



JPB Board of Directors
Meeting of March 5, 2026

Correspondence as of February 13, 2026

Subject

1. Unannounced BikeLink locker closure at Mountain View
2. Support for Caltrain Railyards Housing
3. Re: Unannounced BikeLink locker closure at Mountain View – *Staff Response*
4. Re: Palo Alto Throne Pumping Concerns

From: [Brian Silverman](#)
To: support@bikelink.org; [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Board (@caltrain.com)); [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com))
Subject: Unannounced BikeLink locker closure at Mountain View
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 9:27:39 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from bsilver16384@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi,

The most urgent part of this: reopen the BikeLink lockers at Mountain View Station today. All of the information I found indicated they would be open today, and finding them closed has already disrupted my plans for the day. Having them closed yet again tomorrow would be an even bigger disruption. I've exchanged SMS messages with BikeLink support which indicate a technician is coming out today to reopen them, but I want to reiterate this here to minimize the chances of it being further deferred or forgotten.

I have checked every available source of information (sign on the lockers, Caltrain website, SMS from BikeLink, email from BikeLink), and they all indicated they would be open from midnight this morning. The SMS even specifically says "Monday morning". Extending this time without notice is unacceptable.

The closing of these lockers for the Super Bowl has been very disruptive. I rely on these for my commute, which made my Friday commute about an hour longer. Today I didn't plan for the extra time, which left me with even fewer options to manage it. I may have to stop commuting on Caltrain if I can't do so reliably.

For future large events (such as FIFA) please find an alternative to closing these in the middle of the week.

Brian Silverman

From: [Trey Suddaby](#)
To: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#)
Subject: Support for Caltrain Railyards Housing
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 11:26:32 AM

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Hello Commissioners and City Leaders,

I'm a homeowner in SoMa near the Caltrain station, raising my family here, and I'm writing to express my strong support for ambitious housing and mixed-use development at the Caltrain Railyards.

This is exactly where San Francisco should grow. Next to transit, jobs, and existing infrastructure. Adding dense housing here will help ease our housing shortage, improve safety and street activity, support and diversify the city's economic stability, and make it easier for families like mine to stay in the city.

Please move this project forward quickly and maximize the number of homes built. Transit-oriented neighborhoods like this are essential for affordability, climate goals, and the long-term health of our community.

Thank you for your work and for supporting housing near transit.

Best regards,

William Suddaby

From: [Caltrain BOD Public Support](#)
To: bsilver16384@gmail.com
Cc: [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Board (@caltrain.com))
Subject: Re: Unannounced BikeLink locker closure at Mountain View
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 3:16:48 PM

Dear Brian Silverman,

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 your message and for sharing how this situation has impacted your commute. We understand how disruptive this has been and sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and frustration caused.

We were under the impression that all BikeLink lockers at Mountain View Station would be reactivated at midnight following the Super Bowl; however, that unfortunately did not fully occur as expected. We were able to confirm with BikeLink that approximately one-third of the lockers were turned back on at midnight last night, which may not have been apparent this morning. A technician was required to turn the remaining lockers back on, and we can confirm that all lockers are now available for use.

We have also spoken with the vendor about the need for clearer and more accurate communication when lockers need to be temporarily taken out of service. Going forward, we will work to ensure better coordination and customer notification to help prevent this type of confusion and disruption.

Thank you for your patience and for sharing your feedback—it helps us improve how we support our riders.

Sincerely,

Your Caltrain BOD Public Support Team

From: Brian Silverman <bsilver16384@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 5:27:23 PM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik
To: support@bikelink.org <support@bikelink.org>; [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Board (@caltrain.com)) <Board@caltrain.com>; [Caltrain, Bac \(@caltrain.com\)](mailto:Caltrain, Bac (@caltrain.com)) <batac@caltrain.com>
Subject: Unannounced BikeLink locker closure at Mountain View

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Brian Silverman

From: [Martin J Sommer](#)
To: [Jason Baker](#)
Cc: [Brent Tietjen](#); [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#); [Board \(@caltrain.com\)](#); [Board \(@samtrans.com\)](#)
Subject: Re: Palo Alto Throne Pumping Concerns
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 7:57:06 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

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cc: Caltrain and VTA Boards

Dear Jason,

There seems to have been a major misunderstanding in our communication. These question were not simply and question/answer session, but an effort to change the situation! In reading your email, nothing has changed regarding early morning (2 - 3am) pumping, during the work/school week. What a waste of time!!!

From your perspective, what do I need to do to make that change? Do I need to file an official legal action, or what?

Please respond.

Martin

On 2/12/26 5:19 PM, Jason Baker wrote:

Mr. Sommer,

Thank you again for our discussion late last week. I promised to get answers to some questions you had.

First, you noted that the loudest and most alarming noise is the first few minutes when the pump first starts. You asked if they could do that part more slowly and quietly.

