Diridon Station Program Construction Authority – Enabling Legislation



JPB Board Meeting

November 5, 2026

Purpose and Recommended Motion

1. INFORMATION - Diridon Station Program Construction Authority (DSPCA) Update

2. ACTION – Staff recommend that the Board of Directors:

    - Approve the recommended terms for the proposed Diridon Station Program Construction Authority (DSPCA) enabling legislation.

Diridon Station Program

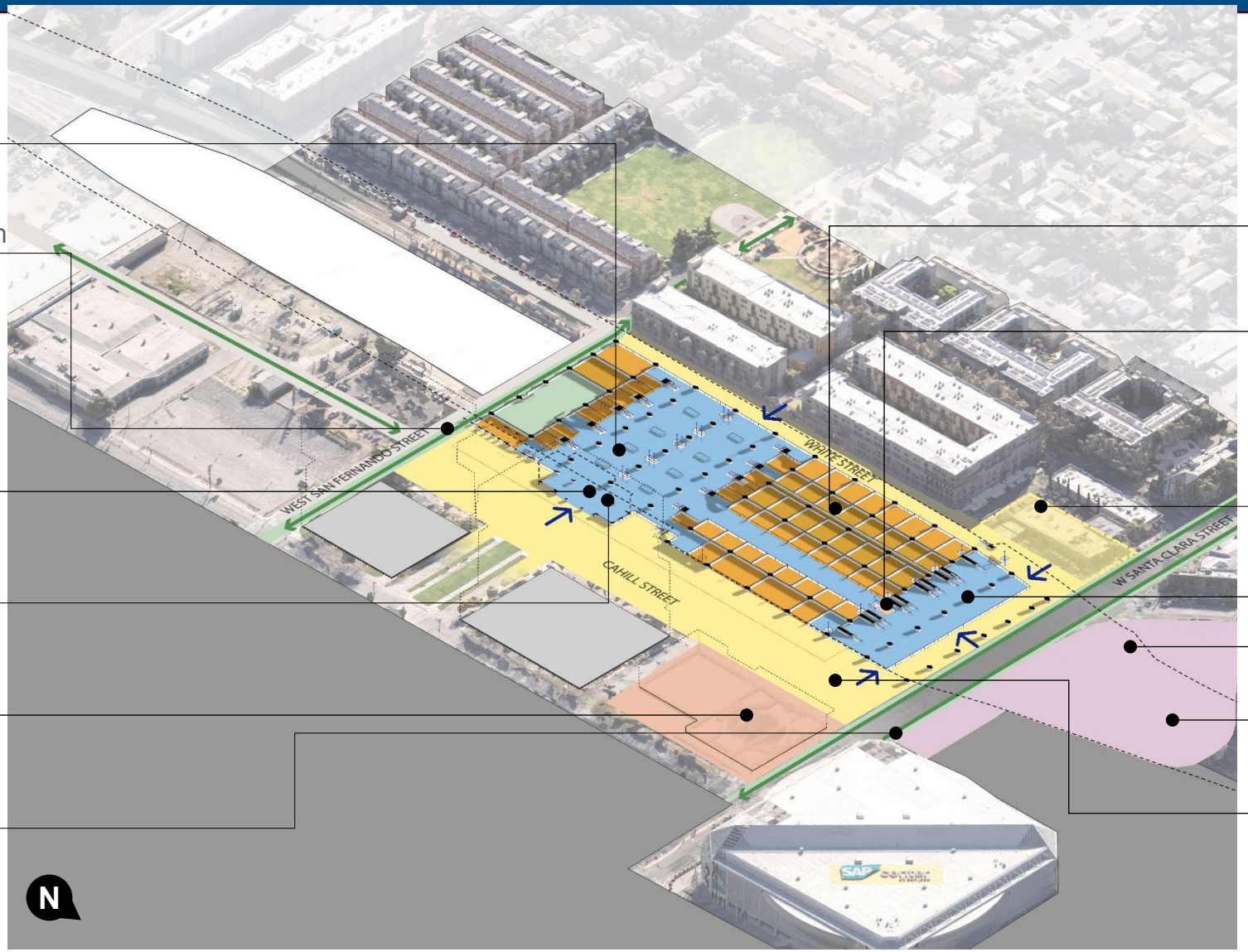
(Partner Agencies: City of San Jose, Caltrain, VTA, MTC, CHSRA)

