



Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG) Meeting

Meetings of the LPMG are conducted via teleconference only (no physical location).

Directors, staff and the public may participate remotely via Zoom at

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85925215034?pwd=L3pxeEVITTFrVjVIYWw3OW5wekw2dz09>

for audio/visual capability or by calling 1-669-219-2599, Webinar ID: # 859 2521 5034 Passcode: 973354 for audio only.

Public Comments: The Board Chair shall have the discretion to manage the Public Comment process in a manner that achieves the purpose of public communication and assures the orderly conduct of the meeting.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide public comments in the following ways:

- **Email:** Comments may be submitted by emailing publiccomment@caltrain.com before each agenda item is presented. Please indicate in your email the agenda item to which your comment applies.
- **Auditory:** Oral comments will also be accepted during the meeting. Web users may use the 'Raise Hand' feature to request to speak. Callers may dial *9 to request to speak. Each commenter will be notified when they are unmuted to speak.

Thursday, August 22, 2024

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Caltrain Staff Report (Oral Update and Memos)
4. Caltrain Station Access Policy Update (Presentation)
5. California High-Speed Rail Authority Fall Open House Series (Presentation and Memo)
6. Public Comments on items not on the agenda
7. LPMG Member Comments/Requests
8. Next Meeting - Caltrain Corridor Crossing Strategy In-Person Workshop
 - a. Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 5:30pm
9. Adjourn

All items on this agenda are subject to action



Memorandum

Date: August 19, 2024
To: Caltrain Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)
From: Bella Conferti, Government and Community Affairs Specialist
Sawyer Williams, Government and Community Affairs Intern
Re: Caltrain E-Updates



Caltrain First Electric Train Ride Celebration

On August 10, 2024, Caltrain reached a significant milestone by hosting the first ride of its new electric trains during a special celebration event. Prominent figures, including Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, Governor Gavin Newsom, and Senator Alex Padilla were in attendance to celebrate this historic moment. The event featured speeches from notable federal, state, and local elected and agency officials including Caltrain Board Chair Dev Davis, Congresswoman

Anna Eshoo, Congressman Kevin Mullin, State Senator Scott Wiener, Assemblymember Marc Berman, Assemblymember Diane Papan, Assemblymember Ash Kalra, Assemblymember Phil Ting, San Francisco Mayor London Breed, San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan, California Secretary of Transportation Toms Omishakin, FTA Executive Director Matt Welbes, FRA Administrator Amit Bose, California Air Resource Board of Directors Chair Davina Hurt, BAC President and CEO Jim Wunderman, SAMCEDA President and CEO Rosanne Foust, and California Transportation Commission Chair Carl Guardino. The event concluded with a 30-minute round-trip ride from San Francisco to Millbrae and back, showcasing the new electric trains in action. The electric trains ran their first public service the following day. Additional electric trains will be introduced every week until the launch of the new schedule and full electrified service between San Francisco and San Jose on Saturday, September 21, 2024.

“The future of California’s rail systems will be powered by clean, renewable energy, and as the Biden-Harris Administration makes the biggest investment in public transit in U.S. history, we were proud to help fund the transformative Caltrain electrification project,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. “Converting the 51-mile-long rail system from diesel to electric will not only improve service for riders and air quality all along the route, it will also set a standard for other rail systems to follow as we work to reduce carbon pollution across the country.”

“Safe, affordable and accessible public transit is key to San Francisco’s economic success and to saving the planet from the climate crisis,” said Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi. “Caltrain electrification means shorter commutes, cleaner air and good-paying jobs in the Bay Area and beyond. It was my great pleasure to join so many leaders for the first ride on Caltrain’s new electric fleet.”

“High-speed rail linked to an electrified Caltrain will not just get Californians where they’re going faster, it’s connecting communities and driving economic growth,” said Governor Gavin Newsom. “The completed Caltrain project is an integral part of high-speed rail and the story California is telling about clean transportation. And Californians are already seeing the results for themselves as we electrify Caltrain, finish structures, lay track, design and build stations, and buy trains. We’re making rail real in California.”

