



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ April 19, 2006  
Committee Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_ NA  
Board Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_ May 4, 2006  
ACTION  DISCUSSION  INFO

**BOARD MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
Board of Directors

**THROUGH:** Michael T. Burns  
General Manager

**FROM:** Kurt Evans  
Government Affairs Manager

**SUBJECT:** Resolution for Senator Alfred E. Alquist

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution of Commendation for Senator Alfred E. Alquist.

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

On March 27, 2006, Senator Alfred E. Alquist, a long-time leader in the California State Legislature and a strong supporter of public transportation, passed away at the age of 97.

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) owes Senator Alquist a huge debt of gratitude for all of his tireless efforts in the area of transportation during his many years of dedicated public service. He will long be remembered for the legislation he authored that resulted in the creation and funding of a public transit system in Santa Clara County, the development of the multi-modal transportation network that we have today, and the evolution of VTA's organizational structure. His legacy in transportation will live on.

It is fitting for the Board of Directors to honor and pay special tribute to Senator Alquist for his years of outstanding service and many achievements as a member of the California State Legislature.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Because of his efforts in transportation during his legislative career, we believe Senator Alquist is deserving of this honor.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this recommendation.

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
GIVING SPECIAL TRIBUTE, DUE HONOR AND RECOGNITION TO  
SENATOR ALFRED E. ALQUIST**

WHEREAS, it was with deep sadness that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority learned of the passing of Senator Alfred E. Alquist, a long-time leader in the California State Legislature and a strong supporter of public transportation, on March 27, 2006, at the age of 97; and

WHEREAS, Senator Alfred E. Alquist tirelessly represented the people of Santa Clara County with honor and distinction for three decades in the California State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, during his years of public service in Sacramento, Senator Alfred E. Alquist distinguished himself as a strong supporter of public transportation in many ways, including authoring legislation that created a public transit system in Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, Senator Alfred E. Alquist recognized and championed the idea that a single, independent, special district responsible for public transit, highway construction, multi-modal transportation planning, and congestion management was the best way to meet the diverse transportation needs of Silicon Valley, and, in 1996, served as the principal co-author of AB 2442 (authored by Assembly Member Dominic Cortese), a measure that gave birth to the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the enactment of the legislation that created the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, Senator Alfred E. Alquist authored several important bills that were necessary for the evolution of the authority's organizational structure and for the efficient performance of its statutorily prescribed functions; and

WHEREAS, Senator Alfred E. Alquist authored the Transportation Development Act (TDA), which shifted a quarter cent of the state sales taxes to counties for mass transportation purposes and provided an ongoing revenue source for the operating and capital needs of not only the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, but also public transit systems all across California; and

WHEREAS, Senator Alfred E. Alquist successfully advocated for an amendment to the California Constitution to allow gasoline excise tax revenues to be used for mass transportation capital purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority owes Senator Alfred E. Alquist a huge debt of gratitude for all of his relentless efforts in the area of transportation during his many years of dedicated public service.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority does hereby give special tribute, due honor and recognition to Senator Alfred E. Alquist for his years of distinguished service to Santa Clara County as a member of the California State Legislature and for the legacy that he has left behind in the area of transportation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Board of Directors on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 2006 by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTORS

NOES: DIRECTORS

ABSENT: DIRECTORS

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Cindy Chavez, Chairperson  
Board of Directors

ATTEST:

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MARIA MARINOS, Secretary  
Board of Directors