

Caltrans Comet IB Presentation

to the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee



 **Amtrak California**SM
A service of the California Department of Transportation



Comet IB Project Overview

- 14 Comet IB push/pull coaches (12 cab, 2 trailer) purchased from NJ Transit
 - Coaches were built as Arrow I EMUs in 1968-1969 and were overhauled into push/pull coaches in 1987-1988
 - Being reconfigured from commuter coaches to intercity coaches at Amtrak's Beech Grove Shops using as many Amtrak standard parts and systems as possible
 - All cab cars are having their cab controls removed and are being reconfigured to trailer cars

Comet IB Trainset

- Trainset will be made up of:
 - 4 or 5 Comet IB coaches
 - 1 Amtrak Horizon Dinette food service car
 - One locomotive (F59PHI or P42DC)
 - One Non-Powered Control Unit (NPCU) (reconfigured Amtrak F40PH)
- Comet IB coaches will not be lead vehicle in service; they will have a locomotive or an NPCU on each end



Interior Reconfiguration – Seats and Storage

- 3/2 seating is being reconfigured to 2/2 intercity Amtrak seating standard
 - Standard Amtrak seats and mounting system, currently used in Amtrak service on Amtrak rolling stock (Amfleet, Horizon, Superliner), will be installed
 - Seats will be overhauled units from Amtrak's Bear, DE facility
- Multiple luggage racks, multiple trash/recycling units, and a bike rack will be installed



