

**From:** VTA Board Secretary <Board.Secretary@vta.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 2:35 PM  
**To:** VTA Board of Directors <VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org>  
**Cc:** Gonot, Carolyn <Carolyn.Gonot@vta.org>; Richardson, Greg  
<Greg.Richardson@vta.org>; Haywood, Scott <Scott.Haywood@VTA.Org>; Smith, Patrice  
<Patrice.Smith@vta.org>  
**Subject:** From VTA: Upcoming Mercury News BART Letter

Board of Directors:

Please find attached a memo from Patrice Smith, Chief Communications Officer.

Should you receive any media inquiries on this topic, please direct them to  
[Media.Relations@VTA.org](mailto:Media.Relations@VTA.org) or 408-464-7810 (no texts).

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**



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** VTA Board of Directors

**FROM:** Patrice Smith   
Chief Communications Officer

**DATE:** August 25, 2025

**SUBJECT:** San Jose Mercury News Article on BART Letter

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San Jose Mercury News reporter Grace Hase contacted the VTA Media Relations team via email this morning with questions regarding the August 15 BART Letter. We provided a response, which was reviewed by BART prior to submission. The Mercury News story is expected to be published later today or Tuesday morning.

I wanted to ensure you were aware of the forthcoming story. It will be included in the daily news clips.

Should you receive any media inquiries on this topic, please direct them to [Media.Relations@VTA.org](mailto:Media.Relations@VTA.org) or 408-464-7810 (no texts).

Thank you.

**From:** VTA Board Secretary <Board.Secretary@vta.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 26, 2025 11:42 AM

**To:** VTA Board of Directors <VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org>; VTA Advisory Committee Members <VTAA AdvisoryCommitteeMembers@vta.org>

**Cc:** Gonot, Carolyn <Carolyn.Gonot@vta.org>; Richardson, Greg <Greg.Richardson@vta.org>; Haywood, Scott <Scott.Haywood@VTA.Org>; Smith, Patrice <Patrice.Smith@vta.org>

**Subject:** From VTA URGENT: Light Rail Construction Turn Restrictions



August 26, 2025

Contact: [Media.Relations@VTA.org](mailto:Media.Relations@VTA.org)

408-464-7810 (no texts)

## **Motorists Urged to Pay Attention to New Turn Restrictions in Light Rail Construction Zone**

Failure to follow posted signs has already contributed to collisions in this area

**San Jose, CA** – Motorists are strongly urged to **slow down, stay alert, and follow posted signs** at the intersection of Capitol Expressway and Ocala Avenue, where **new turn restrictions are now in effect** as part of ongoing light rail construction. Recent collisions have occurred despite the presence of warning signs. The Eastridge to BART Regional Connector (EBRC) light rail extension implemented critical traffic modifications to safely advance construction of the light rail extension between VTA's Alum Rock Station and the Eastridge Transit Center.

### **NEW TURN RESTRICTIONS – IN EFFECT NOW:**

- **NO LEFT TURNS** from Northbound Capitol Expressway to Westbound Ocala Avenue  
***In effect August 20 – October 31, 2025***

Both existing northbound left-turn lanes are closed. Once construction is complete, only one left turn will be restored.

**ONE LEFT TURN LANE** from Southbound Capitol Expressway to Eastbound Ocala Avenue remains open ***In effect June 2025 – April 2026***

Construction schedules are subject to change due to weather or field conditions.

**SAFETY REMINDERS:**

- Pay close attention to detour signs and lane closures
- Reduce speed through construction zones
- Avoid distractions such as mobile devices
- Use alternate routes when possible

When complete, the EBRC project will extend VTA's Orange Line light rail service to the Eastridge Transit Center, providing direct access to BART at the Milpitas Transit Center.

For updates and detour maps, visit: [www.VTA.org/EBRC](http://www.VTA.org/EBRC)

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**From:** VTA Board Secretary <Board.Secretary@vta.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 26, 2025 2:58 PM  
**To:** VTA Board of Directors <VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org>  
**Cc:** Gonot, Carolyn <Carolyn.Gonot@vta.org>; Richardson, Greg  
<Greg.Richardson@vta.org>  
**Subject:** From VTA: New COO Announcement

Board of Directors:

Attached is a memo from Carolyn M. Gonot, General Manager/CEO, announcing the appointment of the Chief Operating Officer, effective September 1, 2025.

