COVID-19 Update – VTA Board of Directors
May 1, 2020

SIP Extended, No Mask No Ride
The shelter in place order has been extended until May 31, with the mandate that transit drivers and passengers wear a face covering on board vehicles. You can read the full order here, which includes some easing of previous restrictions, and goes into effect May 4. We are putting together a comprehensive campaign to publicize this message immediately. I encourage you to share the social media messaging on your own channels.

Driver Protection
I want to commend our staff for their ingenuity in creating retractable plastic shields for operators. You can see a short video of how the shade activates here. Some of the materials can be procured locally and VTA staff will retrofit and install the brackets and shields which will be in place by the time we resume collecting fares.

Clean and Safe
This week we were able to secure a partial shipment of Clorox wipes to clean work areas and vehicles. We sincerely appreciate the additional donation from bus manufacturer BYD of 500 surgical masks for use by our operators. Our usage rate in April approached 30,000 surgical masks as operators typically use two-to-three per shift.

Ridership Unchanged
VTA’s average weekday ridership for the past 12 weeks remains at 80 percent below our baseline date of the week of Feb. 10. Paratransit ridership remains down 85 percent and work continues on social distancing solutions for when ridership begins to increase.

Legislation and Advocacy
VTA continues to work with APTA and the CTA to craft transit’s request for funding from either another COVID-19 Relief Bill or an Infrastructure bill.

Public Meetings
The Board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 7 @ 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.
The Governance and Audit Committee will be held on Thursday, May 7 @ 4 p.m. via Zoom.

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
3331 North First Street, Building C
San Jose, CA 95134-1927
VTA is working to get the message out that the Santa Clara County Public Health Officer has issued an order beginning today, May 4th, for all public transit passengers (and operators) to wear a face covering on board. Please help by sharing our social media posts on your own channels. Thank you.

LinkedIn


Twitter
https://twitter.com/VTA/status/1257346766913093633

https://twitter.com/VTA/status/1257309070052036619

Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/scvta/photos/a.126935260654751/3453157441365833/?type=3&theater
VTA Board of Directors:

The May 7, 2020 Board of Directors Agenda Packet as been updated to include additional information for the following items:

- Agenda Item #4.1 - Public Hearing
- Agenda Item #6.4 - Amend Admin Code to Add GC Litigation Authority
- Agenda Item #6.11 - Unapproved Minutes for 5/7/20 Board
- Agenda Item #7.1 - SVRT Update
- Agenda Item #7.4 - Financial Impacts of COVID-19
- Agenda Item #8.1.A - 2016 Measure B Update

You may access the updated agenda on our agenda portal.

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
From: VTA Board Secretary  
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 1:39 PM  
To: VTA Board Secretary  
Subject: VTA Information: May 7, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Updated Agenda Packet

VTA Board of Directors:

The May 7, 2020 Board of Directors Agenda Packet has been updated to include additional information for the following items:

- Agenda Item #3 - Public Comment
- Agenda Item #4.1 - Public Hearing
- Agenda Item #7.1 - SVRT Update
- Agenda Item #7.2 - VTA’s BART Silicon Valley Berryessa Extension Project
- Agenda Item #7.4 - Financial Impacts of COVID-19

You may access the updated agenda on our agenda portal.

Thank you,

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3331 North First Street, Building B  
San Jose, CA 95134-1927  
Phone 408-321-5680  

Santa Clara Valley  
Transportation Authority  
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VTA Board of Directors:

The May 7, 2020 Board of Directors Agenda Packet has been updated to include additional information for the following items:

- Agenda Item #6.9 – VTP Highway Program Semi-Annual Report Ending December 31, 2019
- Agenda Item #7.4 - Financial Impacts of COVID-19

You may access the updated agenda on our agenda portal.

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
COVID-19 Update – VTA Board of Directors
May 8, 2020

Testing Sites and Transit
Santa Clara County opened two new Covid 19 testing sites in accordance with Governor Newsom’s call for more testing to reach underserved communities. The two sites are James Lick High School in East San Jose, reached by three VTA bus lines and one light rail line, and Christopher High School in Gilroy, which is one mile away from the closest transit line. We encourage the County to take transit access into account as plans are made to serve our most vulnerable populations.

Passenger and Employee Protection
The Santa Clara County Public Health order to wear face masks on transit vehicles went into effect Monday, May 4. Allied Universal and the Sheriff’s Office Transit Patrol are monitoring compliance. Social media messaging continues to remind passengers to cover up on board and comply with social distancing requirements.

PPE inventory levels remained stable this week. Bleach Wipes are still the hardest item to find. CalSTA will ship 8,000 surgical face masks to VTA by early next week. We received 2,800 4 oz. bottles of hand sanitizer this week, which are being distributed to staff.

Adding Service in June
Beginning in June, VTA will resume weekend light rail service 7 AM to 9 PM, and weekday light rail service will expand to match bus service from 5 AM to 9 PM. VTA’s average weekday ridership for the past 12 weeks remains at 80 percent below our baseline date of the week of Feb. 10. Paratransit ridership remains down 85 percent.

Fiscal Condition
The financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on VTA continues to be fluid as we adjust service and shelter in place orders are gradually lifted. Our current projection, based on estimates informed by several economists and other financial industry resources, is that VTA will lose about $18 million for each of the last three months of FY 2020. We are projecting a budget deficit of $34.3 million for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. This projected deficit does not include any expected funding from the CARES Act.
Legislation and Advocacy

We are encouraging our local congressional delegation to support a request for an additional **$23.8 billion** in COVID-19 related transit funding to address continuing costs and revenue losses, over and above the public transit funding provided by the CARES Act.

Public Meetings

VTA Advisory Committee meetings will resume next week on a virtual platform. **Find access information by clicking on these links:**

May 13, 2020: TAC; BPAC; CAC

May 14, 2020: PAC; CTMA

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
3331 North First Street, Building C
San Jose, CA 95134-1927

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