

**From:** Baltao, Elaine <[Elaine.Baltao@vta.org](mailto:Elaine.Baltao@vta.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2019 8:51 PM

**To:** VTA Board of Directors <[VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org](mailto:VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org)>; VTA Advisory Committee Members <[VTAAdvisoryCommitteeMembers@vta.org](mailto:VTAAdvisoryCommitteeMembers@vta.org)>

**Subject:** VTA Offers Free Rides to Cooling Centers - 08/14/19 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**VTA Board of Directors and Advisory Committee Members:**

Please see VTA's blogpost below regarding free rides to cooling centers tomorrow, August 14, 2019, from 11 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Here is the link to the blogpost if you wish to share it with your network/constituents: <https://www.vta.org/blog/vta-offers-free-rides-cooling-centers-when-temps-run-high>

Thank you.

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**VTA Offers Free Rides to Cooling Centers When Temps Run High**

Brandi Childress

VTA will be offering free rides to cooling centers along VTA routes on Wednesday, August 14.

This offer runs from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on VTA bus and light rail and is intended to assist some of our most vulnerable populations, primarily the unsheltered and the elderly. Those needing access to cooling centers should simply tell the bus driver or fare inspector that you are on your way to a cooling center and you will be able to ride for free.

**[Click here for a full list of cooling centers in Santa Clara County](#)** and tips on how to keep you and your loved ones safe during hot weather conditions.

For trip planning assistance to any of the cooling centers, contact VTA Customer Service at 408-321-2300 or email [customer.service@vta.org](mailto:customer.service@vta.org).

Board Secretary's Office

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

3331 North First Street, Building B

San Jose, CA 95134-1927

Phone **408-321-5680**

[board.secretary@vta.org](mailto:board.secretary@vta.org)



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**From:** VTA Board Secretary <Board.Secretary@vta.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2019 12:37 PM  
**To:** VTA Board of Directors <VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org>  
**Subject:** VTA Information: August 15, 2019 Special Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

VTA Board of Directors:

You may now access the VTA Board of Directors Special Meeting Agenda for **August 15, 2019**, on [our agenda portal here](#).

Please note the Special Meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. and will be held at **VTA's River Oaks Campus, Conference Room B-106, 3331 North First St., San Jose.**

Thank you.

Office of the Board Secretary  
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
3331 North First Street, Building B  
San Jose, CA 95134-1927  
Phone [408-321-5680](tel:408-321-5680)



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**From:** Baltao, Elaine <[Elaine.Baltao@vta.org](mailto:Elaine.Baltao@vta.org)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2019 4:32 PM

**To:** VTA Board of Directors <[VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org](mailto:VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org)>; VTA Advisory Committee Members <[VTAAdvisoryCommitteeMembers@vta.org](mailto:VTAAdvisoryCommitteeMembers@vta.org)>

**Subject:** VTA Offers Free Rides to Cooling Centers - 08/15/19 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**VTA Board of Directors and Advisory Committee Members:**

Please see VTA's updated blogpost regarding free rides to cooling centers tomorrow, August 15, 2019, from 11 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Here is the link to the updated blogpost if you wish to share it with your network/constituents: <https://www.vta.org/blog/vta-offers-free-rides-cooling-centers-when-temps-run-high>

Thank you.

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**VTA Offers Free Rides to Cooling Centers When Temps Run High**

08/13/2019

Brandi Childress

VTA will be offering free rides to cooling centers along VTA routes on Wednesday, August 14 and August 15.

This offer runs from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on VTA bus and light rail and is intended to assist some of our most vulnerable populations, primarily the unsheltered and the elderly. Those needing access to cooling centers should simply tell the bus driver or fare inspector that you are on your way to a cooling center and you will be able to ride for free.