[Learn more about this event.](#)

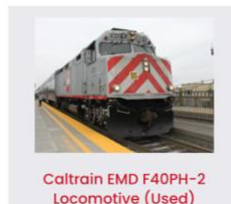
Caltrain Lowers Fares for Youth

As of September 1st, a \$1 All Zone One-way youth fare will be available on all fare payment methods. Additionally, a \$2 All Zone Day Pass will be available on Caltrain Mobile (while available) and at Caltrain ticket vending machines. Caltrain launched four fare promotions in September 2023, with the \$1 One-way youth fare being the most successful at driving ridership increase. Caltrain seeks to use this fare change to further bolster its ridership. Caltrain’s average

weekday ridership (AWR) increased by approximately 19% in June 2024 compared to June 2023 as riders continue to return to the Caltrain system for increased work and leisure travel.

You can find more information about this initiative, [here](#).

Brand New Caltrain Online Store Launches



Caltrain has launched a new online store featuring Caltrain-branded merchandise! A limited-edition holiday sweater is now available for pre-sale. Additionally, exclusive items such as Caltrain-branded soccer balls and decommissioned diesel locomotives will be available for bid in late September. Currently, the store ships only within California, but expansion plans are already in the works.

Visit the [Caltrain Store](#).

PUBLIC MEETINGS:

JPB Advocacy and Major Projects (AMP) Meeting – August 28, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.

JPB Technology, Operations, Planning, and Safety (TOPS) Meeting – August 28, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

Caltrain Board Meeting – September 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

For more details, and a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit [Caltrain.com/Meetings](https://www.caltrain.com/Meetings).

PROGRESS REPORT:

The presentation on Caltrain Electrification progress presented at Caltrain's August 1, 2024 Board Meeting is [here](#).

Memorandum

Date: August 22, 2024

To: Local Policy Makers Group (LPMG)

From: Dahlia Chazan, Deputy Chief, Caltrain Planning

Re: Caltrain Corridor Crossings Strategy (CCS) Project E-Update

Corridor Crossings Strategy (CCS) Description

The Corridor Crossings Strategy (CCS) has been discussed as an agency priority since 2019, when it was first identified within the Caltrain Business Plan Process. This strategy was first funded in 2019 but was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As Caltrain and other operators plan to increase rail services, Caltrain understands that a coordinated approach to grade separations or closures is needed to unlock regional mobility and safety benefits.

The Caltrain Business Plan acknowledges that grade separation projects are costly, complex, and challenging. The CCS strives to identify areas for enhancement in the current process and develop a potential strategic approach to deliver corridor-wide consensus on delivery of grade separation projects.

The CCS began with the Initiation Phase which started in July 2022 and finished in December 2022. This phase included the initial issue identification collected from Caltrain coordination, initial community engagement, and preliminary existing conditions gathering.

Phase I commenced in January 2023 and will end approximately in Fall 2024. Phase I takes the outputs from the Initiation Phase to provide an initial framework to organize the overall study, workplan, and community engagement process. The purpose of Phase I is to enhance the current grade separation process and develop a corridor-wide consensus on how to deliver grade separation and/or closures at a regional scale. The outcomes of Phase I include the following:

- Develop a Crossings Delivery guide that defines, communicates, and facilitates a clear project delivery process.
- Identify an implementable, shared vision on how to deliver projects at a regional scale.
- Identify a corridor-wide strategy and programmatic approach addressing funding, organization, and program delivery.
- Strengthen partnerships between Caltrain, local jurisdictions, and regional member agencies.

Phase I Progress

As of August 2024, the CCS team finalized the Crossings Delivery Guide and will publicize the guide in the next coming weeks. The CCS team will send a transmittal package of the final Crossings Delivery Guide and comment responses to the corridor partners prior to publication.

Caltrain is currently working toward securing support from the corridor for the corridor-wide delivery approach and program framework and implementation principles in Fall 2024. Caltrain is currently identifying resources to implement a coordinated program for the interim and long-term. Additional details are to come in the next coming months. While Caltrain is seeking corridor support on the program and

resources, Caltrain is utilizing existing resources to enhance delivery on a project-level alongside the corridor partners for the active projects.

