

FACT SHEET: *BART to Silicon Valley*

Extension to Milpitas, San Jose and Santa Clara

Overview

The Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) to Silicon Valley Project consists of an extension of the existing BART regional heavy rail system to San Jose, Milpitas and Santa Clara. The BART Extension to Silicon Valley will extend over 16 miles along the existing Union Pacific Railroad alignment south of the planned Warm Springs Station in Fremont. When completed, this fully grade-separated project will include: six stations – one in Milpitas, four in San Jose and one in Santa Clara; a 5-mile tunnel in downtown San Jose; and a new maintenance and storage facility in Santa Clara.

Project Benefits

- **Improves Connectivity:** VTA's new BART extension will connect Santa Clara County residents to the existing 104-mile BART system servicing major destinations in the Bay Area. The project will provide enhanced commuter connections to VTA Light Rail and Buses, Caltrain, ACE, Capitol Corridor and Amtrak, with potential connections to San Jose Mineta International Airport and High Speed Rail.
- **Supports the Economy:** This project would create over 2,400 temporary and up to 7,000 permanent jobs in the region while supporting local and regional transit-oriented development along the corridor. The project provides a high return on investment: for every dollar spent on construction, operations and maintenance, approximately 4 to 10 dollars would be returned to the region.
- **Enhances the Community:** BART to Silicon Valley creates more options for where we live, work and play. The project will connect Silicon Valley residents to the rest of the Bay Area region and offer a new transit option serving downtown San Jose, San Jose State University, HP Pavilion, Santa Clara University, major employment and shopping centers, and other cultural destinations.
- **Responsible to the Environment:** Taking cars off congested corridors shortens travel times and eliminates 16,000 tons of green house gases per year, decreasing foreign oil dependency and global warming.

Project Support

- In 2000, over 70% of Santa Clara County voters approved a 30-year, half-cent local sales tax measure for transit.
- In 2008, over 66% of Santa Clara County voters approved an additional one-eighth cent sales tax, to cover BART to Silicon Valley's annual operating and maintenance expenses once state and federal funding has been secured.
- Supported locally and regionally by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, San Jose Chamber of Commerce, local governments, and other labor and business organizations.
- The Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the transportation planning and financing agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area, has included the project in the current Regional Transportation Plan.

What's Next

- VTA has established an ongoing working relationship with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to apply for federal grants to support funding needs.
- Federal environmental clearance is expected in 2010.

How to Reach Us

For more information on the BART Extension please contact VTA-BART Community Outreach (408) 934-2662, TTY for the hearing impaired (408) 321-2330. You may also visit us on the web at www.vta.org/bart, or email us at vtabart@vta.org



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the way!**

BART to Silicon Valley Extension

