

JPB Board of Directors
Meeting of November 6, 2025

Correspondence as of October 17, 2025

### <u># Subject</u>

- Request for Immediate Removal of Abandoned Train Cargo Near Residential Parking Area
- 2. Re: Tickets question
- 3. Podcast to share with Caltrain crews members
- 4. concerning conductor behavior
- 5. Inquiry About Caltrain Educational Programs or Student Engagement Opportunities
- 6. Formal Complaint Regarding Seat Reservation Behavior on Caltrain Express (5:24 PM Train)
- 7. FW: Inquiry About Caltrain Educational Programs or Student Engagement Opportunities *Staff response*
- 8. Re: Formal Complaint Regarding Seat Reservation Behavior on Caltrain Express (5:24 PM Train) *Staff response*
- 9. Train track decimals are high

From: <u>Irfana Khan</u>

To: Board (@caltrain.com)

Cc: Kelly McBride; Leonardo Caminero; Ellen Guccione; Nicole Gray

Subject: Request for Immediate Removal of Abandoned Train Cargo Near Residential Parking Area

**Date:** Friday, October 10, 2025 12:00:08 PM

Attachments: <u>image760740.png</u>

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Dear Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board,

I am writing to formally request the removal of an abandoned and vandalized train cargo located adjacent to our residential parking area near 420 Berry Street (SF). Attached are the pictures of the car for reference.

This train car has been left unattended for an extended period and is in a visibly deteriorated and vandalized state. It presents several serious concerns:

- Public Safety Risk: The train car has previously been occupied by individuals
  experiencing homelessness. During that time, residents reported incidents of rockthrowing from the train car, resulting in damage to vehicles parked nearby.
- **Visual Blight**: The condition of the train car is unsightly and negatively impacts the appearance and perceived safety of our community.
- **Potential for Recurrence**: Its continued presence may invite further unauthorized occupation or vandalism, increasing risks to residents and property.

We respectfully request that Caltrain take immediate action to remove this abandoned equipment and secure the area to prevent future incidents.

Please confirm receipt of this complaint and advise on the timeline for resolution. If additional documentation or site details are needed, I am happy to provide them.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Irfana Khan

### Regional Manager

Avanath Capital **p** +19495280985 **w** avanath.com







From: Caltrain BOD Public Support
To: beatricecampion21@gmail.com

Cc: Board (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Re: Tickets question

**Date:** Friday, October 10, 2025 12:08:11 PM

Dear Beatrice Campion,

Thank you for reaching out!

Caltrain does not currently offer a weekly pass. Your sister can use a Clipper card or purchase Day Passes at any Caltrain station ticket vending machine for individual rides.

For SamTrans buses, she can use a Clipper card or pay with cash on board (exact change only).

Here are a few links that might be helpful:

• Caltrain Fares: <u>www.caltrain.com/Fares</u>

• SamTrans Fares: <u>www.samtrans.com/Fares</u>

• Clipper Card info: <u>www.clippercard.com</u>

If you have further questions, please contact Customer Service at 1-800-660-4287, available Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and weekends/holidays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Best regards,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: beatrice campion <beatricecampion21@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, October 10, 2025 4:28:57 PM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik

To: Board (@caltrain.com)
Subject: Tickets question

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Hi,

my sister will be in Redwood for just a week and she would go everyday to SF or nerby. Ita possibile to buy just a "tickets week" or is there some deals for week and not for the whole month?

If no, how you can pay inside the bus or train?

Thanks a lot Sent from my iPhone From: jackie leonard-dimmick

To: Board (@caltrain.com)

**Subject:** Podcast to share with Caltrain crews members **Date:** Friday, October 10, 2025 2:16:38 PM

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Peninsula JPB Board of Directors:

Could you please get this email into the right hands?

Thank you.

Jackie Leonard-Dimmick

#### Caltrain:

I am sure many of your engineers and conductors have experienced confrontations between the engine of the train and a person on the tracks. I have been on the train twice when this has happened. It is not a pleasant experience for anyone. I would like to share a podcast that I recently listened to (many times), of an experience a family had during the floods of the 4th of July in Texas. It is sad, but it is very uplifting and inspiring. Please, listen to it, and share it with the crew members of Caltrain - and anyone else you think it would be of help to.

This is a podcast. One must subscribe. I do not. Someone sent me this one. If you do not receive the vocal, please let me know, and I will try again.

Thank you.

