



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP MEETING**

**Friday, November 14, 2008**

### **NOTICE OF POSTPONED WORKSHOP**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Workshop of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority scheduled for November 14, 2008, has been rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts and will be incorporated into the Board of Directors Regular Meeting Agenda of December 11, 2008.

The regular meeting is scheduled to start at 9:00 a.m. with the workshop commencing at 9:30 a.m. The meeting/workshop will be held in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers, Santa Clara County Building, 70 West Hedding, San Jose, California.

Deborah Harrington, Board Secretary  
VTA Board of Directors



Date: November 6, 2008  
 Current Meeting: November 14, 2008  
 Board Meeting: November 14, 2008

## **BOARD MEMORANDUM**

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

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

**FROM:** Chief SVRT Program Officer, Carolyn M. Gonot

**SUBJECT:** Measure A Program Update Process

---

### **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

On April 25, 2008, the VTA Board of Directors participated in a workshop concerning the Measure A Program. The workshop included an update on the Measure A Program, a presentation and discussion on the proposed Policy Guidance for the Measure A Plan, a presentation on the Measure A Financial Planning Structure and Process, and a presentation on the June 2006 Measure A Updated Financial Analysis. The updated financial analysis of the Measure A Plan adopted in June 2006 showed that there are funding shortfalls in delivering the entire Measure A Program.

In May 2008, the Advisory Committees and the Standing Committees of the Board reviewed the recommended Policy Guidance for the Measure A Plan. On June 5, 2008, the Board approved the Policy Guidance.

The November 14, 2008 Board Workshop will include a recommended approach for developing the Measure A Plan, including capital budgeting of the Measure A Program.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The Measure A Program is a thirty-year program funded by a number of revenue sources. Changes in the political landscape as well as the financial crisis facing the state and the nation will affect many of these revenues and will present challenges and opportunities for VTA to explore.

Staff is recommending an approach for planning and capital budgeting for the Measure A Program that will align the Measure A capital budget with VTA's biennial operating and capital budget approval cycle. Specifically:

1. Development of a two-year capital program for Measure A. As a part of the biennial budget process, the Board will approve a two-year capital program for the Measure A program. The development of the two-year Measure A capital program will include the definition of project development and implementation activities that will occur in the two-year budget cycle and its related estimated expenses.
2. An accounting for obligated Measure A funds. The accounting for obligated funds will include the cost for any Measure A project or program activity that allocates or commits funds past the two-year capital program budget adopted in VTA's biennial budget. The total amount of the funds required to complete these program activities would be deducted from the Measure A Program balance of secured and projected funds from known sources. The remaining available Measure A Program balance would be reflected in this accounting.
3. Review of the "Portfolio of Plans." As part of the Measure A Program planning and capital budgeting process, management will provide the Board with a review of the "portfolio of plans" that anticipates the advancement of the Measure A Program under a variety of financial alternatives.

This recommended approach provides for an action plan to move projects forward in the short-term and understand challenges and pursue opportunities in the long-term for completing the Measure A program. In addition, the proposed two-year capital budget and the "portfolio of plans" will satisfy the Measure A Revenue and Expenditure Plan Policy Guidance approved by the VTA Board.

The workshop will provide for discussion of this approach to the Measure A Program. The workshop presentation will also include a discussion of external factors and the possible impacts that these events could have on the Measure A program.

In the same manner VTA was committed to and completed all projects in the 1996 Measure B program, VTA is committed to completing all the projects in the Measure A program. Over the next two years, VTA will advance projects to a ready state and advocate for outside fund sources and matched funds to advance projects including potential public-private partnerships.

Over the next two months, staff will develop the two-year capital budget and the "portfolio of plans." It is anticipated that staff will present the Measure A plan at a future workshop. The two-year capital budget would then be incorporated into VTA's biennial budget that is considered at an April 2009 Board Workshop and adopted at the June 2009 Board Meeting.

Prepared By: Carolyn M. Gonot



Date: November 6, 2008  
 Current Meeting: November 14, 2008  
 Board Meeting: November 14, 2008

## **BOARD MEMORANDUM**

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

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

**FROM:** Chief SVRT Program Officer, Carolyn M. Gonot

**SUBJECT:** Status of Key Measure A Projects

---

### **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

#### **DISCUSSION:**

At the November 14, 2008 Board of Directors workshop, VTA staff will present the status of key Measure A Projects. The following four projects or program areas will have presentations: (1) BART Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor (SVRT) project; (2) Caltrain Electrification, Modernization, and Safety Improvements; (3) Light Rail Extension to Eastridge; and (4) Bus Rapid Transit. Each of these programs is either at key decision points and/or moving towards a board action for continued development.

