

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ February 22, 2008

Committee Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_ February 21, 2008

Board Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_ March 6, 2008

**BOARD MEMORANDUM**

**ACTION ITEM**

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

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

**FROM:** John H. Ristow  
Chief CMA Officer

**SUBJECT:** VTP 2035 - Project List Submittal to the Metropolitan Transportation  
Commission (MTC)

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**Policy-Related Action: Yes**

**Government Code Section 84308 Applies: No**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the VTP 2035 Project lists for submittal to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

**BACKGROUND:**

VTA is in the process of its periodic update of the countywide Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) which establishes a long-range transportation program for Santa Clara County. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission is also in the process of updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The VTP and RTP planning efforts are proceeding on similar timelines that will conclude in late 2008 and early 2009 with plan adoptions. Both plans cover a 25-year timeframe through year 2035.

In September 2007, VTA issued a call for transportation projects to all Santa Clara County local agency governments and transportation agencies such as Caltrans, Caltrain and ACE. The call requested that each agency provide updated project information and new projects for inclusion in VTP. In early January 2008, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) issued an RTP call for projects to all Congestion Management Agencies and the public with a due date of March 5, 2008. The projects listed in VTA's countywide plan typically serve as the projects submitted to MTC for inclusion in the RTP.

**DISCUSSION:**

On February 4, 2008, staff convened a special VTP Project List workshop with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Staff presented the issues associated with, and an analysis of, the MTC 2035 funding estimate for Santa Clara County. This estimate will provide the base for

developing program area fund allocations for VTP 2035. In addition, the draft project lists were reviewed and consensus on a strategy for developing constrained lists was reached. At the February 2008 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting, staff will present a refined draft list of projects within proposed program area allocations. The TAC may propose revisions to the projects lists or program area allocations which would be communicated to the CMPP at its February meeting. Further adjustments to these lists may result from input received during the February CMPP Committee meeting or the March Board meeting. Ultimately the draft list (Attachment A) will be submitted to MTC for consideration in the RTP. Following the March project submittal, MTC will engage its Commission, Congestion Management Agencies, and the public in a discussion of policies related to the funding of projects and programs, and strategies for implementing the regional vision and goals. These discussions will provide additional time to refine the RTP constrained project lists. Accordingly, the draft VTP project lists are a work-in-progress that will undergo further refinements over the coming months.

Attachment B provides an overview of the current schedule of key RTP and VTP events.

Attachment C lists the Project Prioritization Criteria, for Highway; Local Streets and Roads; Bicycle; Expressway and Transit projects, which was previously adopted by the VTA Board of Directors.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The Board may revise the project lists or choose not to submit a list the MTC.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no direct fiscal impact to this action.

**STANDING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION:**

The Congestion Management Program and Planning Committee received a staff presentation on the item on February 21, 2008. Staff described the process undertaken in coordination with local agencies to develop the list of projects. Staff also reported that the Technical Advisory Committee is convening a special meeting on February 26, 2008 to make final revisions and updates to the list. The Committee recommended unanimously to the Board to approve the list as amended by the Technical Advisory Committee.

Due to timing of the preparation of the final Board memorandum, VTA staff will submit the final draft project list (Attachment A) under separate cover.

Prepared by: John Sighamony, Senior Planner

Reviewed by: Chris Augenstein, Deputy Director, Planning

Attachment A: Draft VTP 2035 Project Lists

Attachment B: VTP Program Area Criteria

Attachment C: VTP and RTP Key Event timelines