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May 1, 2009

The Honorable Jackie Speier  
U.S. House of Representatives  
211 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Caltrain EMU Procurement Project HPP Funding Request**

Dear Representative Speier:

The Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain), is requesting \$15,750,000 toward the procurement of 14 Electrical Multiple Units (EMU) as a High Priority Project (HPP) to be included in the next surface transportation reauthorization bill. Caltrain runs about 98 trains per weekday serving the residents from San Francisco to San Jose on commuter rail. With huge projected ridership growth by year 2025, Caltrain is designing an electrified rail system that will allow Caltrain to offer more service, at higher frequency, to more stations, while maintaining trip duration times. As detailed in Caltrain's 2025 Program, these 14 EMU's will operate on a fully electrified corridor as part of an overall fleet that includes 112 EMU's and carries a total project cost of \$504,000,000. EMU's are more efficient, safer, more reliable, and they offer tremendous greenhouse gas reduction qualities when compared to Caltrain's current diesel-powered trains.

These safety and environmental improvements will help make transportation in the Bay Area comparable to highly-regarded systems in Europe and Japan. EMU's also move California in the right direction by providing a lighter, more rapid commuter service rail.

Additional funding will be provided by FTA formula funds administered by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and through local contributions from Caltrain's partner agencies. In addition, this project will undergo full environmental study and approval, including all associated opportunities for public review and public comment as required under law.

Thank you again for your continued support of transportation improvements throughout the Bay Area. We appreciate all your efforts. If you have any questions please contact Caltrain Government Affairs Manager, Seamus Murphy, at [murphys@samtrans.com](mailto:murphys@samtrans.com) or (650) 508-6388.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "I. B. M.", with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Ian McAvoy  
Chief Development Officer

**PENINSULA CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS BOARD**  
1250 San Carlos Ave. – P.O. Box 3006  
San Carlos, CA 94070-1306 650.508.6269

Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier (CA-12)  
Member-Designated High Priority Project (HPP) Questionnaire  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Friday, May 1, 2009 @ 9:00 p.m. (P.D.T.)**

Please submit this form along with any additional material to Cookab Hashemi, chief of staff via email at [Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov](mailto:Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov) or fax, 202/226-4183. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Cookab Hashemi at 202/225-3531.

**The questionnaire must be filled out in its entirety.** In addition, it must be accompanied by at least one letter of support from a state, regional, or local government official specifically supporting the project request. This letter should discuss the merits of the project; specify the process to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the project; and identify the other sources of Federal, state or private funding that will be used to complete this project or project phase.

The letter must contain an explicit statement of support for the project. In addition, if you are requesting less than 80 percent of the total estimated cost of the specific segment or activity, the letter must identify other specifically designated Federal, state, local or private funding sources that, combined with the Member request, equal at least 80 percent of the total estimated cost. Please use **BOLDFACE FONT** to highlight these statements in the letter.

All questionnaires and accompanying documents will be posted on the Congresswoman's website as required by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Lastly, all project requests will be evaluated before the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District's Citizens Oversight Panel. Appointments to appear before the panel must be made through Cookab Hashemi, chief of staff, at 202/225-3531 or [Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov](mailto:Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov). **The Citizens Oversight Panel meeting will be held on Monday, May 4, 2009.**

1. **Project Title: Electric Multiple Units**
  
2. **Organization (project sponsor) Name and Address:** *(if state or local entity, please identify specific department requesting funding)*

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board  
1250 San Carlos Ave, San Carlos, CA 94070**

3. **Primary contact name, phone, cell and fax numbers and email address:**

Seamus Murphy, Government Affairs Manager, (w) 650/508-6388, (c) 650/207-9405, (f) fax: 650/622-8084, murphys@samtrans.com

4. **Project location address (if different from the organization):**

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board  
1250 San Carlos Ave, San Carlos, CA 94070**

5. **Please provide a brief description of the project. (Please describe in 250 words or less.)**

This request is for the procurement and deployment of 14 Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) rail cars to run on a fully electrified commuter rail system between San Francisco and San Jose.

