

SAMTRANS
CORRESPONDENCE
as of 12-20-2024



• December 2024 | [View online](#) •

It's Been a Great 2024...

There won't be anything under my tree that's quite as nice as our new electrified fleet, but it's still a wonderful opportunity to look back over the incredible year we've had. In this month's issue, we'll be discussing innovative new technology called RailSentry that will help make Caltrain safer for everyone, our beloved Holiday Train and the joy it brings to communities along the corridor, and how we took our first step towards making our special event service a little more special with the Billie Car.



RailSentry Now Protecting Broadway Crossing

New AI technology RailSentry has been deployed at Broadway in Burlingame, and will soon come to Churchill Avenue in Palo Alto.

[Learn More about RailSentry](#)

Holiday Train Delights Thousands

Caltrain kicked off the holiday season as the Holiday Train made its annual journey down the Peninsula, collecting toys for Bay Area families in need.



[Learn More about the Holiday Train](#)



Caltrain Together

Fans heading to the Dec. 10 Billie Eilish Concert at SAP Center got to ride in style on Caltrain's dedicated Billie car, a first for the agency.

[Learn More about the Billie Car](#)

Caltrain HQ Moving to Millbrae

Caltrain will be moving to a new headquarters in 2026 at the transit-rich Gateway in Millbrae. SamTrans will also be at the location.



[Learn More about Caltrain's New Headquarters](#)



Caltrain Running Christmas and NYE Service

Just like Santa, Caltrain doesn't take days off. Trains will be operating on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, as well as New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

[Learn More about Caltrain's Holiday Service](#)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 31 - [New Year's Eve](#) - San Francisco Station
 - January 9 - [Caltrain Board Meeting](#) - San Carlos Station
 - January 20 - [MLK Celebration Train](#) - Multiple Stations
-



- [Administrative Support Specialist](#)
- [Human Resources Analyst](#)
- [Train Control Systems Manager](#)

[Learn More about Job Opportunities at Caltrain](#)



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Happy Holidays from the PhoenixEV Team!



Wishing you joy and peace for the holidays and throughout the New Year!

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System ID: 949863

Date Received: 12/17/2024

Time:

Group: SamTrans

Division: SamTrans

Facility / Department: Central

Section (City/Station):

Detailed Location:

Run Number or Train Number:

Bus #:

Categories: Other - Complaint

Potential Safety Issue: No

Occurrence Description / Comments: Dear Board of Directors, As transit agencies faces a significant budget shortfall, I urge the Board to reconsider Caltrain and SamTrans's organizational structure. A top-heavy hierarchy with excessive layers of management is not sustainable in the face of shrinking budgets and undermines operational efficiency. Public funds should be directed toward core services, not a bloated bureaucracy. I recommend flattening the organizational structure to create a leaner, more efficient organization that reduces costs and improves decision-making. The "rule of 7-10" where each manager oversees no more than 7-10 direct reports could be a helpful guideline in assessing staffing levels. Streamlining management will speed up decisions, reduce waste, and make the agency more agile, especially in the face of financial constraints. Furthermore, the Board should explore offering voluntary early retirement for senior employees in non-critical roles, which could help trim costs while minimizing disruption. Empowering employees with more autonomy and reducing unnecessary managerial layers will foster a more responsive, efficient agency. In summary, by simplifying the structure, the agency can better weather budget challenges and continue serving the public effectively. I encourage the Board to act swiftly in adopting these changes. Thank you for your attention to this matter. San Mateo County Tax payer

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