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June 1, 2017

MTC Public Information  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board comments on the Draft Plan Bay Area 2040 and Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Noelting,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Plan Bay Area 2040, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). As a multi-county transit operator serving San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, Caltrain participates directly in the development of the RTP. We look forward to continuing our close collaboration with MTC to ensure that our services and projects are coordinated within the regional planning context.

The JPB offers the following comments:

1. Caltrain is currently working towards the delivery of the Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project (PCEP). This transformative project will upgrade the performance, operating efficiency, capacity, safety and reliability of Caltrain's commuter rail service. As you know, the US Department of Transportation recently awarded the Full Funding Grant Agreement for \$647 million dollars in Section 5309 Core Capacity funding, which completes the agreements needed to begin construction. The PCEP is scheduled to be operational by 2020 and will include the installation of traction power facilities and an overhead catenary system as well as the procurement of new Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) trains that will replace a portion of Caltrain's existing diesel fleet. After completion of the PCEP, but within the timeframe of Plan Bay Area 2040, it is Caltrain's desire to expand the number of EMUs in its fleet to provide fully electrified service on the mainline with longer trains and platforms modified to achieve level boarding. Both the PCEP and the subsequent conversion and expansion

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of the EMU fleet were submitted as projects to MTC as part of the Plan Bay Area 2040 Call for Projects. As a fully funded project, the PCEP should be acknowledged in Plan Bay Area 2040 as a significant project for regional mobility. Further, the JPB would like the second phases of PCEP acknowledged within the Plan.

2. The cost projections for 2040 exclude the operations and maintenance costs associated with PCEP. PCEP is now a fully funded project and the long term operating and maintenance costs of the electrified system should be included in the Plan.
3. Thank you for including the requested analysis regarding the PCEP's air quality benefits.
4. We note that the analysis does consider and disclose existing and future transit crowding so that the effects of transit capacity constraints on regional travel choices and behavior (along with associated benefits and impacts) are adequately understood and disclosed.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this important Plan. Should you have any questions please contact me at 650-295-6867 or [scanlone@samtrans.com](mailto:scanlone@samtrans.com).

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Scanlon  
Manager, Caltrain Planning

Cc: Michelle Bouchard, Chief Operating Officer, Caltrain  
April Chan, Chief Officer, Planning, Grants and Transportation Authority  
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