

CALTRAIN BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Caltrain Bicycle Advisory Committee

FROM: Lori Low
Government Affairs & Community Relations Officer

SUBJECT: **SAFER STREETS IN SAN FRANCISCO SOUTH OF MARKET STREET LETTER**

The attached letter has been submitted by Caltrain BAC Vice Chair Cliff Bargar for the Committee's consideration and approval.

DRAFT

March 21, 2019

Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
Caltrain Citizens Advisory Committee
1250 San Carlos Ave.
San Carlos, CA 94070

Re: Safer Streets in South of Market

Dear Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board and Caltrain Citizens Advisory Committee,

In the wake of the tragic (but preventable) March 8th death of a young woman riding a bicycle on Howard Street, the Caltrain Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), a committee of Caltrain riders representing the interests of passengers who access the train by bicycle, urges the City and County of San Francisco to expedite the implementation of protected bike lanes on Howard, Folsom, and elsewhere in SoMa. SoMa's streets provide a vital connection between Caltrain's busiest station, 4th and King, and our region's highest concentration of jobs in downtown San Francisco. Yet most of the streets in SoMa have, at best, an unprotected bike lane, leaving cyclists vulnerable to being hit or blocked by cars and trucks.

4th and King already sees thousands of daily bicycle commuters; as the Caltrain Modernization project is completed in the next several years Caltrain's ridership is anticipated to grow even further. Accommodating this increased ridership will require improved cycling, walking, and transit connections, particularly as there is currently no concrete plan to build the Downtown Extension project. Building a network of protected bike lanes throughout SoMa will provide increased safety to the thousands of Caltrain passengers (and thousands more non-passengers) who ride a bicycle in SoMa every day, as well as help more passengers reach the train by bike.

Sincerely,
The Caltrain Bicycle Advisory Committee

Cc: San Francisco Board of Supervisors (Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org), Mayor London Breed (MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org), SFMTA Board of Directors (MTABoard@SFMTA.com), SFMTA Executive Director Ed Reiskin (ed.reiskin@sfmta.com)