Previously presented meeting material, in addition to the latest project information, is available on the CCS website at www.Caltrain.com/Projects/CCS. Questions or additional feedback about the program can be sent to the CCS project inbox at CCS@Caltrain.com.

Public Meetings

For more details, and a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit Caltrain.com/Meetings.

Progress Report

The presentation on the Caltrain Corridor Crossings Strategy presented at Caltrain's April 25, 2024, LPMG Meeting is [available here](#).

Station Access Policy Update

LOCAL POLICY
MAKER GROUP

AUGUST 22, 2024



Meeting Agenda & Purpose

- 1 Context: Caltrain's 2010 Access Policy
- 2 Project Overview
- 3 Draft Station Access Policy
- 4 Next Steps

Meeting Purpose:

- 1) Share the Draft Caltrain Station Access Policy for your feedback.
- 2) Provide an overview of next steps for implementation.

Context

- Caltrain currently has an Access Policy Statement that was developed in 2010 as a tool to improve station access and support ridership growth while prioritizing sustainable and cost-effective access modes.
- Customers are core to what we do at Caltrain and attracting more riders is essential for the agency to recover from ridership declines since the pandemic.
- An update to the existing policy is necessary to:
 - 1) **Support decision making** on access-related projects.
 - 2) **Align the Access Policy** with other Caltrain policies adopted since 2010 and current initiatives.
 - 3) **Incorporate the latest industry best practices** in station access policies.

Timeline & Efforts to Date



Engagement Activities Completed

- The draft policy was informed by a series of internal and external conversations including sharing the draft goals and objectives throughout April with:
 - *Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)*
 - *Bicycle & Active Transportation Advisory Committee (BATAC)*
 - *Caltrain Accessibility Advisory Committee (CAAC)*
 - *City/County Staff Coordinating Group (CSCG)*
 - *Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)*
 - *Technology, Operations, Planning & Safety Committee (TOPS)*



CALTRAIN STATION ACCESS POLICY

2024 UPDATE
Adopted DATE



Draft Policy Overview



Policy Purpose Statement

Caltrain is a customer-focused rail system. Our mission is to offer safe, reliable, accessible, and sustainable transportation service that enhances quality of life for all.

The Caltrain Station Access Policy supports Caltrain's vision of being a vital link in the regional and statewide rail network by:

- Improving **connectivity** to communities and other transit systems.
- Contributing to the region's **economic vitality**.
- **Partnering** with local communities to ensure that diverse constituencies receive a **world-class travel experience**.

Definition of “Access”

Individuals use a number of modes of transport to complete their journey to and from Caltrain stations: they **walk**, use a **mobility device**, ride a **bicycle**, use **shared micromobility**, **drive**, are **dropped off**, take a **bus** or **train** operated by another agency, or in many cases **combine various modes** of transport.

Caltrain's Station Access Policy emphasizes:

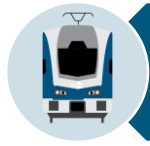
- Safe, universally accessible, well-maintained, and seamless connections to Caltrain stations.
- Integration with the local station area and community context.
- Excellent customer experience for all individuals.



Intended Users of the Station Access Policy



Caltrain Riders and Community Members



Caltrain Board and Staff



Policy Makers and Regulatory Agencies



Local and Regional Transportation Agencies



Local Jurisdictions









Developers, Contractors, and Third-Party Vendors

Goals and Objectives

Goals

Caltrain Access Policy Update



-  **1** Safe Routes To, From, and Through Stations
-  **2** World-Class Customer Access **Experience** for All Users
-  **3** **Ridership** Growth through Strategic Access Investments
-  **4** **Equitable** Access Aligned with Diverse Community Needs
-  **5** **Healthy** and **Sustainable** Modes of Access
-  **6** Strategic **Partnerships** to Advance Station Access

Access Hierarchy

The Access Hierarchy is the systemwide aspirational framework to:

- 1) Guide station area planning and investment decisions.
- 2) Be used as a tool for decision making and weighing the tradeoffs of access investments to ensure sustainable modes are the highest priority.
- 3) Ensure proposed access improvements prioritize walking, biking/ shared micromobility, and transit facilities as the highest priority.