Also, you might want to listen to a CD by Andrew Brewis entitled "HOME" I think about it a lot as I wait for my train, or see another train passing in the opposite direction. "Home is the consciousness of Love." The train has become "home" to me and I have seen a lot of love on it. Andrew has a number of concerts on YouTube - and Facebook. In September, he began rotating between inspirational concerts and 1920s and 30ss music - one each month - if you are interested.

Thank you.

Jackie Leonard-Dimmick

**From:** JSH-Online Sharing <share@jsh-online.com> **Sent:** Wednesday, October 1, 2025 2:38 PM

To: akita550@hotmail.com <akita550@hotmail.com>

Subject: Akita550@hotmail.com

## **Dealing with the unthinkable**

This content is free because it was shared with you. Find other inspiring articles and verified accounts of healing on <u>JSH-Online</u>. Explore current issues and the archive, which includes content from the last 130+ years.

JSH-Online is home to all current content and the archival collection from our three magazines. *The Christian Science Journal*, the *Christian Science Sentinel*, and *The Herald of Christian Science*. Learn more about JSH-Online.

From: Elizabeth Cole
To: Board (@caltrain.com)
Subject: concerning conductor behavior
Date: Friday, October 10, 2025 11:58:12 PM

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Dear Caltrain board of directors,

I am writing to express serious concerns about the controlled boarding procedures I experienced at San Jose Diridon station on today, October 10th, 2025 at approximately 11:28 PM on the Northbound train to SF.

Staff closed all doors except one and funneled all passengers through a single checkpoint with mandatory ticket verification. While I understand the need for fare enforcement, this created several problems:

**Safety concerns for passengers:** I had loaded money onto my digital Clipper card, but it was not scanning properly on the validator. Staff nearly denied me boarding while they repeatedly tried to get it to work. As a young woman alone at night in San Jose, being stranded at the station due to a technical malfunction would have put me in a potentially dangerous situation. I was fortunate the card eventually scanned, but this should not have been a close call.

Contradictory and stressful enforcement: While conducting this time-intensive controlled boarding, staff were simultaneously yelling at passengers to "hurry up" and "we have to go." The delay was caused by their own checkpoint procedure, yet passengers were being rushed and blamed for the holdup. This created an unnecessarily hostile atmosphere.

Lack of compassion and discretion: I witnessed staff deny boarding to a passenger who was carrying a small kitten. This person was not causing any disruption or safety issue, yet was refused service over what appears to be an inflexible interpretation of pet policy. Transit staff should be empowered to exercise reasonable judgment in harmless situations rather than creating barriers for passengers trying to get home.

I recognize that fare enforcement is necessary, but the current approach at San Jose Diridon feels punitive rather than service-oriented. The combination of aggressive checkpoints, technical failures that nearly stranded passengers, and zero tolerance for minor policy variations creates a hostile environment that discourages ridership.

The people responsible for this behavior were a younger woman and a white man she claimed was her boss.

### I urge Caltrain to:

- Reconsider controlled boarding procedures that create safety risks and delays
- Ensure technical issues with validators don't strand passengers, especially during evening hours

- Train staff to exercise compassionate discretion in situations that pose no actual harm
- Focus on creating a welcoming transit experience that encourages ridership

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. I hope Caltrain will prioritize passenger safety and experience in its enforcement policies.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth

From: Erica Sparr

To: Board (@caltrain.com)

Subject: Inquiry About Caltrain Educational Programs or Student Engagement Opportunities

**Date:** Wednesday, October 15, 2025 12:49:10 PM

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Dear Caltrain Team,

My name is Erica Sparr, and I am an Education Specialist at Alpha Cornerstone Academy. I work with students with disabilities, and I'm reaching out because I have a student in my classroom who has a *tremendous* passion for Caltrain.

He absolutely loves everything about Caltrain — he can recognize the trains by sight and sound, knows many of the station names by heart, and often shares fun facts about your routes with his classmates. In his free time, he creates detailed paper models of Caltrain trains, watches videos about Caltrain operations, and even draws pictures of your trains with impressive attention to detail. His enthusiasm has sparked curiosity among his peers and has become a meaningful part of how he connects with others at school.

Given his excitement and dedication, I wanted to ask if Caltrain offers any educational programs, community outreach opportunities, art or craft activities, or merchandise that could support his (and other students') interest in learning more about trains and public transportation.

Even small gestures such as informational brochures, posters, or souvenirs would mean so much to him and could be a wonderful way to encourage learning and creativity across our classroom.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I truly appreciate any information or resources you might be able to share.

