



Town of Atherton
ATHERTON RAIL COMMITTEE
Minutes
TUESDAY, December 4, 2018
6:00 p.m.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Regular Meeting

1. ROLL CALL

Committee Members: Malcolm Dudley, Jack Ringham, Greg Conlon, Paul Jones, Scott Lane, Nerissa Dexter, Jim Janz, Alex Keh, Anthony Wynne, John Maulbetsch
Councilmember Liaisons: Mayor Cary Wiest, Council Member Michael Lempres (Alternate)
Staff: Robert Ovadia

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS – For items not on the agenda.

(This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on any matter not on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Rail Committee. State law prohibits the Committee from acting on items not listed on the Agenda.)

- Kenneth Frederick - Questioned if there were any concerns regarding high voltage lines along the Caltrain corridor and the potential for fires.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 2, 2018

Approved with correction.

Motion: Jack Ringham

Second: Scott Lane

4. PRESENTATIONS – None

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5a. PCEP Update (5 min.)

The Committee will receive a brief report on current activities related to Caltrain's electrification of the peninsula corridor. Caltrain is planning on holding a Community Meeting at the Jennings Pavilion at Holbrook Palmer Park on December 17, 2018 to discuss the electrification project. The Committee will have the opportunity to discuss current and upcoming activities as well as related items. Not an action item.

5b. Litigation Update (10 min.)

The Committee will receive a brief report on current status of pending litigation with the California High Speed Rail Authority. The Committee will have the opportunity to discuss current and upcoming activities as well as related items. Not an action item.

5c. Dumbarton Rail Corridor Update (10 min.)

The Committee will receive a brief report on the current status of the Dumbarton Rail

Corridor. The Committee will have the opportunity to discuss the Dumbarton Rail Corridor, current status of agreements between SamTrans and Facebook as well as related items. Committee will reaffirm Member Scott Lane as the designated Member to investigate and provide updates on this topic.

- Committee Member Scott Lane provided information from the SamTrans Website regarding project status as a handout (attached).
- Committee Member Scott Lane will continue to monitor this topic and report to the Committee.

5d. Recommendation of Revised Resolution Governing Town Committees (10 min.)

[Atherton Staff Report – May 16, 2018](#)

Resolution 18 – 11

Town of Atherton Rail Policy Issues adopted May 16, 2018

This item involves the discussion of the Resolution Governing Town Committees adopted by the Council on May 16, 2018. The Committee may discuss potential revisions and may act to refer recommended language changes to the Council for consideration.

Committee approved a recommendation to the Council to consider a revision to the Town of Atherton Rail Policy Issues adopted on May 16, 2018 as follows:

Town Priorities Regarding Caltrain Line

The Town recognizes that successful implementation of the Town’s rail corridor priorities with Caltrain require a partnership with Caltrain. To that end, the Town will endeavor to work with Caltrain to address the following priorities for the Atherton Station and Rail Corridor:

- Caltrain must restore *full* weekday service.
- Caltrain must complete a capital project to remove the “hold out station” in Town.
- *Ensure any long term corridor rail plan limits two tracks through Atherton.*
- Modernization of the rail system must minimize and fully mitigate any environmental impact to the Town.
- The Town seeks to ~~perfect~~ *add on the Watkins Avenue Crossing to the Quiet Zone within the Town through the addition of Quad Gates at the Watkins Avenue crossing and upgrading the Atherton Station.* These measures require the support and partnership of Caltrain.

5e. Memorial Plaque – Rosemary Maulbetsch (5 min.)

This item involves the discussion of a commemoration plaque in the memory of Rosemary Maulbetsch, including proposed language. The Committee will also receive an update on the status of the Civic Center project as it related to the timing and potential placement locations of the plaque. The Committee may refer a recommendation that the Council consider the installation of a memorial plaque.

The Committee recommended that staff talk to Caltrain regarding a temporary location of the plaque.

6. COMMITTEE AND STAFF MEMBER COMMENTS

- Committee Member Jim Janz referred an article from the City Journal – *Fast Train to Failure*
- Committee Member Jim Janz referred an article from The Hamilton Report – *CA High-Speed Rail Audit: Next Chapter or end of the story?*
- Committee Member Alex Keh referred an article and an opinion piece from The Mercury News – *Audit cites flaws in costly California’s high-speed rail project, and Editorial: California bullet train built on foundation of deceit*

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Letter to Caltrain advising them of the issues Denver Regional Transportation District and Denver Transit Partners are facing regarding their crossing warning system.

9. NEXT MEETING – February 5, 2019

10. ADJOURN

Next meeting is scheduled for: February 5, 2019

Please contact the City Clerk’s office at (650) 752-0500 with any questions. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at 752-0500. Notification of 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (29 CRF 35.104 ADA Title II)