All Caltrain riders are pedestrians at some point in their journey. This includes people walking on foot, using wheelchairs and other mobility devices, and children in strollers.

All forms of shared micromobility such as bike share and scooter share, and private bicycles and scooters.

All connecting transit and shuttle services to Caltrain stations including bus, paratransit, private shuttles, light-rail, and other heavy-rail operators.

Taxis, all forms of ride-hailing services, and private drop-off.

Private and shared vehicle parking facilities.

Implementation Plan

The following **next steps** support the application of the Station Access Policy.

Short-term

- Disseminate the Station Access Policy
- Identify Metrics and Measure Success
- Update the Caltrain Design Guidelines and Criteria
- Develop a Parking and Curbside Management Strategy
- Develop a Station Access Database

Mid-term

- Document the Process for Access Improvements
- Conduct Station Needs Assessments
- Complete Project Identification, Evaluation, and Prioritization

Ongoing

- Deliver Projects and Review the Policy

Station Access Toolkit

The Station Access Toolkit provides examples of actions to inform decision making that users of the Station Access Policy may select from when identifying possible access improvements.

The Access Toolkit is comprised of actions organized into five categories:

- 1) Customer Experience
- 2) Active Transportation
- 3) Transit and Shuttles
- 4) Private Vehicles and Parking
- 5) Partnerships



User Manual

The following six steps outline how Caltrain's Station Access Policy may be used:

01 | Identify Scope

Determine if project scope applies to a specific station, multiple stations, or systemwides



02 | Review the Station Access Policy



Ensure stakeholders are aware of and understand the Station Access Policy

03 | Conduct Station Needs Assessments



- I Identify opportunities for improvement
- II Identify station specific priorities and needs

04 | Select Station Access Toolkit Actions



Based on findings from step 3, select toolkit actions that align with station specific needs and addresses improvement opportunities

05 | Classify Actions



- A New stand-alone projects
- B Modifications/Inclusion into existing projects

06 | Proceed to Implementation



Next Steps

- Present the Draft Access Policy for public feedback in July and August
- Present the Final Updated Station Access Policy for JPB adoption in September 2024 .
- Begin Implementation activities in Fall 2024

Meetings		
Citizens Advisory Committee	July 17 th	✓
Caltrain Accessibility Advisory Committee	July 19 th	✓
City/County Staff Coordinating Group	August 14 th	✓
Bicycle & Active Transportation Advisory Committee	August 15 th	✓
Local Policy Maker Group	August 22 nd	
Technology, Operations, Planning & Safety Committee	August 28 th	
Joint Powers Board	September 5th	

Thank you!

Questions?

paped@caltrain.com and greenbergh@caltrain.com



APPENDIX

Goal #1



Safe Routes To, From, and Through Stations



Objectives

Operations: Promote rider and maintenance investments to ensure safe and reliable train operations at Caltrain facilities.

Connectivity: Work with local jurisdictions to ensure safe and direct connections to, from, and through Caltrain stations and facilities.

Universal Design: Incorporate Universal Design* principles to ensure safe access for all riders and respond to varying user needs.

Crime Prevention: Embed Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in design criteria to ensure safe and secure access.

Goal #2



World-Class Customer Access Experience for All Users



Objectives

Design Guidelines: Develop multimodal station design guidelines and criteria reflecting industry best practices that align with the Caltrain Access Hierarchy.

Project Delivery: Ensure access needs and improvements are reflected in planning, design, construction, and maintenance activities.

Technology: Leverage technology both at stations and online to help riders easily navigate the Caltrain system.

Wayfinding: Develop a unified wayfinding system that provides clear and intuitive directions to diverse customers, reinforces Caltrain's Access Hierarchy, and aligns with regional initiatives.

Goal #3



Ridership Growth through Strategic Access Investments



Objectives

Transit-Oriented Development: Promote transit-oriented development at Caltrain-owned facilities and in the surrounding station areas, providing direct access to Caltrain for residents and workers.