Interior Reconfiguration – Comet Car Layout

Trash and
Recycle Area

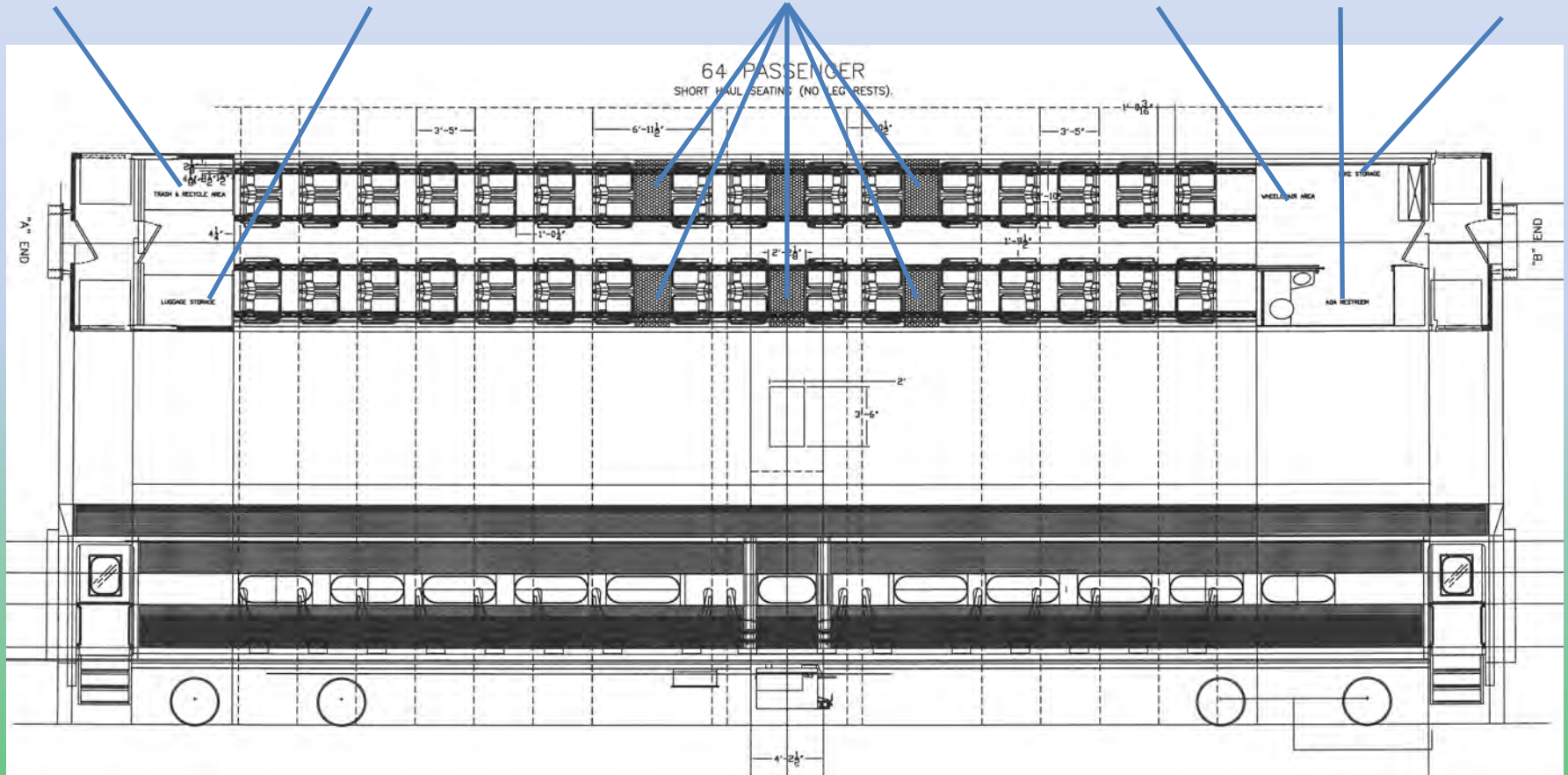
Luggage
Rack

Workstation
Tables

Wheelchair
Area

ADA
Restroom

Bike
Rack



Interior Reconfiguration – Passenger Amenities

- Comet and Horizon cars will have Amtrak Connect Wi-Fi
- Two convenience outlets at each seat so that every passenger has an outlet
- 6 workstation tables per car
- All new flooring, carpet, curtains, window glazing
- New standard Amtrak PA System



Interior Reconfiguration – Waste and Water

- MBCR-style RailPlan ADA toilet module will be installed
- Cars will be ADA accessible and have ADA seating area



Component Replacements

- Power side doors are being eliminated and replaced with manual Dutch doors
 - Safety summary/indication and interlock circuits are being designed and installed
 - New trap doors are being installed
- Amtrak Horizon-style HVAC system
 - Evaporators, refurbished compressor/condenser units using Amtrak components
- Microphor waste and water system
- Amtrak standard wheel slide (Knorr MGS)



Component Rebuilds

- Criteria:
 - Maximize use of Amtrak standard parts
 - Use OEM criteria and in some cases, OEM contractors
- Brakes are being overhauled by OEM
- Couplers are being overhauled
- Trucks are being overhauled
- Handbrakes are being overhauled by OEM
- Trainlines are being reconfigured to Amtrak standard configuration with new end of car trainline boxes and receptacles

Total New Equipment in Service

- 14 overhauled Comet IB coaches
- 3 overhauled Horizon Dinette food service cars
 - Standard Caltrans coffee makers (one double and one single), toaster, and microwaves
 - Lockable crew storage and charging center (for radios, phones, etc.)
- 3 overhauled NPCUs
 - Powered roll-up baggage doors on each side for easy loading of checked baggage

Equipment Schedule

- 4-5 Comet IBs in progress each day, 2 prototypes (5165 and 5224) furthest along and will be first completed (5165 - 55% complete, 5224 - 45% complete)
- 1 NPCU in progress (35% complete)
- 1 Horizon Dinette soon to be in progress
- 2 prototype Comet IBs targeted for completion in late December 2012/early January 2013

Next Steps

- Deployment plan for Comet IBs, Horizon Dinettes, and NPCUs currently in development
 - Includes all facets of operations and maintenance (parts storage, manuals, procedures, plans, etc.)
- Comet IBs currently going through regulatory compliance review
- Caltrans/Amtrak Comet introduction meeting held last week, second introduction meeting tentatively scheduled for September/October