



Date: July 11, 2006  
 Committee Meeting Date: July 20, 2006  
 Board Meeting Date: August 3, 2006  
 ACTION X DISCUSSION        INFO       

**BOARD MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Committee of the Whole  
 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
 Board of Directors

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

**FROM:** Donald A. Smith, Jr.  
 Chief Operating Officer

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is 'Michael T. Burns' and the bottom signature is 'Donald A. Smith, Jr.'.

**SUBJECT:** FY2005 Transit Security Grant Program

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize the General Manager to increase the FY2007 Capital Budget by \$742,050 to include the FY2005 Transit Security Grant awarded to VTA for the purchase and installation of cameras on 20 light rail vehicles and CCTV video on demand at the Great Mall/Main and Hamilton light rail stations. In addition, adopt a Resolution authorizing the submittal and execution of grant applications and agreements, certifications and assurances and other documents as necessary to obtain federal financial assistance provided by the US Department of Homeland Security Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP). No local funds are required to match this grant.

**BACKGROUND:**

Video on demand allows images to be viewed remotely, in real time, if desired. VTA has CCTV video on demand at all of its operating divisions and implemented a pilot video on demand program at the Ohlone/Chynoweth Light Rail Station and the Eastridge Transit Center that went live in January 2005. Video on demand is also in use at the San Jose Diridon Station which records activity on the platform and the tunnel.

Along with the CCTV video on demand program, VTA also has cameras on 324 buses and 80 light rail vehicles. With the assistance of this technology, the County of Santa Clara Office of the Sheriff - Transit Patrol Division has made 65 arrests and cleared 530 individual cases, mostly for graffiti and vandalism. All arrests resulted in convictions. Other types of criminal activities were also solved with the use of VTA's video on demand or cameras on revenue vehicles programs.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The FY2005 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act provided funds for a discretionary grant program to address security and preparedness enhancements for rail and bus transit systems. The Governor of the State of California designated the Office of Domestic Preparedness as the State Administrative Agency (SAA) to administer the funds for security and preparedness enhancements for bus and rail transit systems. For the FY2005 grant cycle, VTA was identified as an eligible rail transit property. Funding allocations for rail properties was determined using a formula based on ridership, track miles, number of stations and degree of threat. For the FY2005 TSGP, VTA was deemed ineligible to receive security funding for bus. The regional funding allocations for bus were based on ridership.

For the FY2006 grant cycle, VTA is eligible to compete for \$8.4 million for the Bay Area regional rail allocation and \$2.1 million for the regional bus allocation. The priority for this grant is the protection of underground operations from improvised explosive devices.

The FY2005 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) includes a requirement that the eligible rail transit systems selected for funding adopt a Resolution to authorize the submittal and execution of grant applications and agreements, certifications and assurances and other documents as necessary to obtain federal financial assistance provided by the ODP and participate in a Regional Transit Security Working Group (RTSWG). The purpose of the RTSWG is to develop Regional Transit Security Strategies (RTSS) as well as a regional consensus on the expenditure of FY2005 TSGP funds. The following transit agencies are members of the RTSWG (for the urbanized area of Oakland, San Francisco and San Jose) and are collective recipients of \$7,075,000 in rail grant funding:

- Altamont Commuter Express Authority – ACE
- Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board - Caltrain
- San Francisco Bay Area Transit District - BART
- San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority – MUNI
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority – VTA

Of the \$7,075,000 FY2005 TSGP rail allocation, VTA was awarded \$742,050. The Office of Homeland Security has approved VTA's request to allocate the funds to purchase and install cameras on 20 light rail vehicles, which was approved by the Board of Directors at its May 4, 2006 meeting, and purchase and install CCTV video on demand at the Great Mall/Main and Hamilton Light Rail Stations. These light rail station locations were selected based on station design, ridership, and security related activity.

Cameras on light rail vehicles and CCTV video on demand complement the existing "Safe Place" program for our customers and will also serve as a deterrent of security related incidents.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

The Board of Directors could choose not to accept the grant or select other rail related security projects.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The FY2007 Capital Budget will be increased by \$742,050. These funds will be used to equip 20 light rail vehicles with cameras and expand the CCTV video on demand program. There is no local match to qualify for this grant; therefore there is no impact to VTA's FY2007 Capital Budget.

Prepared by: Luis Matos and Cathy Hendrix

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL AND EXECUTION OF  
GRANT APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS, CERTIFICATIONS AND  
ASSURANCES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR  
THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND SUBGRANTED THROUGH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

WHEREAS, the United States (U.S.) Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provides federal financial assistance to eligible grantees, and

WHEREAS, the California Governor's Office of Homeland Security (OHS) is the grantee for U.S. DHS federal funds in the State of California, and

WHEREAS, the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is an eligible subgrantee for DHS funding through the California OHS:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority that the General Manager is hereby authorized to file and execute grant applications and grant agreements, certifications, assurances, and other documents as may be necessary for the purpose of obtaining federal financial assistance provided by the Federal DHS and subgranted through the State of California Governor's OHS.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Board of Directors on August 3, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CINDY CHAVEZ, Chairperson  
Board of Directors

I HEREBY CERTIFY AND ATTEST that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced, passed and adopted by the vote of a majority of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, California, at a meeting of said Board of Directors on the date indicated, as set forth above.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARIA MARINOS, Secretary  
Board of Directors

APPROVED AS FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Counsel