Multimodal Programs: Promote first/last mile access options through collaborations to expand bike lockers, bikeshare, private shuttles, and other micromobility options.

Transfer Guidelines: Establish and implement facility design guidelines and criteria for direct and convenient travel paths when transferring between modes.

Seamless Transit: Partner with connecting transit operators to minimize transfer times and provide seamless connections.

Maximize Value: Explore creative use of facilities to support both operations and maintenance and customer access needs.

Goal #4



Equitable Access Aligned with Diverse Community Needs



Objectives

Community Engagement: Engage with communities, including equity-priority communities, to understand needs and define access priorities.

Access Prioritization: Prioritize investments that improve access for equity-priority communities.

Expanded Choices: Collaborate with jurisdictions and partner agencies to deliver first/last mile connections to Caltrain that are tailored to meet the needs of local riders.

Adaptable Solutions: Ensure multimodal design guidelines and criteria are flexible and adaptable to different communities and local contexts.

Partnerships: Engage in strategic partnerships to improve regional access to housing and jobs at Caltrain stations and in surrounding station areas.

Goal #5



Healthy and Sustainable Modes of Access



Objectives

Mode Shift: Prioritize multimodal investments to encourage mode shift from automobiles and parking to more sustainable options.

Land & Capital Management: Leverage land & capital assets to encourage transit-oriented development around stations and minimize vehicle-miles traveled.

Parking Management: Consider vehicle parking management strategies such as vehicle parking pricing to leverage vehicle parking assets and encourage mode shift that reduces single occupancy vehicle trips.

Climate Resilience: Ensure station facilities can withstand and operate in current conditions and are resilient for future weather and climate conditions.

Goal #6



Strategic Partnerships to Advance Station Access



Objectives

Collaboration: Partner with local jurisdictions in station area planning efforts to incorporate multimodal, connected street networks aligned with transit-supportive land uses.

Coordination: Define roles and responsibilities for Caltrain and its stakeholders to identify, plan, construct, and maintain access related projects.

Review Processes: Establish protocol for involvement with local jurisdictions and private entities on development plans, leveraging the project planning and entitlement process to deliver access investments.

Partnerships: Cultivate partnerships to explore cost-sharing, data-sharing, and grant funding opportunities with other agencies and jurisdictions.

Facility and Resource Use: Define access needs and align permitted uses at Caltrain stations and resources to balance multimodal access with safety, maintenance, and community needs at Caltrain stations.

Category 1: Customer Experience

Toolkit Actions

Improve **customer comfort** through enhancements such as landscaping, lighting, weather protection, seating, local information, and other placemaking strategies at stations.

Improve ease of **navigation** to, from, and within stations, for example through intuitive design, clear sightlines, signage, translations of signage for Limited-English proficient communities, wayfinding for people with visual impairments, and other accessible wayfinding strategies.

Implement **security** improvements such as the application of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) techniques, lighting, visibility enhancements, cameras, and other means to increase security presence.

Improve access to **real-time arrival** information at stations and through digital communications.

Category 2: Active Transportation

Toolkit Actions

Develop new or enhance existing **pedestrian circulation** areas (e.g. sidewalks, concourses, and plazas) within stations.

Ensure stations meet **accessibility** standards and work with stakeholders to apply universal design principles such as elevators, ramps, stairs, level boarding, and auditory and visual cues.

Coordinate with local jurisdictions to deliver local station area access improvements that meet **universal design** principles such as curb ramps, tactile and audio crossing cues, improved sidewalks, slower traffic speeds, shorter crossing distances, and increased crossing time.

Develop new or enhance existing **bike and micromobility parking amenities**, such as secure bike parking, bike share stations, scooter drop zones, and electric bike charging infrastructure.

Partner with local jurisdictions to encourage plans for **low-stress active transportation** facilities to Caltrain stations, such as traffic calming measures, crossing improvements, protected bike lanes, and curb extensions.

Work with local jurisdictions and project sponsors to ensure that grade separation projects adjacent to stations reflect **multi-modal access** needs.

