



MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 17, 2007

TO: Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor Policy Advisory Board
BART Extension to Milpitas, San Jose and Santa Clara

FROM: Marian Lee-Skowronek, Principal Planner
Congestion Management and Planning

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marian Lee-Skowronek', is written over the 'FROM:' field.

SUBJECT: BART Core Improvement Study – April 2007

FOR DECISION

Recommendation

VTA and BART staff request PAB approval to update the BART Core Improvement Study.

Background

In 2001, BART and VTA entered into an agreement to identify BART core system improvements to support the SVRT project. Under this agreement, two studies were completed: BART Core Systems Impact; and Systems Integration Modification Analysis. Station improvements included modifications to the station platforms and additional escalators, stairs and fare gates. System improvements considered modifications to central control, traction power and ventilation facilities.

BART Core Improvement Study Update

In 2006, VTA updated ridership estimates for the supplemental state environmental document, which is focused on evaluating design options developed in 35% engineering. The updated ridership estimate is approximately 104,000, which is 25% higher than the previous ridership estimate developed in 2003. There is a need to assess if additional core system improvements are necessary to support the higher ridership resulting from changing the planning horizon from 2025 to 2030 and using the regionally adopted land use projections in the travel forecast model based on FTA guidance.

VTA and BART staff are proposing to conduct a study that would include the following key work tasks:

- Reviewing the assumptions and methodologies established in the original study
- Establishing key baselines that will assist in proportioning the costs
- Developing and administering a BART station access survey
- Evaluating access improvements and TSM (Transportation System Management) strategies
- Completing a focused station capacity analyses and developing station improvement plans
- Evaluating operational tools and their application to BART station capacity
- Identifying improvements to system facilities including traction power, train control, central/integrated control system, yards and shops and ventilation.

With additional funding in a separate effort, improvements to central control and core parking will be environmental cleared by VTA in partnership with BART.

The evaluation is scheduled to be completed in December 2008. The total budget for the recommended study is \$3.7 million and VTA's contribution is up to \$3.2 million. With PAB approval, VTA and BART staff will finalize the workscope, budget and master schedule. This information will be included in an Implementation Letter that will formalize VTA and BART agreements on conducting the study.