Diridon Station Project



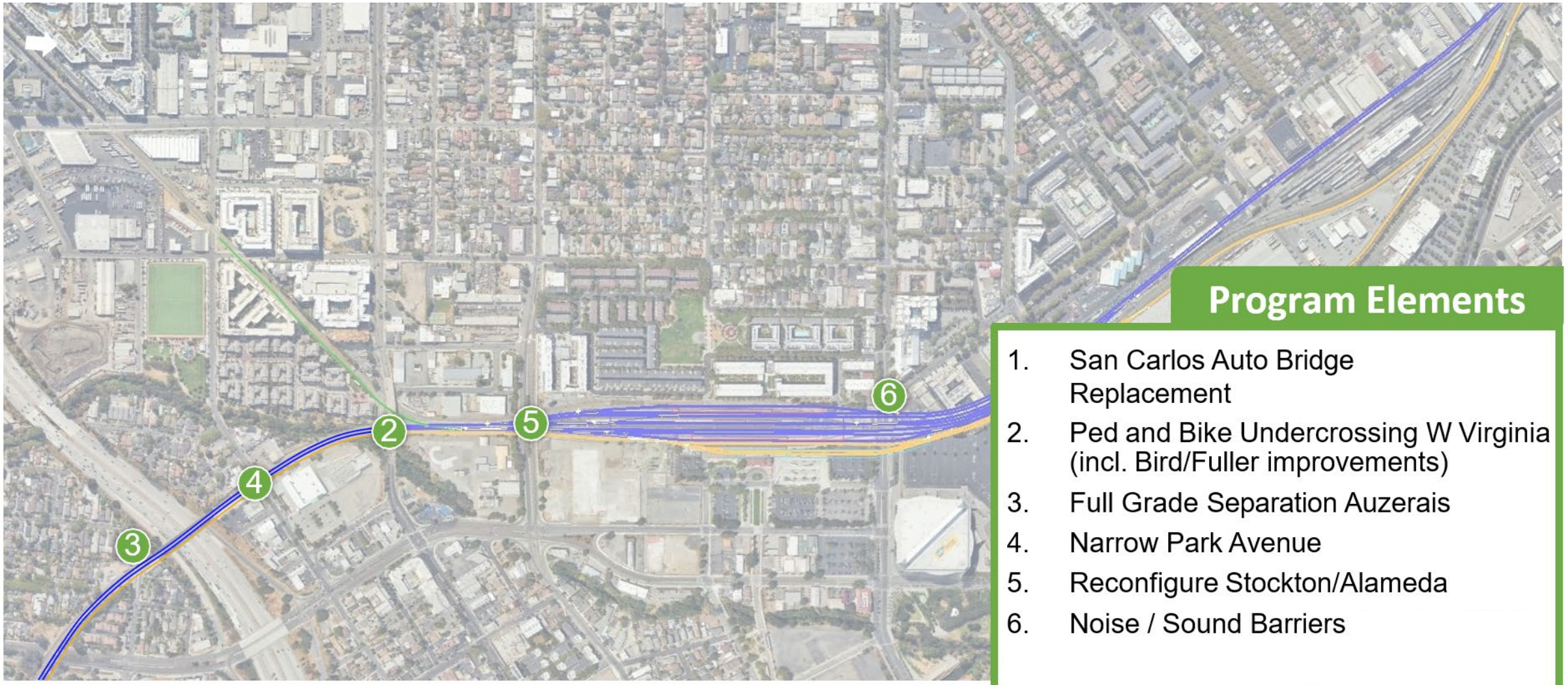
- Expanded station to meet future demand
- 3-level rail station
  - Street Level: Rail
  - Below Level 1: Concourse
  - Below Level 2 / 3: Future BART & LRT connections
- Next to rail station
  - Bus facility
  - Future Airport Connector

Station Concourse (Below Level 1)



- South Concourse
- San Fernando Bike Path
- Historic Station
- VTA Light Rail
- BART Station
- Santa Clara Street Bike Path
- Retail / Operations
- BART Entrance
- Potential New Public Realm
- North Concourse
- Car/Taxi/Pick Up/ Drop Off
- Bus Parking
- New Public Realm

Diridon Program Additional Projects



Program Elements

1. San Carlos Auto Bridge Replacement
2. Ped and Bike Undercrossing W Virginia (incl. Bird/Fuller improvements)
3. Full Grade Separation Auzerais
4. Narrow Park Avenue
5. Reconfigure Stockton/Alameda
6. Noise / Sound Barriers

Program Timeline

- **2019-2025**
  - Vision
  - Alternatives Development and Community Engagement
  - Alternative (~10% Design) and Diridon Station Program Approved
  - Delivery organization options / DSPCA Concept Support
- **2025-2028/29**
  - Program Director Hired (Bill Sirois)
  - Operator coordination
  - State and federal environmental review (CEQA exemption)
  - Establish DSPCA
- **Final Design and Delivery TBD**