Category 3: Transit and Shuttles

Toolkit Actions

Develop new or enhanced **pick-up/drop-off** facilities for transit and shuttles.

Work with transit agency partners to implement **rail-to-rail and bus-to-rail** opportunities that optimize transit stop placement, frequency, and routing for connecting transfer services.

Coordinate schedules, station facility needs, and access to information with public and private transit operators to **optimize transfers**, including paratransit access, bus stops, waiting areas with shading and seating, and signage with real-time information.

Increase coordination with **guaranteed ride home** programs and other local micro-transit services to increase passenger awareness and usage.

Coordinate with local jurisdictions to deliver **transit-priority** improvements that improve transfer connectivity and travel times such as queue jumps and transit-only lanes.

Category 4: Private Vehicles and Parking

Toolkit Actions

Develop new or enhance delineated areas for **rideshare** passenger drop off and pickup.

Develop vehicle **parking pricing** to right-size parking to local market conditions and demand.

Implement vehicle **parking management** and enforcement practices such as paid parking, automated enforcement via license plate recognition, etc.

Identify stations where vehicle parking lots are **underutilized** and can be reduced and redeveloped into TOD and/or new access facilities (transit centers, bikeways, or bike parking, etc.).

Coordinate with other agencies, local jurisdictions, and/or adjacent property owners to consider **sharing station vehicle parking**.

Provide **carshare** facilities at stations.

Provide designated **carpool/vanpool** spaces at stations.

Category 5: Partnerships

Toolkit Actions

Explore **fare incentive programs** such as the GoPass and other partnerships that increase access to sustainable and affordable travel choices for equity-priority populations.

Strengthen relationships and membership in local **Transportation Management Associations** (TMAs) to promote Caltrain ridership and first/last mile access choices.

Coordinate with local institutions (e.g., colleges and healthcare campuses) to collect data and develop **shuttle programs** or other access projects that cater to these destinations.

Identify opportunities to support local parking cash out programs and other **sustainable travel incentives**.

Identify opportunities for **public-private partnerships** and other cost sharing agreements to deliver station area access improvements.

Formalize agreements, operating standards, and facility usage with **third-party vendors** that provide first/last mile access.

Partner with local jurisdictions to identify opportunities for **placemaking** and other station enhancements that promote community identity.

Collaborate with local communities, cycling advocacy groups and environmental groups to increase awareness of **sustainable and affordable travel choices**.

Formalize **partnerships** with advocacy groups, community-based organizations, and other non-governmental agencies to solicit community buy in and identify access priorities.

List of Access Related Caltrain Policies and Programs

The following adopted and ongoing Caltrain initiatives are also relevant to access:

- Bicycle Parking Management Plan (2017)
- 2040 Service Vision (2019) and Business Plan (2020)
- Equity, Connectivity, and Growth Framework (2020)
- Rail Corridor Use Policy (2020)
- Transit-Oriented Development Policy (2020)
- Design Criteria (2024)
- ADA Transition Plan (Ongoing)
- Capital Improvement Plan Development Project (Ongoing)
- Corridor Crossings Strategy (Ongoing)
- Corridor Crossings Delivery Guide (Ongoing)
- At-Grade Crossings Safety Strategy (Ongoing)
- Level Boarding Roadmap (Ongoing)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.CALTRAIN.COM





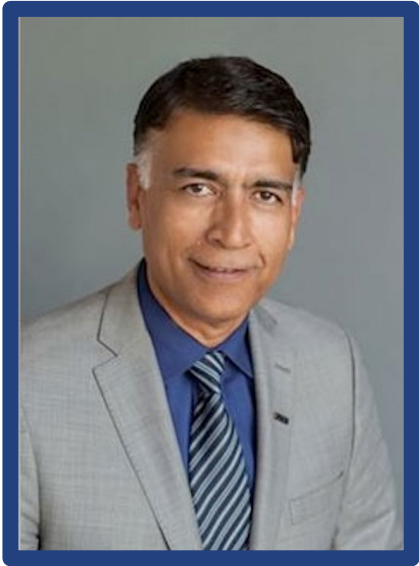
CALIFORNIA
High-Speed Rail Authority

Local Policy Maker Group

Becca Tabor, Northern California Engagement Manager

August 22, 2024

Authority Welcomes Ian Choudri as new CEO



Ian Choudri, incoming
Authority CEO

“ After an extensive national search, we’re proud to have selected Ian Choudri as the next CEO for the California High-Speed Rail Authority. His strong understanding of complex transportation projects will help build on the progress we’ve been making and lead the organization forward on a path to passenger service.