6. **What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District? (Please describe in 250 words or less.)**

**According to the Center for Transportation Excellence, investment in public transit projects generates \$3 in economic benefit for every dollar spent. In addition EMU procurement will result in a faster, more reliable, more frequent service to the residents of the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. This increased service will provide significant benefit to local business and the regional economy as mobility options are expanded and traffic congestion is reduced, allowing for more efficient goods movement throughout the region. This project will also improve public health in the region through the use of technology that reduces greenhouse gas emissions throughout the region by converting the rail system from diesel to zero-emission electric engines.**

7. **Are you requesting Federal funds for more than one project in this bill? If yes, please list projects in order of priority requests for your organization.**

**No.**

8. **Are you requesting funds from other Members of Congress? If yes, which Members?**

**No.**

9. **Please select which type of eligible project under Title 23 (Highways) or Chapter 53 of Title 49 (Public Transit) of the U.S. Code is the project request? Please select from the options below.**

- **FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY**

- Highway/road, bridge, tunnel, bicycle/pedestrian project, intelligent transportation system project, ferry boats or ferry boats facilities, intermodal freight facility or other.
  - For each type of project, please note if it is located on a Federal-aid highway, located on the National Highway System, and located on the Interstate System.

N/A

- **PUBLIC TRANSIT** (Public transit refers to transportation services provided to the general public via a variety of vehicle modes, including buses, subways, light rail, commuter rail, monorail, passenger ferry boats, transit van pools, streetcars, inclined railways, and paratransit vehicles. Public transit does not include school bus or charter bus services, nor intercity passenger rail (such as Amtrak), high-speed rail, or private rail operations. For these types of rail projects, please proceed to the Rail section of the form.)

- Transit Rail Car or Locomotive, including Streetcars

- **RAIL**

- Intercity Passenger Rail (Intercity rail passenger transportation means rail passenger transportation, except commuter rail passenger transportation. Commuter rail passenger transportation means short-haul rail passenger transportation in metropolitan and suburban areas usually having reduced fare, multiple-ride, and commuter tickets and morning and evening peak period operations. Intercity rail passenger transportation projects are not commuter rail projects. Funds for commuter rail projects should be requested under public transit, not under intercity passenger rail.)

- Located within a corridor previously designated by the Secretary of Transportation pursuant to section 104(d)(2) of Title 23, United States Code, or the Northeast Corridor?

- Freight Rail
  - Class I Freight Rail
  - Class II or Class III Freight Rail

- **RESEARCH**

- University Transportation Center
- Other

N/A

10. Did the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, or State Department of Transportation,<sup>1</sup> or public transit agency confirm that the project is eligible under Title 23 (Highways) or Chapter 53 of Title 49 (Public Transit) of the United States Code?

Yes.

▪ Which entity confirmed the project eligibility?

▪ Public Transit Agency

Contact (Name, Position, Phone)

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board**

**Seamus Murphy, Government Affairs Manager, 650/508-6388**

▪ According to the entity, is the project eligible under Title 23, Title 49, or both Titles 23 and title 49?

▪ Chapter 53 of Title 49 (Public Transit)

11. Please identify the state, regional, or local government entity that is an eligible recipient of the funds. Please include name and address. (For example, a State Department of Transportation, public transit agency, Metropolitan Planning Organization, local government or Federally-recognized tribe.)

**Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board**

**1250 San Carlos Ave, San Carlos, CA 94070**

12. Please identify and describe the specific segment or activity for which project funding is requested. (The request must finance at least 80 percent of the total estimated cost of the specific segment or activity by either 1.) the amount requested; or 2.) the amount requested in addition to other specifically designated Federal, state, local or private funding sources.)

