

Notice of Public Hearing

2000 Measure A Citizens Watchdog Committee
on FY 2008 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program Expenditures
Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Public Notification

Results of the Independent Audit
on FY 2008 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program Expenditures

PUBLIC HEARING

The Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) for the 2000 Measure A Transit Sales Tax Program (“Measure A”) is holding a public hearing on Measure A revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008) to receive input from the community:

Wednesday, June 10, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.
County of Santa Clara Government Center, Room 157
70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110

(This location is served by VTA Light Rail and Bus Lines 61, 62, 66, 180 and 181.)

The public is encouraged to attend. Sign language services will be provided. If you require additional interpreter services, please contact VTA Customer Service at least five days prior to the meeting at (408) 321-2300, TTY (408) 321-2330. For those unable to attend, **written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on June 10** by email to: board.secretary@vta.org or by mail to: Office of the Board Secretary, 3331 North First Street, Building B-1, San José, CA 95134-1927

Background

Measure A, approved by Santa Clara County voters in 2000, is a 30-year half cent sales tax devoted to improvement projects for the area’s public transit network. Measure A specified the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) as the implementing authority and among the projects specified in the ballot are:

- Extend BART to Silicon Valley.
- Extend Light Rail from Downtown San Jose to the East Valley.
- Improve bus service in major bus corridors.
- Purchase zero-emission buses and construct service facilities.
- Provide connections from Mineta San Jose Airport to BART, Caltrain and VTA light rail.
- Construct a new Palo Alto Intermodal Transit Center.
- Increase Caltrain service and electrify from Palo Alto to Gilroy.

The Measure A ballot specified that the Citizens Watchdog Committee, comprised of the private citizens serving on VTA's Citizens Advisory Committee, must review all 2000 Measure A expenditures, have an independent audit conducted each fiscal year, hold public hearings and issue reports at least annually to inform Santa Clara County residents how the funds are being spent, and publish the results of the independent audit and the annual report in local newspapers and make them available to the public.

The VTA Board of Directors is responsible for implementation of the 2000 Measure A Program and for all policy-related decisions including the composition, implementation schedule and funding level of projects. The Citizens Watchdog Committee is responsible for reviewing all 2000 Measure A expenditures to ensure funds are being spent in accordance with the intent of the ballot.

Reports and Additional Information

Copies of Measure A Transit Improvement Program documents, including the Program's Annual Financial Report for FY 2008 showing expenditures for both the period and cumulative for the program, are available for public inspection from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at the VTA's office at 3331 North First Street, San Jose, CA, in the Building B Lobby. They are also available for viewing at local public libraries and at VTA's website: www.vta.org (accessible versions are provided). A hard copy may be requested by writing to: VTA Office of the Board Secretary, 3331 N. First Street, Building B-1, San José, CA 95134-1927 or by emailing your request to: board.secretary@vta.org.

Questions on the public hearing should be directed to: Stephen Flynn, Senior Management Analyst, at (408) 321-5720 or to stephen.flynn@vta.org.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT

Fulfilling its ballot-defined responsibilities, the CWC commissioned an audit of the Measure A Program financial records and schedule for Fiscal Year 2008. Macias Gini & O'Connell, LLP, independent certified public accountants, conducted the compliance audit in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). Accordingly, their audit included examining, on a test basis, evidence about VTA's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as they deemed necessary. They issued an unqualified or "clean" opinion, meaning that in their professional opinion, VTA complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements that are applicable to the 2000 Measure A Program. Copies of the audit results and other related reports are available at the locations stated above and at www.vta.org.

Audit Results and Additional Information

Copies of 2000 Measure A Transit Improvement Program documents and reports, including the results of the independent audit of the Measure A Program financial records and schedule for Fiscal Year 2008, are available for public inspection from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at the Valley Transportation Authority offices at 3331 North First Street, San Jose, CA, in the Building B Lobby. They are also available for viewing at local public libraries and at VTA's website: www.vta.org (accessible versions are provided). A hard copy may be requested by writing to: VTA Office of the Board Secretary, 3331 N. First Street, Building B-1, San José, CA 95134-1927 or by emailing your request to: board.secretary@vta.org.