

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board  
Board of Directors  
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070**

**Minutes of December 4, 2025**

**Members Present:** Margaret Abe-Koga, Pat Burt, David J. Canepa, Jeff Gee, Shamann Walton, Rico E. Medina (Vice Chair), Steve Heminger (Chair)

**Members Present  
via Teleconference:** David Cohen

**Staff Present:** M. Bouchard, A. Brandt, N. Fogarty, C. Fromson, J. Harrison, M. Jones, L. Lumina-Hsu, L. Ko, B. Thompson, A. To, M. Tseng

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Heminger called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

**2. Roll Call**

Margaret Tseng, JPB Secretary, called the roll and confirmed a Board quorum was present.

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

Chair Heminger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. Consideration of requests, if any, of Directors to participate remotely due to Emergency Circumstances**

James Harrison, General Counsel, stated Director Cohen is attending the meeting under Assembly Bill 2449 Just Cause exemption.

**5. Request to Change Order of Business – There were none.**

**6. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, commented on Clipper 2, open payment system, and spoke in support of reduced fares for open payment users and using renewable electricity.

**7. Closed Session: Receive Update Regarding JPB Cybersecurity**

**8. Closed Session: Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Executive Director (Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1))**

### Public Comment

Peter Shah commented on fare increases for bicycles and scooters using more space than an individual on trains.

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, commented on cybersecurity and Executive Director performance evaluation.

*The Board convened into closed session at 9:12 am.*

*The Board reconvened into regular session at 10:31 am.*

### **9. General Counsel Report – Report Out from Above Closed Session (Verbal)**

Mr. Harrison reported that there were no reportable actions.

### **10. Report of the Executive Director**

Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Tabletop exercises with partners and law enforcement agencies for upcoming 2026 events
- Caltrain requested up to \$60 million for state transit loan under Senate Bill (SB) 105
- Guadalupe project construction progress
- Current and upcoming special events with local sports teams and universities; December 13 holiday train with new electric train; Caltrain holiday sweater available
- Caltrain will provide free fares on December 31, 2025, New Year's Eve, to encourage safety
- Next generation Clipper soft launch on December 10 and hard launch March 2026; parking not included with Clipper, customers need to use ticket vending machines (TVM) or ParkMobile app
- November on-time performance (OTP) at 93.9 percent; October had over 1 million riders, 5<sup>th</sup> month in a row

Lucy Andre, Chief Executive Officer at Stadler Signaling North America and Chief of Staff of Stadler US, and Stefan Baer, Chief Operations Officer of Stadler US, provided an update on the train sets including the train sets errors were addressed, no errors were safety issues, and Stadler has incorporated mitigation strategies for upcoming train sets.

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

- Buy America Act's domestic content requirements; Stadler having to use unknown suppliers

- Issues not occurring with European fleets but occurring with American suppliers
- General error messages received; all problems have different origins, no common root cause
- Supplier vetting process and penalties when suppliers fall short
- Root cause analysis and incorporate fixes into trains
- Trains under warranty, opportunity for liquidated damages under contract agreement; sound relationship and appropriate resources on the ground

#### Public Comment

Jeff Carter commented on free fares on New Year's Eve, Clipper device scanners and reliability, Stadler maintenance, U.S. suppliers, and ridership levels.

Adrian Brandt commented on European Stadler service, trains, and customization; trainset troubleshooting summary; and wheel flat spot, restroom, and monitor issues.

Roland commented on train maintenance.

### **11. Consent Calendar**

#### **11.a. Approval of Meeting Minutes for November 6, 2025**

#### **11.b. Adopt 2026 Advocacy and Major Projects (AMP) Committee Meeting Calendar**

#### **11.c. Accept Statement of Sources and Uses for the Period Ending September 30, 2025**

#### **11.d. Authorize the Executive Director to Acquire JPB Parcel Number**

**JPB-SF1-0094, Owned by Visitacion Investment, LLC, and JPB Parcel Number JPB-SM1-0202, Owned by Sunquest Properties, Inc. for a Total of \$1,261,640.50\* –**

*Approved by Resolution No. 2025-54*

Motion/Second: Medina/Gee

Ayes: Abe-Koga, Burt, Canepa, Cohen, Gee, Walton, Medina, Heminger

Noes: None

Absent: None

#### Public Comment

Roland commented on Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) meetings regarding Diridon project.

### **12. Accept Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025**

Annie To, Director, Accounting, and Melissa L. Cabezzas, Auditor, Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Fiscal Year 2025 audit issued a clean (unmodified) opinion
- Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) received triple crown award from Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recognition

Motion/Second: Burt/Canepa

Ayes: Abe-Koga, Burt, Canepa, Cohen, Gee, Walton, Medina, Heminger

Noes: None

Public Comment

Roland commented on the SamTrans audit inclusion of Measure W and potential inclusions of Measures for Caltrain audit.

