



Light Rail Station Platform Retrofit Program

Guadalupe South Line Platform Retrofit Project

Overview

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority operates 42 miles of light rail service within Santa Clara County. In 2002 VTA began using low-floor light rail vehicles, which allow for level boarding and exiting between station platforms and vehicles without the use of steps, ramps or lifts.

VTA's older light rail stations, however, required retrofitting to raise the level of passenger boarding platforms to match the floor of the light rail vehicles. Without the retrofit work, access to the light rail vehicles requires stepping up approximately eight inches from the platform to the vehicle. This step limits access for mobility impaired individuals and requires them to utilize a lift or ramp to board the train.

Earlier phases of construction have retrofitted most light rail stations requiring modification. There are, however, 13 stations on the Alum Rock to Santa Teresa line and the Ohlone/Chynoweth to Almaden line that still require retrofitting.

Objective

To ease boarding and exiting from light rail vehicles by raising station platform levels approximately ten inches at the following stations: Children's Discovery Museum, Virginia, Tamien, Curtner, Capitol, Branham, Ohlone/Chynoweth, Oakridge, Almaden, Blossom Hill, Snell, Cottle and Santa Teresa.

Project Schedule

On-site construction activities are expected to begin in February 2008 and finish by March 2009. Work will proceed north to south, with construction activities at groups of stations lasting for nine to 15 weeks before being returned to service.

Two heavily-used stations, Tamien and Santa Teresa, will remain open during construction, while the other 11 stations will be closed during retrofit activities. The work is being sequenced so most station will be open during Fourth of July celebrations and also so stations near Oakridge Mall will not be affected during the holiday shopping season.

Tentative Station Construction Schedule—REVISED (May 5, 2008)

Phase	Stations	Station Closes	Station Reopens
#1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tamien (open during construction) 	Early February 2008	Mid April 2008
#2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children’s Discovery Museum ● Virginia 	February	Mid April
#3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Curtner ● Capitol ● Branham 	Mid April	Mid June
#4 A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Oakridge ● Almaden 	Mid June	Late August
#4 B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ohlone/Chynoweth 	Early July	Late August
#5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Blossom Hill ● Cottle 	Late August	Late November
#6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Snell ● Santa Teresa (Santa Teresa open during construction) 	Early December 2008	March 2009

Dates are subject to change

Impacts to Service, Stations

Substitute bus service will be available at or near each closed station. Please contact VTA Customer Service for trip planning services (contact information is provided below). Parking lots at closed stations will remain open during the retrofit work and bus stops at closed stations will be unaffected by construction activities.

Construction updates with information regarding station closures will regularly be posted on www.vta.org and distributed by e-mail to concerned parties. If you wish to receive these updates, please send an e-mail indicating your interest to community.outreach@vta.org.

Project Cost

\$22,947,000. A Letter of No Prejudice from the Federal Transit Administration has been signed, which will allow VTA to be reimbursed up to 80% of the project cost.

How to Reach Us

For more information on this project, please contact VTA Community Outreach at (408) 321-7575, TDD for the hearing impaired (408) 321-2330. You may also visit us on the web at www.vta.org or email us at community.outreach@vta.org.

For information regarding light rail or bus transit services, please contact VTA Customer Service at (408) 321-2300, TDD for the hearing impaired (408) 321-2330, or visit us on the web at www.vta.org.