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**JPB Citizens Advisory Committee
San Mateo County Transit District Building
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070
Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

AGENDA

July 15, 2009 - Wednesday

6:00 p.m.

STAFF LIAISON: Michelle Bouchard, Deputy Director, Rail Transportation

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Nomination and Election of Vice Chair
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2009
5. Public Comment
Public testimony by each individual speaker shall be limited to three minutes
6. Chairperson's Report (G. Graham)
 - a) Certificate of Appreciation for John Hronowski
7. Staff Report (M. Bouchard)
8. Committee Comments
9. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting
August 19, 2009 at 6:00 p.m., San Mateo County Transit District Administrative Building, 2nd Floor Bacciocco Auditorium, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA
10. Adjournment

All items on this agenda are subject to action

CAC MEMBERS: San Mateo County: Paul Bendix, Gerald Graham (Chair), Sepi Richardson
San Francisco City & County: François Granade, Michael Kiesling, Mona Tekchandani
Santa Clara County: Bruce Jenkins, Brian Wilfley

PENINSULA CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS BOARD
1250 San Carlos Ave. – P.O. Box 3006
San Carlos, CA 94070-1306 (650)508-6269

INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

If you have questions on the agenda, please contact the Assistant District Secretary at 650-508-6223. Agendas are available on the Caltrain Web site at www.caltrain.com.

JPB and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting schedules are available on the Caltrain Web site.

Location, Date and Time of Regular Meetings

Regular meetings are held at the San Mateo County Transit District Administrative Building located at 1250 San Carlos Ave., San Carlos, CA, which is located one block west of the San Carlos Caltrain Station on El Camino Real. The office is also accessible by SamTrans bus routes: 390, 391, 295, 260, and KX. [CLICK HERE FOR MAP.](#)

The JPB Citizens Advisory Committee meets regularly on the third Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the same location. Date, time and place may change as necessary.

Public Comment

If you wish to address the Committee, please fill out a speaker's card located on the agenda table and hand it to the Assistant District Secretary. If you have anything that you wish distributed to the Committee and included for the official record, please hand it to the Assistant District Secretary, who will distribute the information to the Committee members and staff.

Members of the public may address the Committee on non-agendized items under the Public Comment item on the agenda. Public testimony by each individual speaker shall be limited to three minutes and items raised that require a response will be deferred for staff reply.

Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities

Upon request, the JPB will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in public meetings. Please send a written request, including your name, mailing address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and a preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least two days before the meeting. Requests should be mailed to Assistant District Secretary at Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070-1306; or emailed to cacsecretary@caltrain.com; or by phone at 650-508-6223, or TDD 650-508-6448.

Availability of Public Records

All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070-1306, at the same time that public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body.

JPB CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
San Mateo County Transit District Administrative Building
1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos CA 94070

MINUTES JUNE 17, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: G. Graham (Chair), F. Granade, J. Hronowski, B. Jenkins,
S. Richardson, B. Wilfley

MEMBERS ABSENT: P. Bendix, M. Kiesling

STAFF PRESENT: T. Bartholomew, M. Bouchard, J. Gunther (Amtrak), N. McKenna

Chair Gerald Graham called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The Committee (Hronowski/Wilfley) approved the minutes of May 20, 2009.

Public Comment

Chair Graham said public comment is not always favorable but we must take the good with bad from our constituents.

Doug DeLong, Mountain View, reported:

- The High Speed Rail (HSR) fare from San Francisco to Los Angeles based on current Caltrain travel would be more than the projected HSR claim.
- According to a rail article Caltrain installed a radio repeater with the same frequency as the Napa Valley Railroad repeater output channel.

Steve Van Pelt, said he commutes from Atherton to Lawrence and the passengers on the Valco shuttle received a flyer informing them the shuttle is being discontinued. He said commuter check programs to increase Caltrain ridership were successful in the past and employers should have some sort of pretax plan to stimulate transit use.

Service Suspension and/or Fare Changes Subcommittee Report - Resolution

Chair Graham said a subcommittee was formed at the May meeting including Vice Chair John Hronowski, Sepi Richardson and Brian Wilfley. Mr. Hronowski distributed a resolution that supports the following: reduction of mid-day service from half-hourly to hourly headways; increase in parking fees to \$3 per day and \$30 per month; increase in GO Pass fee from two zones to three zones; and a 25 cent increase in the base fare. The subcommittee did not recommend eliminating weekend or Gilroy service. The subcommittee was split on the 25 cent zone fare increase.

Francois Granade said it is disappointing that Caltrain has to reduce service. Caltrain is more than transportation; it is part of an infrastructure for regional development.

Mr. Hronowski hoped hourly service will be temporary. Deputy Director Rail Transportation Michelle Bouchard agreed; transit lags the economy and it may be a difficult next year.

Sepi Richardson said it is unfortunate that the economy is impacting transportation. She is absolutely against reducing any service. Ms. Richardson appreciates all staff has done to provide the best service possible at this time. She said the community needs to come together to help resolve the problem.