If you have any questions please respond to this email.

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**



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** VTA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Carolyn M. Gonot, General Manager/CEO  
**DATE:** August 26, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Chief Operating Officer



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I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Naunihal (Nauni) Singh to the position of Chief Operating Officer effective September 1, 2025.

Nauni has an exemplary performance record spanning more than 26 years of service at VTA, with experience working in a variety of positions during his time with our Agency. Nauni first joined VTA in February 1999 as a Coach Operator before being promoted to Light Rail Operator in 2000. After spending almost a decade as an Operator, in 2009 he was promoted to Transportation Supervisor where he developed experience working within the Operations Control Center (OCC) and supporting Operations in the Field. In 2015 he was promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Service Management where he supervised Field Operations staff and supported the critical functions of OCC. In his role, Nauni was instrumental in providing optimum transit solutions during SB50. He was later promoted to Transportation Superintendent of Guadalupe in 2020 and in 2021 he was appointed to the position of Deputy Director of Transit Operations, responsible for overseeing the transportation divisions and OCC.

Since February 2025 Nauni has been serving as the Interim Chief Operating Officer providing critical support to the Operations division, including coordinating with multiple departments throughout the Agency and external partners to prepare for the upcoming Super Bowl LX and FIFA World Cup events in 2026.

Nauni has consistently shown steadfast leadership during times of crisis, playing a pivotal role in the reopening of Guadalupe and OCC after the events of May 26, 2021. During his time at VTA Nauni has strived to develop and maintain positive relationships with his coworkers at every level, establishing himself as a leader who is both respected and admired for his passion in serving others.

Nauni holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in Geography from Punjab University in India, and he was a graduate of the Leadership APTA Class of 2023. He has also received several awards and recognitions during his career with VTA including winning first place in several Rail Rodeos and being named Supervisory Employee of the Year in 2017.

Please join me in congratulating Nauni and wishing him well in his new role.

**From:** VTA Board Secretary <Board.Secretary@vta.org>

**Sent:** Friday, August 29, 2025 8:31 AM

**To:** VTA Board of Directors <VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org>; VTA Advisory Committee Members <VTAA AdvisoryCommitteeMembers@vta.org>

**Subject:** VTA's "Unstoppable" Pride Bus Celebrates LGBTQ+ Icons in Santa Clara County



Contact: VTA Media Relations

[Media.Relations@VTA.org](mailto:Media.Relations@VTA.org)

408-464-7810 (no texts)

August 28, 2025

## **VTA's "Unstoppable" Pride Bus Celebrates LGBTQ+ Icons in Santa Clara County**

### **[RAW VIDEO – 2025 VTA Pride Bus with LGBTQ+ leader Ken Yeager](#)**

**SAN JOSE, CA** – The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) introduces the 2025 VTA Pride Bus, a 40-foot transit vehicle honoring eight trailblazing LGBTQ+ icons whose courage and vision have shaped both the local community and the broader quest for equality. Wrapped in vibrant, graphic flair of 1970s-style pop art, the design reflects the theme of this year's Silicon Valley Pride: "Unstoppable: 50 Years of Love, Legacy & Liberation".

The 2025 VTA Pride Bus honors two of the South Bay's most influential LGBTQ+ leaders: former Santa Clara County Supervisor and San Jose City Councilmember **Ken Yeager**, Santa Clara County's first openly gay elected official, longtime VTA Board Member, and

founder of *Queer Silicon Valley*, and **Billy DeFrank (William Prince)**, the celebrated performer and community advocate whose legacy lives on through San José's Billy DeFrank LGBTQ+ Community Center, along with other groundbreaking icons whose courage has paved the way for equality.

VTA General Manager Carolyn Gonot stated, "Ken's legacy is personal for us at VTA. He is not just a public figure; he is our colleague and a champion for better transit, better policy, and a better future for everyone."

The Pride Bus is now rolling throughout Santa Clara County and can be seen and ridden on regular VTA bus routes. The bus will also ride in the Silicon Valley Pride Parade, on Sunday, August 31, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. VTA employees, their families, friends, and community members will accompany the bus in solidarity.

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### ***About VTA***

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is an independent special district that is responsible for bus, light rail and paratransit operations, transportation planning, and serves as the county's congestion management agency.