Construction Authority Context

Recommended Governance for Delivery Phase



Construction Authority

- Construction Authority is an authorized entity legally empowered to plan, fund, manage, and deliver a project/program
- Temporary entity set up by state enabling legislation
- Effective way to advance a large capital project/program
- Singular mission to design and deliver – no competing priorities
- Leadership singular focus on delivering project on time and on budget
- Proven model

DSPCA Committee/Board Presentations

- 2023 : Begin Agency Partner discussions
- 2024 – Present: Diridon Program Board/Committee discussions
  - Several presentations focused on evaluation
  - Policy direction to pursue Diridon Station Program Construction Authority
  - August 2026 (Enabling Legislation terms)
- 2024 – Present: Caltrain discussions
  - JPB AMP July 2024, January 2026
  - JPB August 2026 (Enabling Legislation terms)
  - General Diridon Program updates throughout

Peer Review (Jul 2025)

- Panel: Michael Allegra, Rick Clarke, Rick Thorpe
- Program risk scan
- Key findings related to Construction Authority model
  - Single-project focused construction authority is good
  - It is more than an engineering bubble – it is an advocacy and funding agency
  - Everyone invited to the table should have a financial stake in the project
  - Board composition should be made up of project champions
  - Find Executive Director as soon as possible
  - Strong owner and construction authority relationship is a must

Caltrain Core Principles

- Keep rail corridor safe and secure
- Minimize impact to operations
- Minimize impact to customers and community
- No negative impact to Caltrain capital and O/M budgets
- Support successful delivery of Diridon Station Program
- Maximize revenue generating opportunities
- Protect Caltrain owned assets
- Receive newly constructed quality assets from DSPCA at program completion

DSPCA Enabling Legislation

Governance Document Framework

- Enabling Legislation
  - Defines the DSPCA mandate, legal powers, and board structure
  - Strive for simplicity and clarity
- Master Cooperative Agreements
  - Defines individual partner agency roles and responsibilities relative to the DSPCA
  - Detailed Caltrain parameters / approvals / coordination
- Bylaws
  - Governs partner agency relationships, and day-to-day governance and operational rules

Diridon Program Committee Direction (Feb 2026)

- Establish Diridon Station Program Construction Authority

  "Reaffirm direction to staff to prepare draft legislation establishing a Construction Authority solely focused on the Diridon Program, with authority to consider other projects only if there is no negative impact to the Diridon Program." (February 2026 action)

  (Note: MTC staff does not support Diridon Program focus and desires undefined authority beyond the Diridon Program.)

- Senator Cortese and Assemblymember Ahrens leadership
- Construction Authority Board Seats
  - Reflects current Diridon Program Steering Committee structure
  - 2 Caltrain; 2 City of San Jose; 2 VTA; 1 CHSRA; 1 MTC
  - Plus ability to add

Caltrain Recommended Key Terms (Action)

- DSPCA is a temporary entity established to deliver the Diridon Station Program
- Board structure consistent with current Diridon Station Program Committee structure plus ability to add
- DSPCA's purpose to award and oversee planning, design, and construction contracts and funding for completion of the program
- DSPCA to be granted all program delivery powers necessary to complete its purpose
- Caltrain as the station/rail corridor owner/operator to grant access to the Caltrain ROW upon MCA execution
- Define off-ramp based on DSPCA performance

Caltrain Example MCA Guardrails

- Caltrain Rights (examples)
  - Caltrain retains ownership, safety and operations decisions
  - Caltrain retains its discretion to prioritize and implements SOGR and related improvements
- Caltrain Diridon Station Program Parameters (examples)
  - Caltrain safety and design standards compliance
  - Caltrain approval of construction operating plans
  - Caltrain “firewalled” from DSPCA risks and liabilities
  - Caltrain party to any DSPCA agreements involving Caltrain assets
  - Funding agreements link to corridor access
  - Transfer of new assets after Caltrain testing and acceptance

Next Steps

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- Target to be ready for 2027 state legislation process
- JPB and Diridon Program Committee Actions
  - Nov 4 Diridon Program Steering Committee
  - Nov 5 JPB Action – Caltrain recommended terms
    - **Staff recommend that the Board of Directors:**
      - **Approve the recommended terms for the proposed Diridon Station Program Construction Authority (DSPCA) enabling legislation.**
  - Dec 18 Diridon Program Steering Committee (to be rescheduled)
- Program partners presenting to their “boards/committees” as part of Legislative Program Update during upcoming months