



Alum Rock Community Working Group Meeting

Date of Meeting: February 8, 2017 (4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

Attendees:

Members in Attendance: Bob Van Cleef, Davide Vieira, Justin Triano, Geoff Hatchard, Carlos Diaz

Members not in Attendance: RJ Castro, Craig Chivatero, Kathy Ericksen, Matt Bell, Kelly Daugherty, Terry Christensen

Other Speaking Attendees: Jim Unites (VTA), Tom Fitzwater (VTA), Brandi Childress (VTA) and Jill Gibson (VTA)

Project Team in Attendance: Leyla Hedayat (VTA), Kevin Kurimoto (VTA), Samantha Swan (VTA), Erica Roecks (VTA), Angela Sipp (VTA), Eileen Goodwin (Apex Strategies)

Project Team not in Attendance: Jessica Zenk (CSJ), John Ristow (CSJ) and Rosalynn Hughey (CSJ)

Location: Mexican Heritage Plaza, 1700 Alum Rock Avenue, San Jose CA

Summary:

The Meeting agenda included:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Follow up items – Facilitator
- Work Plan Update – Facilitator
- Measure B Update – VTA Staff
- Next Network Transit Redesign Update – VTA Staff
- Embark! Community On-boarding plan for BART Silicon Valley – VTA Staff
- Project and Schedule Update – VTA Staff and City Staff
 - Technical Studies Update
 - VTA Process for Evaluating Options for Stations and Tunneling
 - City Process for evaluating proposed station options
 - Diridon Facilities Master Plan Update
- Environmental Document Public Circulation Update – VTA Staff
- Next Steps – Facilitator

- Review Action Items and Next Meeting Dates:
 - CWG Meeting April 5, 2017 4 p.m.-6 p.m.) Location: Mexican Heritage Plaza, 1700 Alum Rock Avenue, San Jose – Facilitator

Key Issues/Comments/Questions:

Comment/Question	Response
Follow up items – Work Plan Updates	
Would like update on federal funding	We will add to agenda as a standing item. Information on this topic will also be addressed on today’s agenda.
June’s tour is good idea. Most can make 2pm-6pm window. Accommodation for meeting on-site was requested.	We will send directions to the tour sites for those who wish to drive separately.
Project and Schedule Update	
No comments or questions noted	
Measure B Update	
What is status of Measure B Oversight Committee?	At their February meeting, the Governance and Audit Committee approved the process for appointments to the 2016 Measure B Citizens’ Oversight Committee.
Next Network	
Will 500 and 523 be at 15 minute headways?	Yes, that is the plan.
Will senior passes be reduced similar to the student pass reduction? They should be.	That is not currently being studied.
Is VTA still taking feedback?	Yes, please come to the final three community meetings or go on-line to give feedback.
I like the color idea and the graphics.	Thank you. We believe color coding the lines will help people navigate the system more easily.
Has VTA considered a partial month pass?	No, suggest you consider the Clipper card that has many features you are looking for.
Will there be more dedicated lanes built? I do not like the dedicated lanes because they remove parking that businesses need. Dedicated lanes are a waste of real estate.	There are no plans to add more dedicated lanes to the system at this time.
Community comment: Will there still be service up to Alum Rock Country Club.	Yes. Community member was give system map.
Will 500 and 523 have 15 minute headways? Will they meet BART trains?	Yes. For scheduling purposes the 500 will meet each BART train, the 523 will be bigger challenge since the route is much