Warm regards, Erica Sparr

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# Erica Sparr

Education Specialist
Alpha Public Schools: Cornerstone Academy Preparatory School

W: (408) 361-3876 Email: esparr@alphapublicschools.org

From: Ameen Alammari
To: Board (@caltrain.com)

Subject: Formal Complaint Regarding Seat Reservation Behavior on Caltrain Express (5:24 PM Train)

Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 6:23:32 PM

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Dear Caltrain Customer Service Team,

My name is Ameen Alammari, and I am a new resident in the United States who recently started using Caltrain daily. I truly admire this country and the values of respect, fairness, and consideration for others that it represents.

However, I would like to express a serious concern I have noticed repeatedly on the 5:24 PM express train (and on other express routes as well). Many passengers are occupying multiple seats by placing their bags, laptops, and personal belongings on adjacent seats. In many cases, one person uses two or even three seats, leaving others standing — even when there are clearly available seats blocked by these items.

This behavior feels unfair and inconsiderate to other riders who simply wish to sit after a long workday. I believe Caltrain, as a respected public service, could help address this issue through reminders, signage, or announcements encouraging passengers to keep seats available for others, especially during peak hours.

I share this feedback not as a complaint out of anger, but out of respect and hope for improvement. I love being here in America, and I truly believe that mutual respect and community awareness are what make this place great.

Thank you very much for your time, understanding, and efforts to keep Caltrain a welcoming and respectful environment for everyone.

Sincerely,
San Bruno, CA

From: Brent Tietjen
To: Board (@caltrain.com)

Subject: FW: Inquiry About Caltrain Educational Programs or Student Engagement Opportunities

**Date:** Thursday, October 16, 2025 10:00:27 AM

**From:** Brent Tietjen

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 15, 2025 1:24 PM **To:** Erica Sparr <esparr@alphapublicschools.org>

Subject: RE: Inquiry About Caltrain Educational Programs or Student Engagement Opportunities

Hi Erica,

Thanks so much for reaching out.

We do have some merchandise online at <a href="www.caltrainstore.com">www.caltrainstore.com</a>. We also have some stickers and foldable paper trains that we can either mail to you, or have someone come down and talk to the students about Caltrain. Happy to connect and see what would be most meaningful to the students.

Thanks,

From: Erica Sparr < <a href="mailto:esparr@alphapublicschools.org">esparr@alphapublicschools.org</a> Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 12:47 PM

To: CaltrainGCA < <a href="mailto:caltrain.com">caltrain.com</a>>

Subject: Inquiry About Caltrain Educational Programs or Student Engagement Opportunities

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impressive attention to detail. His enthusiasm has sparked curiosity among his peers and has become a meaningful part of how he connects with others at school.

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Thank you for your time and consideration. I truly appreciate any information or resources you might be able to share.

Warm regards, Erica Sparr

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# Erica Sparr

Education Specialist
Alpha Public Schools: Cornerstone Academy Preparatory School

W: (408) 361-3876 Email: esparr@alphapublicschools.org

 From:
 Caltrain BOD Public Support

 To:
 ameen.alammari0@gmail.com

 Cc:
 Board (@caltrain.com)

Subject: Re: Formal Complaint Regarding Seat Reservation Behavior on Caltrain Express (5:24 PM Train)

**Date:** Thursday, October 16, 2025 4:19:58 PM

Dear Ameen Alammari,

Your message to the Caltrain Board of Directors was forwarded to me for response. A copy of this correspondence will also be shared with the Board. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughtful message and observations. We truly appreciate your kind words about Caltrain and your recognition of the values of respect and fairness that guide our service and community.

We completely understand your concern regarding passengers occupying multiple seats during peak hours. This behavior can indeed make it difficult for others to find a seat, and we agree that it's important to encourage courtesy and consideration among riders. Your feedback has been shared with our Operations team for review.

We appreciate your respectful and constructive approach to this issue and thank you for helping us make Caltrain a more comfortable and considerate environment for everyone.

Warm regards,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Ameen Alammari <ameen.alammari0@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 15, 2025 6:23 PM **To:** Board (@caltrain.com) <Board@caltrain.com>

Subject: Formal Complaint Regarding Seat Reservation Behavior on Caltrain Express (5:24 PM Train)

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Thank you very much for your time, understanding, and efforts to keep Caltrain a welcoming and respectful environment for everyone.

Sincerely,

San Bruno, CA

From: Robert Silva

To: <u>Board (@caltrain.com)</u>
Subject: Train track decimals are high

**Date:** Thursday, October 16, 2025 8:32:53 PM

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Greetings,

I live nearby the Diridon Station, the tracks bend a bit coming and going near the SAP arena. The train tracks squeak so loud and would like to request oiling or greasing them, appreciate your assistance on this matter.

R,

Robert

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