

October 15, 2007

Board of Directors
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
3331 North First Street
San Jose, CA 95134-1927

Dear VTA Board of Directors:

Although you have taken action to adopt the Revised VTA Service Plan, the Disability Advisory Commission of the City of San Jose would like to inform you of our concern that some of the bus route changes will have a greater detrimental impact on people with disabilities than riders without disabilities. We would encourage you to closely monitor these impacts and be prepared to make mitigating changes if the impacts on people with disabilities are significant.

In particular, we feel the elimination of route 85 is a great disservice to people with disabilities and low income people living in the downtown San Jose area who must go to Valley Medical Center for their medical care. Many of them rely on the 85 line to give direct access to medical care. When people are sick, the trip in the weather, whether hot or cold and rainy, is detrimental to their health. Adding one or two transfers where there may not be adequate shelter will make the trip even harder and more dangerous to the health of people who are sick or have health problems.

We urge you not to eliminate this valuable service route.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

Disability Advisory Commission, City of San Jose
Susan Espinoza, Chair

cc: San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed
San Jose City Council Members
Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA), VT