	longer but the intent is to try to meet the BART trains on that line as well.
Embark!	
Will the problems we read about regarding the Warm Springs extension impact the VTA Phase I service or opening date?	VTA is coordinating with BART, they have indicated that they are very close to opening Warm Springs. We do not plan to open BART Phase I until the end of the year so there is time to test the service and make sure everything is working properly.
I read about compatibility issues. Please explain.	So far, VTA testing has gone very well synching up new to new equipment. BART is more challenged since their new station needs to synch up to the older technology. That interface has proven to be challenging.
Project Update	
Who are peer agencies reviewing the technical studies and being compared for risk assessment?	VTA is hiring consultants and part of their work scope is to propose peer agencies and explain why. Those interviews are being conducted this week.
Is Barcelona up and running?	Yes.
Status of Real Estate Acquisitions	
Is the 11-acre station campus at Alum Rock involve more than the Honore Family property?	Yes.
The San Jose Steel site owners do not know what to do about their situation. They have been waiting a long time.	The BART project is not fully funded. Owners should go about their business and make business decisions independent of the BART project.
Will there be a need to evacuate structures as the project is being built?	No, the tunnels are very deep under the structures and the street.
Will acquisitions consider work already done on properties?	Yes, the offers are related to appraisals which take such things into account. We will make the updated real estate fact sheet available to the CWG as soon as it is updated.
Federal Funding Update	
No comments or questions	
Process for deciding on Station Locations and Tunnel Technology	
Is it too late to suggest Diridon station be deleted? There is a blog that is saying it is redundant.	Various station locations and combinations have been studied. This information is in the Draft SEIS/SEIR. Of course, people can suggest ideas which we will review

	and determine if new or additional analysis is necessary, but VTA is hoping to start construction on the stations and alignments that have been already extensively evaluated, agreed to and vetted as soon as possible.
Has BART weighed in on the maintenance facility as described in the document?	Yes.
There is not much discussion in the document about how the muck will be taken out of the Alum Rock Station area, the 11 acres that sits right adjacent to a school and active church. How will all the tunnel muck be treated and how will all those trucks use 18 th which is the only access to the school?	For the twin bore option, the muck that is related to building the station will need to be removed from the area. The muck from the tunnel will not be pulled out at 28 th but instead over at Las Plumas and will not impact 28 th Street.
Diridon Transportation Facilities Master Plan	
There is a lot of wasted resources at Diridon when Caltrain and High Speed rail will park their train cars in the yard. High Speed Rail and Caltrain are going to be impacting efficiency.	This study is looking at the station area and how the needs of the station are addressed and developing scenarios.
Diridon Station existing wayfinding signage is terrible. VTA must look at how the visually impaired and seniors will access the station and make it better.	VTA is looking at making the station friendly for all ages and abilities.
Will this study look at components and phasing?	Yes, to both.
Community comment: I am a High Speed Rail Community Task Force member and that project is going nowhere.	
Environmental Document Public Circulation Update	
Community Comment: What are the slopes of the tunnels	The slope is generally 3.5 degrees but it varies by location and tunneling methodology.
Community Comment: VTA's General Manager did need the maintenance facility until Measure B passed.	
Community Comment: I have worked as an iron worker. The bracing for the Five Wounds Church must be done very carefully. It is VTA's responsibility to monitor that nothing happens at the	VTA will be monitoring the church and does recognize how important to structure and the windows are to the community. An environmental justice analysis is in the Draft SEIS/SEIR and technical reports.

church. Construction traffic will be creating a lot of vibration near the church. The general contractor should have to insure the church. There are environmental justice issues here.	The comment period for the environmental document is open until February 20 th . Please formally submit your comments. Speaking here does not put these comments into the official process.
Community Comment: Will VTA be monitoring the church building?	Yes.
Community Comment: is there a smell to the muck?	There should not be. However, the comment period for the environmental document is open until February 20 th . Please formally submit your comments or questions. Speaking here does not put these comments into the official process.
Community Comment: Will there be security?	The comment period for the environmental document is open until February 20 th . Please formally submit your comments. Speaking here does not put these comments into the official process.

Follow-Up Items:

- Continue to follow up on legal issues related to license plate technology
- Add regular agenda item for federal funding status update
- Give CWG members information so they have the option to drive separately to June tour sites.
- Get CWG members updated real estate fact sheet.

Prepared by: Eileen Goodwin, Apex Strategies

Distribution:

CWG
Project Team
City Staff
Distribution list