



California Short Line Railroad Association
...providing representation for Short Line railroad operators in the State of California...

August 2020 CSLRA News

CA Short Line Improvement Program

The application period for project funding under the \$7.2 million California short line railroad grant program established by SB 87 in 2019 (“Short Line Railroad Improvement Program”), is now open. The primary objective of the Short Line Railroad Improvement Program is to fund infrastructure improvement projects designed to enable Class III/short-line railroads to improve freight mobility, efficiency, reliability, sustainability, safety, and load capacity. Grant qualification criteria and additional information may be accessed via the California Transportation Commission (CTC) link below. California short lines interested in applying must partner with either Caltrans or a Regional Transportation Planning Agency in order to apply. Caltrans will be posting application materials for railroads interested in partnering with Caltrans by late August and anticipates a mid-October deadline for completed applications. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (Bay Area) has also begun outreach to railroads in its area of responsibility. CSLRA strongly encourages CA short lines to take advantage of this unique funding opportunity.



CTC Short Line Grant Information

Got Cars?

**Join CSRA's car
storage seminar
on Aug 11**

If you are storing rail cars during the current slow-down in rail traffic, there are a number of issues concerning management of placarded cars (full or residue) that you should be aware of. Join our upcoming Zoom seminar on Tuesday August 11 at 2 PM PDT to discuss current hot topics in car storage with our CA short line resident expert Dave Buccolo. This session will be presented free of charge. If interested, email executivedirector@cslra.org and request participant information.

2020 California Freight Mobility Plan Released

The newest edition of the California Freight Mobility Plan (CFMP) was published on July 20. This important state-wide planning document is produced every five years and is worthwhile reading for everyone in the California short line community. Quoting Caltrans: "In collaboration with various State, regional and local partners, public and private sectors, and the members of the California Freight Advisory Committee (CFAC), Caltrans developed the California Freight Mobility Plan 2020 to provide a long-term vision for California's freight future. The CFMP is a comprehensive plan that governs the immediate and long-range planning activities and capital investments by the state with respect to freight movement. This multimodal freight transportation system facilitates the reliable and efficient movement of goods while ensuring a prosperous economy, social equity, and human and environmental health. The CFMP also complies with California State Government Code Section 13978.8(b) (1) (Assembly Bill 14, Lowenthal) and the freight provisions of the federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) which requires each state that receives funding under the National Highway Freight Program to develop a State Freight Plan." The Plan may be accessed [here](#):

2020 Freight Mobility Plan

Our Survey Said: Short Line Input Needed

A planner's work is never done. Although a new CFMP was just released (see above), work is underway on the next California State Rail Plan, a companion document to the CFMP. Caltrans seeks to expand coverage of short line railroads in the next version of this plan, and needs your input for a "Short Line Rail Improvement Plan," a strategy document that will feed into the next State Rail Plan to "advance the short line rail industry in California to encourage track upgrades, industrial rail access improvements, advanced technologies, clean alternative energy solutions, improving efficiencies, and to promote a cost-effective shift from truck to rail." Industry outreach for this project is being conducted by professional services provider Jacobs on behalf of Caltrans. CSLRA will be assisting with the outreach. If you are asked to participate (or want to volunteer), please contribute your knowledge and ideas to this important effort.

CSLRA Holds First-Ever Virtual Annual Meeting

On July 8, 2020 some 60 participants joined CSLRA's 2020 Annual Meeting, which was held via Zoom after the COVID pandemic necessitated cancellation of the customary in-person meeting in San Diego. The two hour program included updates on current items of interest such as the ongoing reorganization of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and current state and federal legislation. It also provided a good opportunity to reconnect with friends in the short line community. Many thanks to our meeting sponsors, whose generosity enabled free participant registration for this event:

GOLD SPONSORS

Pacific Harbor Line
SFBR/Republic Services
Stella-Jones Corporation
A&K Railroad Materials

SILVER SPONSOR

Union Pacific Railroad

For those who like to keep their calendars posted well in advance, **the next Annual Meeting is now being worked out with the Westin San Diego for July 14-15, 2021**. If you would like to check out the legislative issues that we are tracking, follow this link:

2020 CSLRA Fall Train Trip Nov. 12–13



SAVE THE DATES! CSLRA's fall train trip will be held aboard the *Napa Valley Wine Train*. Join us for beautiful scenery and a great meal aboard nicely-restored vintage passenger equipment. Details and registration information will be posted during Q3. The event will be held if permitted under government public health (pandemic) regulations.

California Short Line Railroad Association | PO Box 551, Mt Shasta, CA 96067

[Unsubscribe jfoster@smvrr.com](mailto:jfoster@smvrr.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by executivedirector@cslra.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!