District Secretary Loana Lumina-Hsu called the roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance / Safety Briefing**

Chair Medina led the Pledge of Allegiance and delivered the safety briefing.

**4. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda**

Adrian Brandt commented on the shortage of Clipper card scanners and ticket inspections.

**5. Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2025**

Motion/Second: Medina/Burt

Ayes: Burt, Medina

Noes: None

Absent: Walton

**6. Receive Update on Project Budget, Contract Capacity, and Funding Plan Increase for  
Guadalupe River Bridge Replacement Project**

Sherry Bullock, Program Director, Caltrain Modernization Program, and Casey Fromson, Chief of Staff, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Multi-agency cooperation and securement of permits
- Minimize disruptions in alignment with permit restrictions
- Balanced decisions impacted by environmental, cost, safety, service, operations, and construction considerations
- Staff efforts to further the project include engagement/collaboration, identification of mitigation areas, negotiations, funding, and independent review
- Recommended 2025 timeline
- Compromised increased costs, larger environmental disturbance, reduced service and efficiency

- Project driven by permit approval and conditions, timelines, market uncertainty, and project management costs and additional monitoring
- Offsetting environmental impacts through Habitat Mitigation & Monitoring Plan (HMMP)
- Temporary additional service to enable connectivity for customers using Tamien Station
- Communication to customers about service disruption

The Committee members had a robust discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Committee comments and questions, which included the following:

- International processes exploration
- Other agencies anticipated shared costs of using Caltrain's bridges
- Redistributing planned state of good repair dollars
- Defined dry season (June 15-October 15) due to high Spring water flow; early May as earliest obtention of permits
- Assessment of service level at Tamien Station

#### Public Comment

Roland commented on deferring this item to the JPB Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for other solutions and the need for more consistent service to Gilroy.

Adrian Brandt commented on the costs incurred from other agencies using Caltrain's bridge and international building advancements with bridges.

### **7. Receive Update on Crossing Optimization Project**

Ms. Bullock provided the presentation that included the following:

- Wireless crossing integration
- Benefits include consistency, warning time reduction, improved performance, reduction of additional activation, and activation when trains depart
- Impact of Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) performance after inhibit feature launched at 24 crossings in January 2025
- Gate down time reduction; successful performance of wireless crossing; and activation simplification

The Committee members had a robust discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Committee comments and questions, which included the following:

- Comparison of wireless crossings current performance to past performance
- Pre-electrification data of warning times
- Grade separations to follow

#### Public Comment

Adrian Brandt commented on performance due to inhibit feature issues and the insurance of train stopping.

Roland commented on the inhibit feature and varying downtime of gate activation.

### **8. Receive Update on Caltrain Strategic Sustainability Plan and Caltrain Climate Vulnerability Study**

Bo Baney, Planning Administrator, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Focus on using American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Sustainability Commitment
- Sustainability efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) and align with Caltrain core values
- Current initiatives for a strategic plan involve staff, working groups, and executives
- Priorities include greater use of public transportation, reducing pollution from operations, serving disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, minimizing resources usage, reducing climate vulnerability, and increasing resilience to extreme weather
- Evaluation criterias for environmental, financial, staffing, grant funding
- Caltrain Climate Vulnerability Study (CCVS) to help achieve climate change goals
- Hazards observed: extreme heat, wildfire, flooding, and wind
- CCVS engagement through Caltrain, external advisory committees, and public outreach

The Committee members had a robust discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Committee comments and questions, which included the following:

- Aiding sustainability goals of other agencies
- Carbon consumption costs
- Resource disruption caused by a natural disaster
- Disturbances to grant funding

#### Public Comment

Adrian Brandt commented on the environmental and residential impact of diesel locomotives and discontinuous fare policy.

### **9. Receive Update on Caltrain Safety Performance**

Mike Meader, Chief Safety Officer, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Encouragement of safety culture; almost six months without a reportable injury
- Efficiency testing; increased employee engagements
- Grade crossing enhancements
- Continuation of suicide prevention/trespassers efforts and tree mitigation

The Committee members had a robust discussion and staff provided further clarification in response to the Committee comments and questions, which included the following:

- Outreach tools to show progressing safety initiatives
- Artificial intelligence (AI) data collection
- Information network with other partnering agencies and communities

Public Comment

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, commented on trespasser panels and collision prevention technology.

**10. Committee Member Requests** - There were none.

**11. Date/Time of Next Regular TOPS Committee Meeting:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 1:30 pm.

**12. Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 3:26 pm.