

**From:** Board.Secretary  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 21, 2008 4:43 PM  
**To:** Board.Secretary  
**Cc:** Burns, Michael  
**Subject:** VTA Governance

To VTA Board of Directors:

Attached are the letters we received from the City of Milpitas and the Town of Los Gatos regarding the VTA Governance. Thank you.

Yolanda L. Cruz  
Assistant Board Secretary  
VTA Office of the Board Secretary  
Voice: 408.321.5669 Fax: 408.955.0891

May 2, 2008

Director Greg Sellers  
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Board of Directors  
3331 North First Street  
San Jose, CA 95134

RE: Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)  
Board Governance Recommendations

Dear Director Sellers,

Thank you for attending the April 15, 2008 Milpitas City Council meeting to present the recommendations prepared by the VTA Governance Committee regarding VTA Board Governance. Milpitas appreciates your efforts to help better organize the VTA Board in a manner that better aligns regional interest. It has always been a great challenge to strengthen the Board and to ensure representation of the transportation needs of the entire Santa Clara County.

At the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, the City Council voted unanimously to support the VTA Board Governance Recommendations including:

#### Geographic Equity

Milpitas supports the recommendation to restructure the City Group Seat Representations so that Milpitas would share two (2) Board Seats and one (1) Alternate Seat with the City of Santa Clara and the City of Sunnyvale in a new North East Group

#### Eliminate City Rotation and Introduce "Regional Representative" Concept

Although supportive of this recommendation, Milpitas requests that the VTA coordinate meetings between the proposed City Groups so that the development of Regional Representative Criteria would be clearly defined

#### 4 Year versus 2 Year Term Limits

VTA Directors will still service two year terms but appointments by the appointing authorities should be encouraged to reappoint representatives to consecutive terms

#### Regional Representative Election Process

The criteria for the establishment of Regional Representatives within the proposed City Groups must clearly identified

Milpitas requests that the immediately coordinate discussions between elected officials from the Milpitas, Sunnyvale, and Santa Clara to discuss the development of Regional Representative Criteria for the new North East Group.

The City of Milpitas supports your efforts to improve the VTA Board Governance. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 408-586-3050 or Greg Armendariz, Public Works Director/City Engineer at 408-586-3317.

Sincerely,

Jose Esteves  
Mayor

cc: Milpitas City Council  
VTA Board of Directors  
Jim Lawson, VTA Government Affairs Manager

May 15, 2008

Liz Kniss  
Chairperson  
Board of Directors  
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
3331 North First Street, Building B-2  
San Jose, CA 95134-1927

Subject: VTA Governance

Dear Chairperson Kniss:

On behalf of the Town Council, I would like to communicate our support of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) governance changes as they adhere to the past practices of the West Valley City grouping.

However, I am also writing to inform you that our Town Council voted unanimously to join the other West Valley Cities in opposing the proposed reassignment of Los Altos Hills into our grouping.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

BARBARA SPECTOR  
Mayor

cc: Town Council  
Greg Larson, Town Manager  
Orry Korb, Town Attorney  
Jim Lawson, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority – Government Affairs Office

From: Board.Secretary  
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2008 2:00 PM  
To: Board.Secretary  
Cc: Burns, Michael  
Subject: Response to Mr. Eugene Bradley

To VTA Board of Directors:

Attached is the response from the Chief Operations Officer to Mr. Eugene Bradley's concerns and comments made at the April and May 2008 VTA Board of Directors meeting regarding the Light Rail Vehicle Passenger Emergency Evacuation Procedures.

Please contact Mr. Dan Smith, VTA Chief Operations Officer at (408) 321-7005 if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Yolanda L. Cruz  
Assistant Board Secretary  
VTA Office of the Board Secretary  
Voice: 408.321.5669 Fax: 408.955.0891

May 21, 2008

Mr. Eugene Bradley, President  
Santa Clara VTA Riders Union

Re: Light Rail Vehicle Passenger Emergency Evacuation Procedures

Dear Mr. Bradley:

This letter is in response to your concerns and comments made at the April and May 2008 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Board of Directors meetings concerning light rail vehicle passenger emergency evacuation procedures. I would like to thank you and assure you that we share your concern.

To address this issue, we have formed a committee of knowledgeable safety, security, communications, and operations staff and have evaluated similar procedures from other agencies to design and create procedures for our customers that will be prominently posted inside every rail vehicle. The procedures will be designed to ensure customers know how and when to exit a light rail vehicle safely during an emergency.

I also want to assure you that all light rail operators, supervisors, and control center personnel are trained in evacuation procedures and have recently undergone refresher training to ensure that they are prepared to respond in the event of an emergency.

VTA also routinely conducts access and emergency training for police, fire, and other first-response agencies in Santa Clara County.

Thank you again for raising the concern. We will be posting procedures in light rail vehicles in the near future.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Smith, Jr.  
Chief Operating Officer

c: Michael T. Burns, VTA General Manager  
VTA Board of Directors