**Project description:** (Include the specific terminus points of the project or activity, as appropriate.)

**This request is for the procurement and deployment of 14 Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) rail cars to run on a fully electrified commuter rail system between San Francisco and San Jose.**

**Project activities:** (You may select more than one.)

- Construct
- Plan

- Design
- Engineer
- Conduct
- Environmental Review
- Acquire right-of-the-way
- Conduct alternatives analysis
- Research
- Develop
- Demonstrate
- Deploy
- Reconstruct
- Rehabilitate
- Replace
- Retrofit
- Install
- Mitigate
- Implement
- Realign

None applicable.

What is the total estimated cost? (Please write out in numeral form, e.g. \$2,000,000, not \$2 million)

**\$504,000,000**

What amount is being requested? (Please write out in numeral form.)

**\$15,750,000**

What percentage of the total estimated cost is the request for Federal funding? (If the percentage is less than 80%, please identify other specifically designated Federal, state, local or private funding that when combined with this request equal at least 80 percent.)

**Amount requested is 3% of the total cost of the project. The remaining project costs will be satisfied as follows:**

**FTA 5307/9 - \$352,000,000 (70%)**

**Local Caltrain Partners - \$88,000,000 (17%)**

Please identify the source and amount of funding.

**The remaining project costs will be satisfied as follows:**

**FTA 5307/9 - \$352,000,000 (70%)**  
**Local Caltrain Partners - \$88,000,000 (17%)**

**13. If you are requesting funding for a specific segment or activity, please describe the overall project of which this segment/activity is a part.**

- Project description (please limit your response to 3-4 sentences.)
- Total estimated cost

**This request is for the procurement and deployment of 14 Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) rail cars to run on a fully electrified commuter rail system between San Francisco and San Jose. Caltrain proposes to run a mix of conventional trains and EMUs on its right of way and will ultimately procure 112 EMUs. EMUs are individually-powered, high performance vehicles used in urban transit and high-speed train systems around the world. Caltrain may be the first U.S. commuter railroad to operate the type of EMUs that are used internationally. The total cost of 112 EMUs is \$504,000,000.**

**14. Is the project included in the State's Long-Range Transportation Plan?**

- Please provide the date of approval of the most recent version of the plan and the title of the plan.
  - *Date of approval (MM/YYYY)*
  - *Title of the plan*

**No, but project is included in the region's long range transportation plan.**

**15. Is the project included in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and/or State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)?**

**Project is included in regional long range transportation plan.**

- Please provide the date of approval of the most recent version of the program(s), and the title of the program(s).
  - Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
    - *Date of approval: 04/2009*
    - *Title of the Program: Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Transportation 2035 Change in Motion*
  - State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
    - *Date of approval (MM/YYYY)*
    - *Title of the Program*

**16. If the project is an intercity passenger rail project, is it included in the State Rail Plan?**

- Please provide the date on which the Governor approved the most recent version of the plan, and the title of the plan.
  - *Date of approval (MM/YYYY)*
  - *Title of the plan*

N/A

17. Please describe the current status of the project and the expected schedule for its completion.

- *Current status of project*
  - Public Transit projects:
    - In Planning
    - In Final Design
- **What is the expected date of completion of the project for which you are requesting funding?** (*Between fiscal years 2010 through 2020*)

FY 2015

18. Does the project have regional or national significance? (A project of regional and national significance is typically a high-cost transportation infrastructure facility that often includes multiple levels of government, agencies, modes of transportation, and transportation goals and planning processes that are not easily addressed or funded within existing surface transportation program categories. These projects have national and/or regional benefits, including improving economic productivity by facilitating international trade, relieving congestion, and improving transportation safety by facilitating passenger and freight movement.)

