



To: Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Board of Directors

From Margie Fernandes, Chair
Nominating Committee

Date: 1/9/97

Subject: Proposed Nominating Process for Chair and Vice Chair Offices

Recommendation

The Nominating Committee recommends that the Board approve the proposed nomination system for Chair and Vice Chair positions, as described below, to ensure that Board leadership is shared equitably among the five city and county groups.

Background

In the process of preparing the nominations for the 1997 Chair and Vice Chair, the Nominating Committee, composed of Board members Pete Valdez, Manny Valerio, and Margie Fernandes, identified the need to establish a formal process for balancing Board leadership between the smaller city groups and the San Jose and County delegations. At the December Transportation Authority meeting, the Board gave the Committee direction to develop a rotation process.

Analysis

The Nominating Committee proposes the following system. Beginning in 1998, the nominations for chair and vice chair would alternate between Groups 2, 3, and 4 (smaller cities) and Groups 1 and 5 (San Jose and the County) on a yearly basis. In this way, in any given year one of the positions would be filled by a smaller city and the other would be filled by a San Jose or County representative.

Any Board member can be nominated for the position that is assigned to his or her collective group. This arrangement would ensure a leadership balance between the smaller cities and the groups representing larger populations, while still allowing the Board to choose the most qualified and motivated candidates within each of the groups.

Provided the Board approves the slate of Board officers recommended by the nominating committee for 1997 -consisting of Group 2 representative Pat Figueroa as Chair and Group 1 representative Charlotte Powers as Vice Chair -we propose that the rotation process begin in 1998 with nominations from Groups 1 and 5 for the Chair position and from Groups 2 - 4 for the vice chair position.