

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ September 10, 2007

Committee Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_ N/A

Board Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_ October 4, 2007

**BOARD MEMORANDUM**

ACTION   X   DISCUSSION \_\_\_\_\_ INFO \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**FROM:** Jim Lawson  
Government Affairs Manager

**SUBJECT:** Citizens Advisory Committee Appointment

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**Policy-Related Action: No**

**Government Code Section 84308 Applies: No**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Ratify the appointment of Judi Kirkham to the Citizens Advisory Committee position representing the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is a 17-member committee representing the city/county groupings of the VTA Board of Directors, specified community interests, and business and labor groups with an interest in transportation. The CAC advises the Board on issues of interest to the committee's members and the communities and organizations they represent. It also serves as the ballot-specified Citizens Watchdog Committee for the 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program.

The CAC bylaws require that a committee member must be a resident of Santa Clara County while on the committee and cannot hold elected public office. The membership term is continuous, with the member serving until resignation or replacement by their nominating organization or the VTA Board.

The process to fill CAC vacancies, as defined by the bylaws, is that member agencies and specified business and labor groups appoint potential members for designated membership positions. For the six community interests positions, the Administration & Finance Committee

appoints one member per position from nominations submitted by advocacy groups or received at-large. In all cases, the VTA Board must ratify the appointment.

**DISCUSSION:**

The VTA Administrative Code establishes the membership of the CAC. Five of the 17 members are appointed by specified business and labor groups, one of which represents the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council (SBLC).

The position representing the SBLC is currently vacant due to the resignation of its representative, Irene Hsu, who served for several years but left to pursue employment opportunities out of the area. To address this vacancy, the SBLC has appointed Ms. Judi Kirkham to fill this position.

Ms. Kirkham, a Campbell resident, is an organizer with SEIU Local 521 (formerly Local 715), one of the labor organizations that represents union members employed by VTA. Ms. Kirkham is also the elected vice president of her local. She is a California native and has lived in Santa Clara County since 2003. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from San Diego State University. Prior to joining Local 521, she worked in public service as an employment social worker for the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency.

Due to her knowledge and experience with transportation issues and her familiarity with VTA, staff recommends that the Board ratify this appointment.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

There are no practical alternatives to this recommendation.

Prepared by: Stephen Flynn, Sr. Management Analyst