- *Please describe the regional or national significance of the project. Please limit your response to 3-4 sentences.*

***Caltrain provides service to 39,000 weekday riders across 3 counties and 20 cities along a 52 mile rail corridor in the region. Service demands are expected to double in the next 20 years. Funding for this project will assist Caltrain to meet ridership demands, and reduce congestion and greenhouse gas emissions throughout the region by converting the rail system from diesel to zero-emission electric engines. This modification will enable the rail service to provide faster commute times to a larger number of riders while introducing first-of-its-kind technology to the United States.***

19. Describe the safety, economic development, mobility, and environmental benefits associated with completion of the project.

- *Safety Benefits*

- Please describe the safety benefits. Please limit your response to 2-3 sentences.

**An EMU carbody is designed based on crash energy management principles and absorbs energy during a collision, much like automobiles are designed today. This provides additional safety for train crew and passengers. EMUs will be operated utilizing Positive Train Control technology eliminating the threat of train collisions along the rail corridor.**

- *Economic Development Benefits*

- Please describe the economic development benefits. Please limit your response to 2-3 sentences.

**According to the Center for Transportation Excellence, investment in public transit projects generate \$3 in economic benefit for every dollar spent. In addition EMU procurement will result in a faster, more reliable, more frequent commuter rail system. This increased service will provide significant benefit to local business and the regional economy as mobility options are expanded and traffic congestion is reduced, allowing for more efficient goods movement throughout the region.**

- *Mobility Benefits*

- Please describe the mobility benefits. Please limit your response to 2-3 sentences.

**Because EMUs operate more efficiently and have improved acceleration and deceleration features, the Caltrain system will be able to offer more service, at a higher frequency, to more stations, without sacrificing speed. This increased service will greatly expand the region's mobility options and will have a direct positive impact of other public transit systems that connect to Caltrain, such as BART, MUNI, and VTA.**

- *Environmental Benefits*

- Please describe the environmental benefits. Please limit your response to 2-3 sentences.

**Current diesel operations emit 1,183 pounds of carbon a day and 174 tons carbon per year. By comparison, an electrified system would emit 96 pounds of carbon a day and 13 tons of carbon per year. Operating EMUs would reduce carbon emissions by nearly 90%. EMUs will also expand Caltrain ridership capacity, resulting in ridership increases on the region's commuter rail systems, improved local and regional traffic congestion and reduced vehicle miles traveled (VMT).**

20. Has the project previously received any Federal funding? If so, please list the Source, Amount of Funding and Amount Obligated. (Please see categories below.)

No.

- *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (P.L.109-59)*
  - Section Project Number
  - Amount of Funding Amount Obligated
- *Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA 21) (P.L. 105-178)*
  - Section Project Number
  - Amount of Funding Amount Obligated
- *National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (NHS Act) (P.L. 104-59)*
  - Section Project Number
  - Amount of Funding Amount Obligated
- *Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) (P.L. 102-240)*
  - Section Project Number
  - Amount of Funding Amount Obligated
  
- *Appropriations act(s)*
- Public Law Name
  - Public Law Number
  - Section Project Number
  - Amount of Funding Amount Obligated
  
- *Other legislation*
  - Public Law Name
  - Public Law Number
  - Section Project Number
  - Amount of Funding Amount Obligated

**21. Has the project received any prior funding from a State, local, or private source?**

No.

- *Source:*
- *Amount of Funding:*
- *Amount Obligated:*

**22. Please provide the proposed legislative text (in no more than 250 characters) of the project as you would like it to appear in the bill. (Please note that project line items carry the force of law, and can only be amended through subsequent public laws. If Congressional intent (as established through answers listed on this form, or in letters to the Committee) is different from the legislative text, the entity administering the project is required to adhere to the statutory language.)**

*For procurement of Electric Multiple Units for deployment along Caltrain rail service line.*

23. Please include any additional information that should be consider with the project request.

**Please return this form and at least one local or state letter or support no later than Friday, May 1, 2009 via email or fax to:  
Cookab.Hashemi@mail.house.gov or 202/226-4183 (fax).**