



Downtown-Diridon Community Working Group Meeting

Date of Meeting: February 14, 2023 (4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

Location: Zoom

Attendees:

Members in Attendance: Alan Williams, Bert Weaver, Chris Morrisey, Elizabeth Chien-Hale, Fred Buzo, Jim Goddard, & Nate Leblanc

Members not in Attendance: Adina Levin, Carol Austen, Charlie Faas, Dana Grover, Derrick Seaver, Edgar Arellano, Jeffrey Buchanan, & Larry Clark

Other Speaker Attendees: Doug Moody (VTA), Erica Roecks (VTA), Adriano Rothschild (VTA), Kristen Mei (VTA)

Project Team in Attendance: Joan Lee (VTA), Erin Sheelen (VTA)

Project Team not in Attendance: Bernice Alaniz (VTA), Lucas Perez (VTA)

Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Phase II Update
- 2023 CWG Workplan Review & Discussion
- Station Refinement Update
- Construction Activities
- CWG Member Report Out
- Next Steps

Follow-Up Items:

- Report back on construction activity near Santa Clara Street in Umbrella Salon building — specifically on whether closure is unrelated to BSV activities or due to opening of VTA customer service center offices in adjacent building.
- Report back on when heavy construction will start near Diridon.

Comments, Issues, and Questions	Response
Welcome and Introduction	No comments.
Phase II Update	
When will heavy construction start in the Diridon area?	VTA is still working with KST on their schedule — we don't currently know specifics, but it is something we can follow up on likely after the proposed 2025 timeframe.

Comments, Issues, and Questions	Response
In reference to the schedule you referenced, it indicated heavy construction begins in Spring 2024. Is that all in Santa Clara or what would proceed ahead of the Diridon area?	Tunneling would have to launch at the West Portal within VTA's Newhall Yard property; Spring 2024 is when Board authorization for that activity will occur and tunneling is anticipated to begin in early 2025. The tunnel must progress to Diridon before the additional support of excavation would happen after the tunnel passes through the Diridon area.
Does the funding circle graphic indicate that we have secured full funding? Or is it just what has been currently secured?	VTA is currently working to secure additional state funding. As of now, we have secured 1.125 billion dollars, so we are exploring additional opportunities for funding—the graphic is representative of what has currently been awarded.
Is the demolition of the Chase Building still anticipated for 2023?	The exact timeframe has not been fully determined, but demolition will still likely take place during Spring/Summer 2023. The details have not been finalized.
2023 CWG Workplan Review & Discussion	-
VTA should potentially focus on more non-BART related things in the workplan (e.g., Caltrain).	Noted for future workplan updates.
How can small businesses know what the opportunities are for tender procurement in BSV Phase II?	The Business Center page on VTA's website has more information regarding procurement opportunities for local and small businesses.
Bike CWG representation should be expanded to cover personal bikes to board BART/park at the station/bike scooter shares.	Potential new CWG members and organizations can be shared via chat throughout the meeting, at the end of this section, and/or during the CWG member report outs.
It would be great to alternate between in-person and virtual CWG meetings. Possibly a hybrid of both?	Comment noted.
I prefer virtual meetings but will attend in-person if scheduled.	Comment noted.
Yes — VTA has the structure. My sense of this centers on promotion and education. Note both the County and City have commissioned Disparity Studies on procurement — reporting late Q2/Q3 2023.	Comment noted.

Comments, Issues, and Questions	Response
I suggest an in-person outdoor event for CWG members to get to know each other, then virtual to maximize attendance (and accessibility RE: COVID), which is an ongoing challenge.	Comment noted.
Station Refinement Update	-
What is DISC?	Diridon Intermodal Station Concept, which is the future Diridon station as envisioned by all the rail partners in the area.
When will the tunnel configuration and size decision be finalized?	The tunnel configuration with center platforms at the stations and the size of the tunnel has been finalized.
Is slide 24 Diridon or Downtown?	Slide 24 is Diridon.
Does the mezzanine allow for an additional entrance on the north side of Santa Clara Street in front of SAP?	VTA, the City of San Jose, and SPUR explored the opportunity to provide that. While the mezzanine does allow for that connection, there were a lot of significant challenges with the sites immediately across the street, so that wasn't pursued by the project. But if that becomes a desire in the future, I don't think that the current design precludes that from happening.
How much larger in diameter is the station shaft?	The Downtown Station shaft will be 130 feet in diameter.
<p>Are storefronts closing in Downtown San José due to BSV construction efforts and station refinement efforts? Is it because VTA is trying to find a second entrance?</p> <p>Around 3rd Street and Santa Clara Street, there is Mexico Bakery, Enzo Bar. You also closed down Umbrella and Eric's Café. We have very few successful businesses remaining. Why are we closing them at this point? I'm sure there is a good reason, but I'm not sure as to why.</p>	<p>No, the closing of storefronts is unrelated to the station refinement effort specifically. VTA can't speak to why stores are closing, but we can reach out to real estate partners for more information. What businesses are you referring to?</p> <p>I can't speak to exactly what is happening here, but I do know that the process for VTA to be able to move forward with construction starts with working with tenants and businesses and looking for opportunities to relocate them for properties we are acquiring. We can follow up.</p>
Is there a need for ventilation emergency egress points on 13 th Street (size/location/etc.)?	The team is still internally looking within the tunnel, so that decision has not been made. But the decisions regarding the size, the fact that there are center