**13. Adopt Proposed Fare Structure Fiscal Year 2027 to 2030 and Caltrain Charter Train, Bike Locker, and Parking Fee Document Changes, and Review Draft Work Plan for Future Fares Study - Approved by Resolution No. 2025-55**

Melissa Jones, Deputy Director, Caltrain Policy Development, and Bruce Thompson, Manager, Fare Program Operations, provided the presentation that included the following:

- Draft workplan to address existing conditions, goals and priorities, price sensitive, pricing and product strategy, implementation actions and costs, and public outreach
- Funding yet to be identified for study but have applied for a \$500,000 grant; study will take 12 to 18 months after securing funds with a late 2028 to 2029 implementation

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

- Average rider travels two to three zones; affect of zone-fare increases
- Study to gather data on riders fare elasticity, multi-zone riders
- Maintaining and increasing ridership growth; cost for multiple zones riders
- Title VI analysis timeline, public meeting, public hearing requirements
- Fare study timeline

Motion by Cohen to accept staff recommendation for fare increases for FY26 through January 1, 2028, but delay action on recommendations for FY29 and FY30.

Second: Abe-Koga

Ayes: Abe-Koga, Cohen

Noes: Burt, Canepa, Gee, Walton, Medina, Heminger

Motion failed.

Motion to Adopt Proposed Fare Structure/Second: Medina/Walton

Ayes: Abe-Koga, Burt, Canepa, Gee, Walton, Medina, Heminger

Noes: Cohen

### Public Comment

Jeff Carter spoke in support of the fare increase and commented on Clipper discount removal, Fare Study timeline and delivery, distance-based fares, and individual and bicycle riders.

Adrian Brandt commented on zone-based pricing and distance-based fares.

Adina Levin, Seamless Bay Area, commented on partnership with Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for funding and multi-agency strategies.

Roland commented on Fare Study consultant expenditure, South County service levels and ridership, and private partnership.

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, commented on Next Generation Clipper integration, pass system simplification, and spoke in support of the fare increase.

*Director Cohen left the meeting at 12:07 pm.*

### **14. Consider Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board Governance Ad Hoc Committee**

#### **Recommendation Regarding CalPERS Pension Liability Backstop**

Chair Heminger stated the Governance ad hoc committee members (Heminger, Gee, Abe-Koga) met since March and discussed CalPERS issues including pension liability.

Mr. Harrison provided the presentation that included the following:

- Pension backstop necessitates action by all Joint Powers Authority (JPA) members; JPA members not liable for JPB's pension debts
- CalPERS determined JPB eligible to contract with CalPERS and agreed to negotiate a successor agency contract with effective date of July 1, 2012; employees under Classic status will retain those benefits

Director Walton stated remaining outstanding governance issues include managing agency role, shared services agreement, performance audit, CalPERS successor agency, and Caltrain salary ordinance.

The Board Members had a robust discussion, and staff provided further clarification in response to the following Board comments and questions regarding Guadalupe Bridge project and member agency funding contribution and the lack of contribution including potential cost increases and construction demobilization.

Director Walton motioned to agendize a discussion for the governance workplan and Guadalupe Bridge project for the January 8, 2026 meeting.

Motion/Second: Burt/Abe-Koga

Ayes: Abe-Koga, Burt, Canepa, Gee, Walton, Medina, Heminger

Noes: None

Absent: Cohen

#### Public Comment

Adina Levin, Friends of Caltrain and Seamless Bay Area, commented on governance.

Roland commented on Guadalupe Bridge project repairs.

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, commented on Guadalupe Bridge project repairs and bridge safety.

### **15. Receive State and Federal Legislative Update and Adopt 2026 Legislative Program**

Considered without staff presentation.

Motion/Second: Canepa/Medina

Ayes: Abe-Koga, Burt, Canepa, Cohen, Gee, Walton, Medina, Heminger

Noes: None

Absent: Cohen

### **16. Receive Update on Corridor Crossing Strategy**

Item was deferred.

### **17. Reports**

**17.a. Report of the Citizens Advisory Committee** – Adrian Brandt, Chair, provided the report, which included the following:

- Quarterly safety update
- Trains departing early
- Station crossing gates
- San Mateo County transportation plan
- Issues: out of service station elevators, Monthly pass tagging off, restrooms
- Train equipment problems

#### **17.b. Report of the Chair**

##### **17.b.i. Receive Report of the Nominating Committee – Election of Officers for 2026**

Nominating Committee Chair Walton stated the Nominating Committee recommended Vice Chair Medina to serve as Chair and Director Burt to serve as Vice Chair for 2026.

Motion/Second: Walton/Heminger

Ayes: Abe-Koga, Burt, Canepa, Cohen, Gee, Walton, Medina, Heminger

Noes: None

Absent: Cohen

Public Comment

Adina Levin, Seamless Bay Area, commented on Task Force recommendations, capital project cost and delivery times.

Roland commented on electric multiple units (EMU) repairs, change order, and funding.

Aleta Dupree, Team Folds, spoke in support of Director Medina as the new Chair.

**17.c. Report of the Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)** - Chair Burt stated the LPMG will meet in January for an in-person meeting and will have new appointees from respective cities.

**17.d. Report of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA)** - Chair Gee stated there was no meeting in November, upcoming meeting in December, and extended an invitation for the tree lighting event on Friday, December 5 at 5:00 pm at Salesforce Transit Center.

**18. Correspondence** – Available online.

**19. Board Member Requests** – There were none.

**20. Date/Time/Location of Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, January 8, 2026 at 9:00 am at via Zoom and in person at the San Mateo County Transit District, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA.**

**21. Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 12:52 pm.