



NEWS RELEASE

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Air District allocates \$3 million for Caltrain electrification project

SAN FRANCISCO – Today, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District’s Board of Directors approved the allocation of \$3 million dollars to support the electrification of the Caltrain corridor between San Francisco and San Jose.

In 2015, the Air District made a commitment to award \$20 million towards the project over a five-year period. Allocations to date include \$13 million in 2016, \$3 million in 2017 and \$3 million in 2018.

“Once completed, making the switch to electric locomotives will benefit the Caltrain transit corridor in two ways,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “First it removes dirty diesel exhaust from the train route and second, by improving speed and ridership it makes the train a better option for many, taking more cars off the freeway.”

Transitioning to electric-powered trains will result in zero emissions locally and eliminate the release of over 315 tons of diesel-related particulates per year in surrounding communities. Exposure to diesel exhaust can irritate the eyes, nose, throat and lungs while contributing to more serious health impacts over time.

Other benefits associated with electrifying the rail line between San Francisco and San Jose include a reduction of greenhouse gases, increased frequency and speed of train service, reduced engine noise, and reduced traffic congestion from automobiles along US 101 and Interstate 280.

Caltrain expects to start operating electric trains by the spring of 2022.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#).

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