



BIOCOM

September 19, 2019

Chair Gillian Gillet  
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board  
1250 San Carlos Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
San Carlos, CA 94070

Dear Chair Gillet,

On behalf of Biocom's over 1,200 members throughout California, and over 400 members in the Bay Area, Biocom urges the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB) to adopt the Moderate Growth Caltrain Business Plan, which proposes to increase Caltrain service in South San Francisco to up to eight trains per hour (four each way), an increase that is badly needed and must happen as soon as possible.

South San Francisco is experiencing exponential growth in recent years, having been incredibly successful in attracting significant business growth. This growth, often coming in multi-story campuses, almost doubles the population of the City of South San Francisco. In fact, the San Mateo County Transportation Authority projects that South San Francisco will have the highest job growth in the San Mateo County over the next 20 years.

As California's largest and most experienced life science organization, Biocom is a leading voice in the advocacy efforts of the California life science community including biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device, genomics and diagnostics companies of all sizes, as well as research universities and institutes, clinical research organizations, investors and service providers. Our member companies with sites in South San Francisco report experiencing higher levels of employee attrition (relative to other sites), with transportation difficulties and housing costs often being cited as a reason for separation. Increased Caltrain service will directly improve these issues, especially with the opening of a new Caltrain station in mid-2020.

Biocom implores the Board to adopt the Moderate Growth Caltrain Business Plan with increased service to South San Francisco. If we may answer any questions, please contact Biocom's Director of Regional Policy and Government Affairs, Melanie Cohn, at [mcohn@biocom.org](mailto:mcohn@biocom.org).

Sincerely,

Jimmy Jackson  
Senior Vice President & Chief Policy Officer  
Biocom

