



Date: May 1, 2007
 Committee Meeting Date: May 9, 2007
 Board Meeting Date: N/A
 ACTION DISCUSSION X INFO

BOARD MEMORANDUM

TO: 2000 Measure A Citizens Watchdog Committee
 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
 Board of Directors

THROUGH: Michael T. Burns
 General Manager

FROM: Jim Lawson
 Government Affairs Manager

SUBJECT: Draft Citizens Watchdog Committee Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and provide input on the draft Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2006 (FY06).

BACKGROUND:

In November 2000, Santa Clara County voters approved Measure A, a 30-year half cent sales tax devoted to transit projects. The Measure A ballot specified that, among other duties, the Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) must review all 2000 Measure A expenditures, have an independent audit conducted each fiscal year, hold public hearings and issue reports at least annually to inform Santa Clara County residents how the funds are being spent, and publish the results of the independent audit and the annual report in local newspapers.

In fulfillment of its ballot-defined responsibilities, for the period of FY06 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2006) the CWC has:

- Completed its review of 2000 Measure A expenditures.
- Had an independent audit conducted of the 2000 Measure A financial statements and records.
- On April 9, 2007 published in local newspapers the results of the independent audit.
- On April 11, 2007 conducted a public hearing to receive input from the community on 2000 Measure A Program expenditures, the results of the annual independent audit, and on 2000 Measure A Program reports.

The final step is development of the inaugural CWC Annual Report stating the Committee's conclusion on whether, for FY06, 2000 Measure A tax dollars were being spent in accordance with the intent of the measure. This report will be published in local newspapers.

DISCUSSION

Submitted for Committee review and input is the draft CWC Annual Report for FY06. It briefly describes the 2000 Measure A Program, its history and its current status. It also will need to indicate the Committee's conclusion on whether the whether 2000 Measure A tax dollars are being spent in accordance with the intent of the measure. The draft report lists all CAC/CWC members and the final report will include the chairperson's signature.

After review and input by the Committee, staff will incorporate comments and submit the final version for CWC adoption at its next meeting.

It is projected that the CWC Annual report will be published in general circulation newspapers in VTA's service area, including non-English publications (Spanish and Vietnamese). . It will also be prominently posted on VTA's website. This is the same method used to publicly notice the community of the public hearing conducted by the Committee in April. It is projected that the Annual Report could, at the earliest, be published in June

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