

riders (including your correspondent) seething.

[2013 Steel Wheels Conference, October 5th](#)



2013 Steel Wheels Conference Joint RailPAC-NARP members meeting

Saturday, October 5, 2013

Port of San Francisco Community Room
Pier 40 • Embarcadero, San Francisco

10:30 am-3:00 pm with a break for lunch (*not provided*)

Doors Open 10:00 am

RailPAC members business meeting 3:00 pm

2013 Conference Program Includes

High Speed Rail – Dan Richard, CHSRA

Northern California Regional Rail – Dan Leavitt, SJVJPA

Caltrain Modernization – Marian Lee, PCJPB

Amtrak and the National Network – Robert Stewart, Chairman, NARP

[Capitol and other CA Corridor Statistics-August, 2013](#)

From David B. Kutroksy, Managing Director

Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority

Capitol Corridor Service Performance

After a bounce in ridership in July 2013, ridership dropped in August 2013 by 2.2% compared to August 2012.

[BART Prepares For Strike, May Use Managers To Keep Trains Running](#)

CBS San Francisco Sep 13, 2013

OAKLAND (KCBS / KPIX 5) — With a possible BART strike looming in October, the transit agency and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission are working on contingency plans in the event of a walkout.

One of the ideas being considered is limited train service operated by managers...

Union officials said BART is playing with people's lives, and that the managers don't have the proper experience to operate a train.

BART was the first of several subway systems over the last 40 years to operate with automation. Except in yard limits at slow speeds with operators at the controls BART trains have been mostly run by computers for over 40 years. The primary job of the operators is to check the doors at the station to insure no one gets stuck at the door going in or out of the train while it is moving. There have been several times when operators have left their cabs only to find their BART or Washington Metro trains left the station without them. When this happens the passengers can't get out of the trains at their stops or get on since without the operator the train doors won't open. NB

[BART safety record stellar compared to other services](#)

KTVU San Francisco- Sep 19, 2013

According to the California Public Utilities Commission, from 2009 through May of this year, BART racked up 42 reportable rail transit safety incidents. How did other metropolitan areas and services score? San Diego chalked up 92 incidents, while Sacramento had 192. Santa Clara VTA had 109 reportable incidents compared to Los Angeles County MTA's 180. San Francisco MTA had a whopping 366. Relatively, BART comes off as a safety star.

BART has an advantage being fully grade separated and having an automated service which takes away most issues of human error. NB

[BART, Unions Add More Meeting Dates As Deadline Nears](#)

CBS Local-Sep 19, 2013

OAKLAND (KCBS) – In the seemingly contentious back and forth between officials from Bay Area Rapid Transit and its unions, the latest twist is ...

[Bill Sponsored by BART Can Assist Local Transit Funding Challenges](#)

Mass Transit Sep 16, 2013

SB 142, authored by Senator Mark DeSauliner (D- Concord) would give BART and other public agency operating transit in the state the authority to reap back some of the financial benefits that the transit system brings to local communities by creating "Benefit Assessment Districts."

[Caltrain Service Running Late, Again](#)

Patch.com- Sep 17, 2013

Caltrain ran behind schedule again this morning after a northbound train broke down between Burlingame and Millbrae, a spokeswoman said.

[Caltrain Grapples With Aging Fleet](#)

NBC Bay Area-Sep 18, 2013

More than a dozen riders told NBC Bay Area on Wednesday morning that they are happy with their Caltrain rides, despite a report saying the ...

[Caltrain Modernization Program kicks off advanced signal system work](#)

Railway Track & Structures-Sep 18, 2013

California's Caltrain has begun work on an advanced signal system that will improve the performance and enhance the safety of the rail system, formally ... Based Overlay Signal System (CBOSS) Positive Train Control (PTC) ..

[Caltrain kicks off its 150th anniversary celebration in Menlo Park in ...](#)

InMenlo-Sep 15, 2013

Caltrain is inviting customers and the public to travel back in history on Oct. 19 for the kick off of an extended celebration of 150 years of railroad service between San Francisco and San Jose.

[Distraught naked man halts Caltrain commuter train](#)

KTVU San Francisco- Sep 19, 2013

A naked man in his 20s who sat on railroad tracks Thursday morning at a Caltrain station in Santa Clara caused brief train delays before being ...

[Get the Latest on The Union Station Master Plan](#)

Los Angeles Downtown News Sep 16, 2013

Metro has undertaken the initiative to address how the 75-year-old station, and a few dozen surrounding acres of land, can be utilized in a growing Downtown. Concepts including more retail, restaurants, housing and office space have been discussed so far.

[Union Station: a half-baked master plan](#)

The Accidental Urbanist) Sep 16, 2013

Without being too specific, I've been a little critical of the Union Station Master Plan on Twitter — mostly saying I had expected more.

I tend to agree with your post. As an architect I found the slides difficult to comprehend where the project is going – big picture that is.

[Chat with the volunteers at the Union Station information booth](#)

The Source Sep 16, 2013

The info booth, located just outside the old ticketing concourse, is part of the original Union Station and is staffed by 14 L.A. Tourism and Convention Board volunteers.

[Read about the secret Harvey Girls dorm at Union Station. NB](#)

[Reminder: Veterans job fair at Union Station on Thursday, Sept 19](#)

The Source Sep 16, 2013

The Tracks to Success job fair for veterans will be held at Union Station on Thursday, September 19. The event will focus exclusively on opportunities in the rail transportation industry for veterans, active duty military members, guard and reserve members and military spouses.

[Stuck in Pico Rivera on Metrolink](#)

By Noel T. Braymer

Everything was normal until we left the City of Commerce station on Metrolink #604 after leaving LAUS on time at 4:30PM on Friday September 20, 2013. We barely cleared the station around 4:45 PM when we came to a halt

[Metro's Blue and Expo rail lines are back in full swing](#)

Los Angeles Times Sep 16, 2013

Metro's Blue and Expo rail lines were back in full swing Monday morning after they were shut down overnight by a power outage.

Officials with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority reported that just before 5 p.m. Sunday overhead wires on the lines just south of downtown had been damaged, leading to a power failure.

[Los Angeles transit agency to restore historic train depot in North ...](#)

Progressive Rail Roding- Sep 20, 2013

Today, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) and local elected officials are scheduled to kick off a \$3.6 million restoration project at the historic Southern Pacific Lankershim/North Hollywood Train Depot.

[Locomotive excursion trains to launch this month in Folsom](#)

Sacramento Bee-Sep 16, 2013

For more than a decade, Sacramento and other American cities have been ripping out unused railroad tracks and turning old rail corridors into ...

[Cadiz Inc. Announces Agreement to Operate Steam Powered ...](#)

The Herald -Sep 19, 2013