From the information I gathered, the first 2-3 minutes or so is indeed the shorter and louder part of the process. That is the vacuum pump removing the waste. Once that's done, the second pump pumps the fresh water into the tank. That takes longer (10-15 minutes or so) and is much quieter. Unfortunately, the volume is not at the operator's discretion.

You also noted that you were aware of at least one occasion when a pump truck was pumping in the much later morning once - in the 10 a.m. timeframe.. We believe that was not a Throne truck but an outside,

independent contractor that was there on an ad hoc basis and which is not part of our agreement with Throne.

We do have a firm commitment from Throne that weekend pumping at Palo Alto will always be mid-morning. Although this doesn't address your entire concern, we are hopeful it helps.

Throne will also attempt to reduce the number of very early weekday pumps. As I understand it, they have been able to move some pumping to the 5:00-5:30 a.m. time and are working to see if they can move more.

While I realize that is still not ideal, I understand from you that it's preferable to the even earlier morning times, in part because garbage trucks also come around the 5-5:30 time.

Finally, you asked why the restrooms at Palo Alto station could not be opened in advance of the full station opening. As you may know, Caltrain has already committed funds to support the station activation through our partners at VTA. However, the station does require some modification and renovation before the station area can be opened, and that includes the restroom facilities. There are also maintenance and other challenges with opening restrooms without an open station.

I will connect with VTA to get an update on the process and timeline for reopening Palo Alto station and pass that information on to you.

Thank you for reaching out. We apologize for inconvenience you have been caused.

Jason

Jason Baker
Director, Government & Community Affairs
1250 San Carlos Ave
San Carlos, CA 94070
Cell: 650-399-6093
www.caltrain.com



SAFETY
FIRST AND ALWAYS

From: Martin J Sommer <martin@sommer.net>

Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 5:40 PM

To: Jason Baker <BakerJ@caltrain.com>

Cc: Brent Tietjen <TietjenB@caltrain.com>

Subject: Re: Palo Alto Throne Pumping Concerns

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Thank you!!

Martin

On February 5, 2026 4:32:14 PM PST, Jason Baker <BakerJ@caltrain.com> wrote:

Mr. Sommer.

Thank you for taking my call this afternoon. I think we achieved a common understanding of where the situation is at and why, with a few threads left to chase.

I definitely learned from our call and your description of the issue; and I agreed to take back some homework questions - both internal and throne questions- and get some answers.

I'll get back to you early next week with an update on what I've been able to learn.

Thanks again for taking the time. I'll reach out next week!

Jason Baker

Director,

Caltrain Government Relations and Community Affairs

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From: Martin J Sommer <martin@sommer.net>

Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 9:40 PM

To: Jason Baker <BakerJ@caltrain.com>

Cc: Brent Tietjen <TietjenB@caltrain.com>

Subject: Re: URGENT ... Re: 3am pumping

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Jason,

It is unacceptable to be forcibly woken up during the middle of the night, especially on work and school days. This is having a profound impact on both my work, and my son's performance at Palo Alto High school. In addition, it is unacceptable for a company to do this, based on their "due to their trucking logistics".

I request that Caltrain remove the Throne facility, and actually fix the restrooms at the University Ave station. The station has restroom facilities, they just need to be opened, and potentially repaired.

What do we need to do, to make this happen?

Thank you,
Martin

On 2/4/26 11:23 AM, Brent Tietjen wrote:

Hi Martin,

Thanks again for your patience as we discussed this with Throne. As mentioned in my email on Friday, they are able to move weekend servicing of this facility to mid-days.

For weekday servicing (expected 2 times a week), they are not able to consistently commit to later times due to their trucking logistics. Throne has said they may be able to move some of the services to around 5-5:30a, but depending on the day, it may continue to be earlier. The timing is influenced by their other service locations and the start/end points for the truck which limit flexibility on weekdays.

I'm also copying Jason Baker, Director of Government and Community Relations, in case you had additional questions or concerns.

Thanks,

Brent

From: Martin J Sommer <martin@sommer.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2026 12:13 PM
To: Brent Tietjen <TietjenB@caltrain.com>
Cc: Rick Peredia <PerediaR@caltrain.com>
Subject: Re: URGENT ... Re: 3am pumping

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Thanks Brent,

It is encouraging to see Caltrain take this issue seriously.
Please work with Throne, to move all pumping to mid-morning.

Attached is a photo from yesterday (Friday) mid-morning.
Perhaps, Throne has already adjusted the weekday schedule?
Did you get the update, that you were expecting?

Martin

On 1/30/26 11:29 AM, Brent Tietjen wrote:

Hi Martin,

We have worked with Throne and they have confirmed they are able to move the weekend pump truck to mid-mornings. This will reduce the weekday pumps to two.

I am still waiting for more clarity on their weekday plans but hope to have more clarity to you by the end of today. They are working with their driver to see what is possible given their routing and other sites.

Thanks
Brent

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Martin Sommer
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"Turn technical vision into reality."

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"Turn technical vision into reality."

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Sent from my Android device with K-9 Mail. Please excuse my brevity.

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"Turn technical vision into reality."