Brian Wilfley asked if JPB member agencies are still going to be conserving their contributions. Ms. Bouchard said they are going to continue their contribution at the FY09 level. He said public outreach was very good and had a substantial impact.

Chair Graham said he is receiving feedback from the public. They would rather have a fare increase than a cut in service. He said if the base and zone fares are increased it would increase revenue by \$3.7 million. Ms. Bouchard said staff received over 800 comments, which reflected this sentiment. There is a definite reluctance to increase fares with the economy in an upheaval. She said staff is trying to maintain ridership; and may have to raise fares in the not-too-distant future if budget issues are not settled.

Public Comment

Doug DeLong, Mountain View, said the discount on the monthly pass should be analyzed because it may be too high; a base fare increase should be considered.

Jeff Carter, Burlingame, said at the June JPB meeting staff recommended against weekend service suspension and fare increases, but would analyze the budget in six months. He said he is in favor of paying more rather than having service suspensions. The convenience of the train is what draws people. Mr. Carter said people that have a monthly pass receive about a 35 percent discount. He said staff did do a good job in reducing the \$10 million deficit, but a dedicated funding source needs to be developed.

Andy Chow, Redwood City, said he is pleased with the recommendations put forth by staff for board approval, including no fare increases. He said he doesn't use mid-day service often, but will miss the convenience of the half-hourly service. All transit agencies are cutting fares and service. Mr. Chow would like the resolution to include that the FY 2011 budget be reviewed in January and not April.

Chair Graham said the resolution proposed by the committee is very similar to the press release of June 3, 2009. He would prefer to see the budget balanced in some other way rather than reducing service.

A motion (Richardson/Hronowski) to approve a resolution for Caltrain service reductions/fare changes was passed. Mr. Granade abstained. The resolution will be presented to the JPB at their July 2 meeting.

Ms. Bouchard thanked the CAC for their efforts and support in preparing the resolution.

Presentation: Annual Passenger Counts

Ms. Bouchard made the following points:

- The purpose of counts is to provide data for the cost split among the JPB partners. The survey is completed once a year in order for staff to identify trends.
- February counts are taken on every weekday train and averaged over 5 days and on one weekend.
- Average weekday ridership is up almost 6 percent over 2008.
- Ridership increased at 19 stations and decreased at five stations over 2008.
- The delivery of eight Bombardier cars in October 2008 helped ease the ridership load.
- Santa Clara County had the highest ridership gain and generates the most riders.
- Average weekday bicycle ridership increased 21.3 percent in 2009. All gallery cars have been converted from 32 to 40 bike slots; and two Bombardier cars have been converted from 16 to 24 bike slots.
- Weekend ridership has surpassed pre-shutdown ridership; and decreased 7 percent from 2008.
- Staff has aggressively pursued fare increases and is concerned about fare elasticity.

Public Comment

Jeff Carter, Burlingame, said problems with the economy may be drawing people to public transit. He said it may be worthwhile to do an exercise to see how ridership was affected on weekends with the closure of Bay Meadows in San Mateo.

Doug DeLong, Mountain View, said the station that showed the highest percentage growth was San Antonio. He thanked staff for keeping this station as a limited schedule stop. He suggested having the trains alternate between local and express between their schedules.

Mr. Wilfley asked if the California Avenue station was impacted by construction during counts. There was no discussion on this.

Chairperson's Report

Chair Graham said he informed the JPB about maintaining train service. He said a public meeting on service and fare changes was held at the June meeting; approximately 28 members of the public spoke.

Bruce Jenkins left at 7:07 p.m.

Staff Report

Ms. Bouchard reported:

- May 2009 ridership is down 3.3 percent; on-time performance is at 95 percent compared to May 2008.
- There were four fatalities on Caltrain in the last six weeks. Staff has a very active Operation Lifesaver outreach program with schools, local communities and local law enforcement.
- Regular train service will operate on July 3.

Public Comment

Andy Chow, Redwood City, reported:

- The recent suicide fatalities on Caltrain are an illness; Caltrain needs to make sure people are not intruding on the Caltrain right of way.
- There is an agreement with the MTC, Caltrain, San Francisco and San Jose for strategies to obtain stimulus funds. He urged JPB partners to work together on this agreement.
- Caltrain is ahead of other agencies in planning for high speed rail.

Committee Comments

Mr. Wilfley said Stanford University staff raised an issue regarding the GO Pass at the June JPB meeting. Ms. Bouchard said no change had occurred with the Go Pass and any changes will be addressed at the executive level. The GO Pass is currently priced at revenue neutral. GO Pass revenue has fallen being revenue neutral; the proposed increased is 41 percent. Ms. Bouchard will report back on any changes.

Date, Time, Place of Next Meeting

Wednesday, July 15, 6 p.m., San Mateo County Transit District Administrative Building, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos CA 94070, 2nd Floor, Boccaccio Auditorium

Adjournment at 7:17 p.m.