



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Item #3

April 18, 2012

Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (CCJPA) Bicycle Policies

Issue: What are the bicycle policies on the Capitol Corridor train?

Recommendation: None, information only.

Discussion: Jim Allison with the CCJPA will be at the meeting to discuss new policies on the Capitol Corridor trains. Attached is the CCJPA's agenda item on the subject.

LSH:gg
Attachment

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CAPITOL CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Board **DATE:** February 7, 2012

FROM: David B. Kutrosky
Managing Director, CCJPA

SUBJECT: PRINCIPLES FOR CCJPA POLICY ON BICYCLE ACCESS

PURPOSE

For the CCJPA Board to review, comment, and adopt principles that will guide the policy for bicycle access on Capitol Corridor trains and stations.

BACKGROUND

With the increase in ridership growth on the Capitol Corridor service, there has been an increased use of bicycles accessing the Capitol Corridor trains which has caused demand for on-board bike storage to exceed capacity in some instances. While the CCJPA wishes to encourage alternative, green access to the Capitol Corridor trains, it cannot come at the expense of safety, which is the CCJPA's top priority. Bicycle access on the trains must comply with federal regulations and law primarily through the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). The intent of the applicable regulations is to ensure that (1) bicycles on trains are secured in some manner so that they are not subject to flying through the air in the event of a sudden stop and (2) bicycles do not restrict passenger access of any form (e.g. passengers with a wheelchair or cane) within the train.

To address the increased bicycle demand and the regulatory issues, CCJPA conducted a survey of riders with bicycles in January and February 2011 with the intent to identify what options could be applied to address this demand. To assist with identifying solutions and adopting a policy, a Bicycle Policy Working Group was convened. This group is comprised of CCJPA staff, Amtrak staff, and two Capitol Corridor riders who use bicycles and one Capitol Corridor rider who uses a wheelchair. This group considered how to develop a policy that is responsive to federal requirements while also identifying on-board and station programs to increase bicycle storage capacity and ensuring proper, open communications.

Prior to releasing any policy, it was decided to (1) have the CCJPA adopt a broad set of principles which will guide the development of the policy, (2) gain further input from Capitol Corridor bicycle users and (3) begin an educational period for several months which will allow conductors as well as the riding passengers to get familiar with the policy and its implementation. (Primarily, the conductors will be placing tags on bicycles stored in such a way that they do not comply with the policy.) After several months of this process, the policy would go into full effect. The intervening time will allow several measures to advance - - more conductor training; better dissemination of existing bicycle locker information; secure grants to add more bicycle lockers; and identify other on-board modifications to increase bicycle storage.

To support these efforts to improve safety while trying to best accommodate on-train bicycle storage demand, the CCJPA Board is being asked to adopt a set of principles regarding the development of a bicycle policy which will assist CCJPA staff in implementation of the policy itself and in implementing measures which help reduce demand for bicycles used on the train or, conversely, increase capacity for bicycles on the train.

RECOMMENDATION

The SCG recommends that the CCJPA Board adopt the principles that will guide the policy for bicycle access on Capitol Corridor trains and stations.

Motion: The CCJPB adopts the attached principles.

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PRINCIPLES OF BICYCLE ACCESS POLICY

**Capitol Corridor Intercity Passenger Train Service
(Auburn-Sacramento-Oakland/San Francisco-San Jose)
Introduced February 15, 2012**

- Safety of all passengers in transport on the Capitol Corridor service is the CCJPA's highest priority.
- The use of a bicycle in conjunction with travel on the Capitol Corridor is a travel mode combination that is good for the environment and one that many Capitol Corridor customers value.
- Storage of bicycles on the Capitol Corridor train must be accomplished in a safe and responsible manner for all users on the train and in compliance with regulations for passenger train operations.
- When developing train maintenance cycles and rail car assignments, train equipment consists (or trainsets) used in Capitol Corridor service shall be optimized to maximize designated bicycle storage.
- The CCJPA shall work with its partners to determine if the Northern California fleet, shared with the San Joaquins, can be allocated in a manner to allow more designated bicycle storage on equipment used in Capitol Corridor service.
- The CCJPA staff shall seek funding and enter into funding and related agreements to advance and implement projects which can support additional secure bicycle storage capacity at stations (e.g., bicycle lockers, locked bicycle parking areas).
- The CCJPA shall continue to engage and openly communicate with existing and prospective passengers and bicycle advocates regarding the bicycle policy (as updated) and other bicycle related matters.

ADOPTED
CCJPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS