

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board  
Staff Report**

To: JPB Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory (BATAC) Committee

Through: Michelle Bouchard, Executive Director

From: Margaret Tseng, JPB Secretary

For: March 2026 JPB Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

Subject: **Authorize Remote Meetings for the Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee under Senate Bill 707**

**Purpose and Recommended Action**

Staff recommend that the Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee (BATAC) of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB or Caltrain):

1. Move to authorize the Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee members to meet remotely under new Brown Act procedures created by Senate Bill (SB) 707 for six months, with the understanding that a similar motion would be required every six months hereafter to facilitate continuation of remote meetings, as authorized by the JPB's Board of Directors.

**Discussion**

The Brown Act, codified at California Government Code section 54950, et seq. requires meetings of local legislative bodies to be open and accessible to the public. Rules cover everything from the contents, publication and posting of meeting notices and agendas; to the timing and structure of public comment; to the use of teleconferencing by local legislators. Several bills (including but not limited to Assembly Bill (AB) 361, AB 2449 and SB 707) over the past six years have modified the law, initially to address pandemic-related needs for remote meetings.

SB 707 is the latest amendment in that string of bills revising the Brown Act remote meetings rules. SB 707 takes effect in stages on January 1 and July 1, 2026, including changes allowing certain advisory bodies, referred to as "eligible subsidiary bodies," to hold meetings when all members may be remote, without (a) having to open remote locations to the public or notice remote locations, or (b) limiting the frequency of or requiring justifications for remote participation.

At its February 5, 2026, meeting, Caltrain's Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2026-03 and made the findings required for subsidiary bodies like the BATAC to meet remotely under the exception in SB 707, including that: (1) the Board has considered the circumstances of the

BATAC; (2) the public has been made aware of the type of remote participation being contemplated and has been provided with an opportunity to comment at this in-person meeting of the Board; and (3) fully remote, teleconference meetings of the BATAC will improve the attraction, retention, and diversity of BATAC members. The attached resolution is supported by the staff report and presentation to the Board on this item at the February meeting, which reflect that staff took input from the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) at the December 2025 CAC meeting and the November 2025 BATAC meeting regarding their operational needs and the difficulty of meeting in person across a three-county jurisdiction, the challenge to recruit and retain volunteers, and other barriers to service and operational challenges of the subsidiary bodies. BATAC had also relayed similar concerns directly to staff, and adopted a motion in favor of remote participation at the November 2025 BATAC meeting.

As the Board adopted these findings, the BATAC may now vote to authorize remote meetings for the next six months. Thereafter, BATAC members may participate from remote locations for any or no stated reason, and without posting their addresses or opening their locations to the public. BATAC members will need to appear on camera during the entire open portion of each meeting and only shut off their cameras if they are having connectivity problems (or if needed as a reasonable accommodation for a disability). Caltrain will provide a staffed, publicly accessible physical location for each meeting as required by law. Presently, that location will be 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, California. The BATAC will need to reapprove this authorization every six months thereafter, assuming the Board of Directors continues to renew its findings and authorize the remote meetings every six months.

**Budget Impact**

There is no budget impact associated with the proposed action.

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