

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**Rail Safety Division
Rail Transit Safety Branch**

**Resolution ST-234
July 16, 2026**

R E S O L U T I O N

Resolution ST-234. Granting Approval of the Final Report on the 2019 Triennial Security Review of the San Francisco International Airport AirTrain Automated People Mover.

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

- Approval of the Final Report of the 2019 Triennial On-site Security Review of San Francisco International Airport AirTrain Automated People Mover system.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

- This resolution considers the safety and security of the public and employees who might be affected by the AirTrain system. The resolution approves a review report required every three years to comprehensively assess, evaluate, and improve safety and security of a rail transit system.

ESTIMATED COST:

- There are no costs associated with this resolution.

SUMMARY

This resolution approves the California Public Utilities Commission Rail Safety Division final report titled, "2019 Triennial Security Review of the "San Francisco International Airport AirTrain," dated January 21, 2021. The report compiles the results of Commission Staff review of the San Francisco International Airport AirTrain (AirTrain) security program. The review identified three Findings of Non-compliance and Staff made three recommendations for corrective actions.

BACKGROUND

Commission General Order (GO) No. 164-E, "*Rules and Regulations Governing State Safety Oversight of Rail Fixed Guideway Systems*" requires Commission Staff (Staff) to conduct on-site safety¹ and on-site security review of the transit agencies operating rail fixed guideway systems triennially.

From 1996 to 2008, the Commission's Rail Transit Safety Branch (RTSB) partnered with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in performing rail transit security reviews. However, in the latter half of 2008, RTSB took over the responsibility of security reviews from the TSA.

Staff conducted an on-site security review of the AirTrain security program in June 2019. The AirTrain operates 24 hours, 7 days a week along its six-mile system, providing free service throughout the San Francisco International Airport.

A full description of the system, along with the security review, including the scope, results, and recommendations, is contained in the final security review report identified in this resolution as Attachment A.

Staff found three non-compliances during the review. Activities of each checklist can be found in Section C of the security report.

Staff sent Airport AirTrain Administration Office (AAO) a copy of the draft security review report for a 30-day comment period on October 20, 2020. AirTrain responded electronically with no comments on the draft security review report, on November 2, 2020.

Scope of Security Review

Commission Staff conducted its security review in accordance both with guidance and training from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 659. Section 659.23 of the Code of Federal Regulations defines the requirements for a System Security Plan (SSP) for rail transit agencies.

According to section 659.23, the system security plan must, at a minimum, address the following:

¹ Staff's safety review and report, "*2019 Triennial Safety Review of San Francisco International Airport AirTrain*" is being brought before the Commission concurrently in Resolution ST-233.

- (a) Identify the policies, goals, and objectives for the security program endorsed by the agency's chief executive.
- (b) Document the rail transit agency's process for managing threats and vulnerabilities during operations, and for major projects, extensions, new vehicles and equipment, including integration with the safety certification process;
- (c) Identify controls in place that address the personal security of passengers and employees;
- (d) Document the rail transit agency's process for conducting internal security reviews to evaluate compliance and measure the effectiveness of the system security plan; and
- (e) Document the rail transit agency's process for making its system security plan and accompanying procedures available to the oversight agency for review and approval.

Section 659.23 provides the basis for the five security checklists that guided Staff's review of the AirTrain security program. Staff evaluated the AirTrain security plans and procedures to determine whether they comply with the requirements of section 659.23. The triennial security review evaluates whether AirTrain has defined necessary security activities, established responsibilities and accountability, set priorities, provided employee training, developed information distribution and controls, and developed monitoring and feedback loops to determine effectiveness of the security plans and procedures.

Each Staff member involved in the security review received training from the FTA. All staff successfully passed the Transit System Security training course, which provides in-depth instruction on the federal security plan requirements, typical methods of compliance, and industry best practices.

Moreover, all Staff in the Rail Transit Safety Branch take the FTA Rail System Security course as part of their overall training. This allows Staff members, out in the field, to identify security concerns at all times when conducting general oversight activities or inspecting transit agency facilities and operations, not just during the triennial security review period. Staff evaluates and identifies security issues in the field, which are immediately discussed with the appropriate transit agency personnel to initiate the process for addressing the concern.

DISCUSSION

The final report, *"2019 Triennial Security Review of the San Francisco International Airport AirTrain,"* dated October 20, 2020, included as Attachment A, identifies Staff's activities for each of the five Federal Transit Administration security elements evaluated during the security review. Staff concluded that AirTrain overall demonstrated compliance with both statutory and regulatory obligations and its SSP, except for three findings.

For the purpose of the security reviews, "security" means the general areas identified in the FTA requirements of Section 659.23. Staff inquiries during the review examine whether the processes and procedures adopted by AirTrain are implemented in accordance with statute and the AirTrain SSP. Staff do not evaluate AirTrain's response to specific crimes or events, except during evaluations to ensure processes and procedures in place are implemented as intended. Specific crimes and criminal behavior that may occur on trains and stations are considered outside of scope of the review and are handled by the local jurisdiction's police department.

Staff recommends the Commission approve the final security review report titled, *"2019 Triennial Security Review of the San Francisco International Airport AirTrain,"* dated January 20, 2021.

COMMENTS

Public Utilities Code section 311(g)(1) provides that this Resolution must be served on all parties and subject to at least 30 days public review. Any comments are due within 20 days of the date of its mailing and publication on the Commission's website and in accordance with any instructions accompanying the notice. Section 311(g)(2) provides that this 30-day review period and 20-day comment period may be reduced or waived upon the stipulation of all parties in the proceeding.

The 30-day review and 20-day comment period for the draft of this resolution was neither waived nor reduced. Accordingly, this draft resolution was mailed to parties for comments and will be placed on the Commission's agenda no earlier than 30 days from today. No comments were received.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

1. The Rail Safety Division RTSB staff conducted an on-site security review of AirTrain on June 17, 2020. Staff conducted a post-review exit conference with AirTrain management to discuss preliminary findings on January 24, 2020.

2. The inquiries and activities conducted for each security area covered during the review are described in the individual review checklists in the final report included as Attachment A to this Resolution.
3. Three Findings of Non-compliance were identified during the security review.
4. AirTrain has developed and implemented corrective action plans for all the areas of non-compliance identified in the report and all of the findings and recommendations contained in the report have been closed out to Staff's satisfaction.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Rail Safety Division's request for approval of the final security review report titled, *"2019 Triennial Security Review of San Francisco International Airport AirTrain,"* dated October 20, 2020, is granted.
2. This Resolution is effective today.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed, and adopted at a conference of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California held on July 16, 2026; the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

_____/s/Leuwam Tesfai_____
LEUWAM TESFAI
Executive Director

JOHN REYNOLDS
President

DARCIE L. HOUCK
KAREN DOUGLAS
MATTHEW BAKER
CHRISTINE HARADA
Commissioners

Dated July 16, 2026, at San Francisco, California

ATTACHMENT A

2018 Triennial Security Review Report of
San Francisco International Airport AirTrain

CS# 611507282

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?docformat=ALL&DocID=611507282>