Mr. Choudri will replace outgoing CEO Brian Kelly who has led the Authority for the last six years, completing 30 years of public service to the State of California. He significantly advanced the project in his time, and we wish him all the best in retirement.

”

–Authority Board Chairman Tom Richards

Fall Open House Series

San Mateo County



Burlingame Community Center
September 18, 2024

San Jose



Downtown San Jose
September 19, 2024

Gilroy



South Valley Middle School
October 22, 2024

San Francisco



Salesforce Transit Center
October 23, 2024

Join us to learn more about our transformative project

- Regional and statewide updates such as:
 - » Northern California project status
 - » Train interiors and trainset procurement
 - » HSR Central Valley construction progress & station design
 - » Environmental clearance from SF→LA



And:

- Try a virtual reality headset to experience train interiors
- Watch construction, alignment flyover and other videos
- Visit the activities area for our youngest visitors



CALIFORNIA

High-Speed Rail Authority

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California High-Speed Rail Authority

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Northern California Regional Office

California High-Speed Rail Authority

160 W. Santa Clara St., Suite 450

San Jose, CA 95113



CALIFORNIA High-Speed Rail Authority

Memorandum

Date: August 22, 2024
To: Local Policy Maker Group (LPMG)
From: Boris Lipkin, Northern California Regional Director
Re: California High-Speed Rail Program Update

STATEWIDE UPDATE

Ian Choudri Appointed New Authority CEO

The California High-Speed Rail Authority’s Board of Directors has appointed Ian Choudri as the next Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Choudri previously worked as Senior Vice President for HNTB Corporation and brings more than 30 years of experience in the transportation sector, including working on high-speed rail projects in France and Spain. Choudri now brings his wealth of knowledge to the Authority, as the organization moves closer to passenger operations on the nation’s first 220-mph electrified rail system.

In January, Authority CEO Brian Kelly announced his planned retirement after six years with the Authority and over 30 years leading transportation policy issues in California. In his announcement, he expressed that the time was right for a transition to new leadership after continued progress and forward momentum on the project as it moves closer to operations.

Read more at the Governor’s Press Release [here](#) and the Authority’s Press Release [here](#).

Northern California Open House Series

This fall the Authority will host an open house series along the Northern California alignment of the high-speed rail system. Residents are invited to learn about the project’s status, view detailed maps, and engage with Authority staff and transit partners. This is a great chance for community members to stay informed about the region’s transportation developments.



Burlingame
Community Center
September 18, 2024
4pm-6pm



Downtown San Jose
September 19, 2024
4pm-6pm



South Valley Middle
School
October 22, 2024
5pm-7pm



Salesforce Transit
Center
October 23, 2024
4pm-6pm

Each open house will feature informational displays, interactive maps, virtual reality tours, station models and opportunities to speak directly with project staff and partner representatives. We hope to see you there!

FRA Renews Agreement with CalSTA and Authority

In July, the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) and the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) renewed an agreement with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to continue assuming the FRA's federal environmental review responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The renewed agreement allows the State to continue to stand in the shoes of the FRA for certain duties under federal environmental law, thereby streamlining decision-making and providing for a more efficient environmental review process. Learn more [here](#).

RECENT & UPCOMING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

- Viva CalleSJ, September 8, 2024
- San Mateo County Open House, September 18, 2024
- San Jose Open House, September 19, 2024
- Palo Alto Caltrain Electrification Celebration, September 21, 2024
- San Mateo Caltrain Electrification Celebration, September 22, 2024