Comments, Issues, and Questions	Response
When's the decision for that?	platforms at the stations, and the size of the tunnel have all been made. We will be sure to share once we know what the plan is. They are actively working on it right now, so it's anticipated to be in the near future.
Construction Activities	-
When will we be able to engage with VTA and contractors regarding the CTMP? Just trying to understand how we get to raise issues, what the controls are going to be so that neighborhoods and businesses can co-exist with the construction. When are the other meetings going to happen?	This will be through the public meeting venue. We'll meet with the groups adjacent to the work areas as it's happening, but for this first one, the way to learn more about it will be at the public meetings on March 15 th and 16 th for the work that will be happening in near the Santa Clara station alignment and VTA's Newhall Yard property. I'll keep you updated; the contractor is just starting to progress the next one. It would be later in 2023.
Can you confirm timing of the borings on Santa Clara Street between Market and First Street?	We will circle back with more details, but sometime in Spring of this year. There will be some borings in early March and late March — will be sure to include you on the construction notification distribution.
CWG Member Report Back	-
We should check with current organizations represented in CWG — maybe there are others better suited schedule-wise to attend CWG meetings from those organizations? These are all great people, and I'd like to see these organizations better represented.	Comment noted.
Recently, we've had VTA staff have make updates to the San José Arena Authority Board. Our next board meeting is tomorrow, so I will present updates from today to the board.	Noted. Thank you for providing the Board with an update.
For the Downtown Residents Association, we'd like to invite a VTA representative to speak during a Zoom town hall for us.	Sounds good. We are open to presenting or being made available for Q&A, and we look forward to that invitation.

Comments, Issues, and Questions	Response
<p>Walking down Santa Clara Street (specifically near Umbrella Salon) and knowing that it's closed raises questions when it looks like active construction is going on. Could we get more information on that and whether it's related to the project?</p> <p>Word on the street is that it's related to BSV construction, and I didn't know what to tell people. Thank you for sharing.</p>	<p>Comment noted. This will be covered in our next CWG meeting, if not sooner.</p> <p>The closing of Umbrella and construction in that space are not related to BSV construction efforts.</p> <p>You're welcome.</p>
Next Steps	-
<p>Is VTA moving their offices into Umbrella Salon space?</p>	<p>VTA customer service center is moving into the Eric's Deli location, adjacent to that location. We will report back with more info on this during next CWG meeting.</p>
<p>Regarding the 13th Street decision and the CTMP for this area — decision needs to be made for that before we can review the CTMP because that'll have some impact for 13th Street. I assume that the decision for what we're doing at 13th Street is going to be made before the CTMP?</p>	<p>Confirmed — the CTMP will be completed if construction takes place in that area. We will keep you updated.</p>
<p>Doug, if this is your last meeting, you did an excellent job as moderator.</p>	<p>Thank you, Chris.</p>
Follow-Up Items	-
<p>Around 3rd Street and Santa Clara, there is Mexico Bakery, Enzo Bar, you also closed down Umbrella and Eric's Café. We have very few successful businesses remaining. Why are we closing them at this point? I'm sure there is a good reason, but I'm not sure as to why.</p> <p>Is VTA moving their offices into Umbrella Salon space?</p>	<p>Umbrella & Erik's Deli were both on month-to-month leases, and the 2 N. Market St. landlord was looking for new tenants. VTA became aware that the space was available. Since it met the needs to relocate VTA's Downtown Service Center and open the BART Phase II Public Information Office, VTA signed a long lease through BSVII construction with the landlord. This was a straightforward commercial leasing transaction, that had nothing to do with property acquisition for BSVII, nor anything to do with relocation.</p>

Next CWG Meeting: May 16th, 2023, 4:00 PM, Zoom

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