

# **Notice of Cancellation**

# Caltrain Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG) Meeting

The Caltrain LPMG meeting for Thursday, November 18, 2021 has been cancelled.

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, December 16, 2021.



### Memorandum

Date: November 30, 2021

**To:** CalMod Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)

From: Lori Low, Government and Community Affairs Officer

Re: Caltrain Electrification Project E-Update

# ELECTRIC TRAINS UPDATE: FEDERAL FUNDING PARTNERS RIDE THE ELECTRIC TRAIN

On November 5, federal representatives took a ride on Caltrain's state-of-the-art electric train and discussed the significance of the electrification project to the state and nation's transportation infrastructure.



Caltrain Acting Executive Director Michelle Bouchard joined U.S. Department of Transportation Deputy General Counsel John Putnam; FTA Region 8 Regional Administrator Cindy Terwilliger; Stadler US CEO Martin Ritter; Transportation Technology Center, Inc. (TTCI) CEO and President Kari Gonzales; and other industry professionals aboard the new train now in its final stages of testing at TTCI in Pueblo, Colo.

To learn more about the high-performance trains, visit <a href="CalMod.org/electric-trains">CalMod.org/electric-trains</a>.

#### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: ALL TRANSFORMERS INSTALLED

Construction to make Caltrain a modern, electric commuter rail system continues. This month, crews installed foundations, poles, and wire from San Francisco to San Jose. To date, 95% of all necessary foundations and 71% of all poles along the corridor have been installed. Crews are also preparing the corridor from Santa Clara to San Jose for testing of the infrastructure and electric trains in 2022.



For a detailed update on progress in your area, visit CalMod.org/Construction.

#### HOLIDAY TRAIN RETURNS TO THE PENINSULA

On Saturday, December 4, and Sunday, December 5, the Holiday Train returns to bring good tidings and cheer to families from San Francisco to the South Bay. This cherished tradition offers an opportunity to donate new toys or books to local children whose families are struggling to make ends meet. Caltrain is proud to partner with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program and The Salvation Army to help make the season brighter for everyone. Make sure to keep your calendars open for the first week of December when Caltrain kicks off the Holiday season!



For more information, visit <a href="https://www.holiday-train.org">www.holiday-train.org</a>.

# **PUBLIC MEETINGS:**

JPB Board Meeting – December 2 at 9:00 a.m. – Please note, this will be remote only JPB Finance Committee Meeting – December 20 at 2:30 p.m. – Please note, this will be remote only JPB WPLP Committee Meeting – December 22 at 3:00 p.m. – Please note, this will be remote only

For more details, and a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit <a href="Caltrain.com/Meetings">Caltrain.com/Meetings</a>.

# **DETAILED PROGRESS REPORT:**

• <u>September Monthly Progress Report</u> presented to Caltrain Board on November 3, 2021



# Memorandum

Date: November 18, 2021

**To:** Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)

From: Boris Lipkin, Northern California Regional Director

**Re:** California High-Speed Rail Program Update

#### STATEWIDE UPDATE

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act): On November 6, 2021, Congress passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act), a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation's infrastructure and competitiveness. This marks the largest investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak 50 years ago. U.S. passenger rail lags behind the rest of the world in reliability, speed, and coverage. The legislation positions rail to play a central role in our transportation and economic future, investing \$66 billion in additional rail funding around the country. Additionally, the bill will provide \$89.9 billion in guaranteed funding for public transit over the next five years — the largest Federal investment in public transit in history. Together, these investments will create safe, efficient, and climate-friendly alternatives for moving people and freight. More details on how the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will benefit California can be found here.

A second legislative package, currently working its way through the reconciliation process, contains up to \$10 billion in dedicated funding for high-speed rail programs. Should it pass, the California High-Speed Rail program would be in a good position to compete for those funds and continue moving the project forward.

**Burbank to Los Angeles Final EIR/EIS:** The Final EIR/EIS for the Burbank to Los Angeles project section was made available on November 5, 2021 and the Authority's Board of Directors will hold a two-day meeting on January 19 and January 20, 2022 to consider whether to certify the Final EIR/EIS and approve the Preferred Alternative (the HSR Build Alternative, including the Burbank Station) pursuant to both the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). View the Final EIR/EIS <a href="here">here</a>.

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA OUTREACH UPDATES

## **Tabling Events in the San Francisco to San Jose Project Section:**

As the Authority begins to restart its in-person outreach and engagement program, Authority staff set up information tables at the following events in November:

- Mountain View Farmers Market (Nov 7<sup>th</sup>)
- Redwood City Farmers Market (Nov 13<sup>th</sup>)
- Burlingame Farmers Market (Nov 14<sup>th</sup>)

The purpose of the tabling events was to share information about the progress on high-speed rail across the state and in Northern California. Staff provided detailed information about the Northern California project sections and distributed informational materials.

**Community Working Groups Meeting:** On November 1, Authority staff hosted a virtual Community Working Groups meeting for the San Francisco to San Jose project section. Meeting topics included statewide updates, key highlights from the new <u>Sustainability Report</u>, a recap of outreach and engagement, and a look-ahead at how engagement might change after the Record of Decision.

# RECENT AND UPCOMING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- November 9, 2021: SAMCEDA Housing, Land Use, Transportation (HLUT) Committee virtual presentation
- December 9, 2021: Menlo Park Chamber Business Issues & Transportation Committee virtual presentation