#### **BART Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor**

The BART Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor (SVRT) project is in the federal environmental process, has completed 65% level of design, and is positioned to re-enter the federal New Starts process. However, to move into the federal New Starts process, VTA must have a funding plan to construct and operate BART in Santa Clara County.

Over the next six to nine months, staff will be finalizing the project implementation plan that defines an activity schedule for delivering the project and refines the project description for the final engineering phase. In addition, FTA will begin review of 65% engineering and the program management plan. All of these activities plus a federal Record of Decision (ROD) on the project will position the project to move into final design.

In September 2008, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission approved the Resolution 3434 Strategic Plan, which included a funding strategy to close the funding shortfall for the BART Warm Springs Extension. The first construction phase of the BART Warm Springs Extension project is ready for advertisement in February 2009 and is dependent on a commitment to a full funding plan for an extension of BART into Santa Clara County.

Currently, utility relocation and construction are moving forward in the freight rail corridor in Fremont and Milpitas. The freight rail relocation (FRR) activities fulfill VTA obligations under the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) and eliminate ongoing freight operations on VTA property. The FRR activities are compatible with the eventual use of the property as a transportation corridor but do not include SVRT project-level elements.

### **Caltrain Electrification, Modernization, and Safety Improvements**

The Caltrain Electrification program is one element of a larger modernization program for Caltrain. The Modernization Program is part of Caltrain's 2015 Plan. The Modernization Program would require a higher level of funding than electrification. The full benefits of electrification are dependent on several other program elements moving forward. Preliminary Engineering and a draft environmental document from Tamien to San Francisco is almost complete. Caltrain will soon be seeking funding for Final Engineering. The outcome of Proposition 1A (High Speed Rail) will have a significant affect on the schedule for electrification and future planning activities for the Caltrain corridor.

Ongoing Caltrain implementation activities funded by Measure A include grade crossing safety improvements along with station improvements at Santa Clara and San Jose Diridon. VTA staff will present an update of Caltrain planning and funding activities at the Board workshop.

### **Light Rail Extension to Eastridge**

VTA staff has completed design for the light rail extension to Eastridge to a 95% level. This project includes light rail improvements along Capitol Expressway from the existing Alum Rock Station to Eastridge. Current project activities involve the updating of appraisals for property acquisition for the 79 parcels required for the project. This appraisal work is expected to be completed by March 2009, after which the next activities would be utility relocation and right-of-way acquisition. Staff will provide an update of this project at the Board workshop.

### **Bus Rapid Transit**

Two Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) program activities are currently underway and will soon be coming to the Board for consideration: (1) completion of Conceptual Engineering studies and adoption of the Environmental Impact Report for near-term implementation of BRT in the Santa Clara and Alum Rock corridor, and; (2) the BRT Strategic Plan. VTA staff will present an update of both activities along with anticipated upcoming Board involvement.

Prepared By: Carolyn M. Gonot



Date: November 6, 2008  
 Current Meeting: November 14, 2008  
 Board Meeting: November 14, 2008

## BOARD MEMORANDUM

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

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

**FROM:** Chief SVRT Program Officer, Carolyn M. Gonot

**SUBJECT:** Planned Upcoming Board Actions for Measure A Projects

---

### FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The following Board Actions relating to Measure A projects and programs are planned for action in the first few months of 2009.

- Execute Cooperative agreement with Caltrain Joint Powers Board:
  - to complete the funding plan for Santa Clara Station and for San Jose Diridon Station Improvements;
  - for final engineering for the Caltrain Electrification project; and
  - for Caltrain planning efforts.
- Approve a full funding plan for a BART extension into Santa Clara County.
- Approve the commitment of \$16 million of State Local Partnership Program funds for the BART Warm Springs Extension project.
- Award contract for Caltrain South Improvements Phase 1.
- Approve contract amendments for SVRT Engineering and Planning Services Contract for SVRT Project Implementation Plan, federal New Starts and Environmental processes, and planning and engineering support activities.

In addition, the Board will have actions on the freight railroad relocation project for December 2008, including cooperative agreements for final engineering and right-of-way and the award of a construction contract in the Lower Berryessa Creek area.

Prepared By: Carolyn M. Gonot