

2016 Measure B Citizens' Oversight Committee

Input Received at July 28, 2021 Public Hearing

In November 2016, Santa Clara County voters approved Measure B, a 30-year, half-cent countywide sales tax devoted to enhancing transit, highways, expressways, and active transportation (bicycles, pedestrian, and complete streets) within Santa Clara County. Voters entrusted the 2016 Measure B Citizens' Oversight Committee (MBCOC) with oversight to ensure that Measure B funds are being spent consistent with the ballot language and to inform voters on Program compliance.

On July 28, 2021, the MBCOC held its ballot-required public hearing on 2016 Measure B revenues and expenditures for the periods of Fiscal Years (FY) 2017-2019 and FY 2020. The purpose of the hearing was to provide opportunity for the community to express to the Committee their views, opinions, and/or concerns on Measure B Program expenditures, the results of the annual independent compliance audit, and/or Measure B Program activities and reports.

The following is a summary of the input provided by community members at that public hearing:

- Tessa Woodmansee, Interested Citizen, made the following comments: 1) encouraged VTA to keep the virtual meeting option; and 2) urged VTA to move away from fossil fuels and dedicate more resources to bicycles and pedestrians.
- Blair Beekman, Interested Citizen, commented on: 1) transit operations; and 2) light rail and a bus bridge along First Street in San Jose.
- Eugene Bradley, Silicon Valley Transit Users, made the following comments: 1) holding public hearings at 5:30 p.m. allows more people to attend; 2) expressed support to continue holding meetings via Zoom; and 3) on transit operations.
- Roland Lebrun, Interested Citizen, expressed concern that 2016 Measure B was not used for Caltrain as described in the ballot language.
- Craig Fisk, Interested Citizen: 1) requested an update on tunnel exit from Interstate 280 at Winchester Boulevard; and 2) encouraged VTA to be more responsive to environmental needs.