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**From:** VTA Board Secretary <[Board.Secretary@vta.org](mailto:Board.Secretary@vta.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 15, 2019 5:49 PM  
**To:** VTA Board Secretary <[Board.Secretary@vta.org](mailto:Board.Secretary@vta.org)>  
**Subject:** From VTA: August 12 thru August 15, 2019 Media Clips

## ***VTA Daily News Coverage for Monday, August 12, 2019 – Thursday, August 15, 2019***

1. [VTA directors ponder their future in latest committee meeting \(San Jose Spotlight\)](#)
2. [VTA Bus Crash – Monday 8-12-19 \(KPIX Ch. 5\)](#)
3. [Vehicle Collides With Light Rail Train In San Jose For 2nd Time This Week \(KPIX Ch. 5\)](#)
4. [ATU Contract Closed Door Board Meeting \(KTVU Ch. 2\)](#)
5. [Free Rides to Cooling Centers \(multiple outlets\)](#)

### **[VTA directors ponder their future in latest committee meeting \(San Jose Spotlight\)](#)**

In the aftermath of this summer's [explosive grand jury findings](#), VTA has been taking a long, hard look at its current governance setup.

At the latest Ad-hoc Board Enhancement Committee meeting, members of VTA's Board of Directors fielded a wide-ranging discussion about how to best address not only the findings of the grand jury, but also practical improvements that might be adopted to improve the efficacy of board members individually and as a group.

The meeting delved into how the board's hands are somewhat tied due to the way newly-elected officials are appointed by their towns and cities to VTA's Board of Directors. Or, as committee member Jeannie Bruins put it, "the dealing of the cards."

Sometimes VTA gets lucky and ends up with good, active new members and sometimes, not so much. As it stands, the 18 members on the board are elected officials appointed by their jurisdictions, with a fifteen city councilmembers and three members of the Santa Clara County Supervisors.

"(VTA) has to play the hand it's been dealt," said Bruins. "We need to look at the different (appointment) methods that are currently being deployed (at other agencies), getting to a point where there's a preferred process and a way that we go about this and get something in place before the next round of board appointments. To me, the appointment process is the beast at the root of what we're talking about."

The meeting also revealed a sneak peek of an upcoming internal VTA governance assessment, which will start in the next couple of weeks. The report will provide the Enhancement Committee with "potential enhancement options to improve the Board's overall performance and effectiveness." It will be led by former VTA Auditor General Pat Hagan.

Some of the more pragmatic improvements pitched in the meeting included a focus on encouraging members to stay engaged and informed by participating in local transit conferences and training sessions. That effort will be led by San Jose Vice Mayor Chappie Jones and VTA CEO Nuria Fernandez.

“We do have briefings and communicate with staff... but there should be a more formalized, structured training program for board members. Particularly for onboarding, but (also) continued training and development,” Jones said during the meeting. Officials are also hoping to improve meeting practices, including creating standardized memo packets with improved executive statements and nixing redundant presentations.

But, as committee member and Sunnyvale Councilmember Glenn Hendricks pointed out, the grand jury’s critique that there was a “lack of experience” among board members, isn’t one that can be easily fixed with the board’s current pipeline of appointees.

“If the appointing agencies are sending us English majors when we’re trying to do math,” he said, “I don’t care how much training we’ve done.”

## [\*\*VTA Bus Crash – Monday 8-12-19 \(KPIX Ch. 5\)\*\*](#) **Link to video)**

### [\*\*VTA Light Rail Collides With SUV In North San Jose \(Milpitas Patch\)\*\*](#)

**The SUV made an illegal turn in the path of a northbound train at North First Street, and no one was hurt, according to VTA.**

No one was injured when a Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority light-rail train struck an SUV in North San Jose Wednesday morning.

The SUV made an illegal left turn into the path of a northbound VTA train on North First Street at Charcot Avenue at 11:20 a.m., according to VTA spokeswoman Brandi Childress. The train was traveling from downtown to North San Jose.

Tracks were blocked in both directions but the scene was being cleared as of noon, leading to a residual 45-minute delay. Bus bridges were in place earlier.

On Monday afternoon, an SUV caught fire after crashing into a VTA bus in East San Jose. The occupants were able to evacuate the vehicle and there were no major injuries.

"We're just seeing people not obeying the traffic laws, they're turning left on red lights," Childress said, adding that it's Rail Safety Month in September. "We're just really trying to impress on people the safety rules we have in place to avoid interactions with our trains."

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## **[Vehicle Collides With Light Rail Train In San Jose For 2nd Time This Week](#)** (KPIX Ch. 5)

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## **[ATU Contract Closed Door Board Meeting](#)** (KTVU Ch. 2) **(link to video)**

Free Rides to Cooling Centers (multiple outlets)

[ABC7 News](#) [KRON Ch. 4](#)