

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

Sent: Friday, September 26, 2025 11:45 AM

To: VTA Board of Directors <VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org>

Subject: From VTA: VTA Begins Construction on Innovative Electric Bus Charging Infrastructure



Contact Media.Relations@VTA.org

408-464-7810 (no texts)

September 26, 2025

VTA Begins Construction on Innovative Electric Bus Charging Infrastructure

[Link to video animation of future finished project](#)

San Jose, CA – An innovative project to charge dozens of electric transit buses broke ground at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA) Cerone Bus Division. The Cerone Microgrid Project pairs bus charging infrastructure with solar panels and a microgrid which stores electricity onsite in large batteries and can keep buses charged in the event of a major blackout. Experts in green energy, microgrids, and transit operations were on hand at the construction site Friday, September 26 to discuss the new technology.

The press event was streamed on [Facebook Live](#).

The inclusion of a **Microgrid** and solar panels makes the project unique among such endeavors as it will allow VTA to collect its own renewable energy to pair with grid electricity to power its zero-emission bus operations. The microgrid is being built for VTA by Scale Microgrids to give VTA a sustainable and reliable platform to power a growing fleet of electric buses. **Thirty-five battery electric buses** are expected to be delivered to VTA in 2026, which takes VTA a step closer to meeting the state goal for all California transit agencies to operate only zero-emission fleets by 2040.

"We're proud to partner with VTA to showcase how microgrids can support their ambitious transit fleet electrification goals," said Neil Maguire, Scale's Chief Technology Officer. "By integrating on-site solar and battery storage, our microgrid will help VTA serve the region's public transit needs while reducing their electricity costs by over a third, cutting carbon emissions by more than 60%, and - most importantly - ensuring reliable operations to continue to serve the community even during power outages on the grid."

VTA's Board Chair and Campbell Mayor Sergio Lopez lauded the agency's commitment to helping to protect the environment in Santa Clara County.

"Expanding our zero-emission bus fleet reflects my priority to modernize VTA's operations while improving air quality and reliability for the communities we serve," said Lopez. "It also advances our commitment to equity. These new buses will serve Eastern and Central San Jose—areas with high transit use and historically high pollution," Lopez said.

Automated smart charging will occur overnight, allowing VTA to minimize electrical costs and have the buses ready for service each morning. To meet VTA's increased need for electricity, PG&E is upgrading the electrical capacity of the Cerone Division by 3 megawatts.

"PG&E is proud to power VTA's transition to a zero-emission fleet. This is the kind of collaboration that moves clean energy forward," said Jeremy Howard, Senior Regional Manager at PG&E. "By supporting EV charging infrastructure, we're helping VTA build flexibility and resiliency into their operations."

San Jose Clean Energy also supports this endeavor's goal of reducing harmful vehicle emissions.

"With on-site solar, batteries, and smart charging, the VTA microgrid will keep essential bus service running—even when the grid is stressed," said Zachary Struyk, Assistant Director, San José Clean Energy. "Paired with electricity supply from San José Clean Energy that is more than 90% carbon-free, we can reduce climate pollution and help protect our community from the impacts of climate-driven challenges."

Lehigh University's Institute of Cyber Physical Infrastructure is a leading research entity in the smart grid space, partnering with VTA to support the research and planning of the electric fleet rollout.

"Our researchers and students have been working alongside VTA to develop ways to use local energy storage and solar generation, schedule bus charging, implement routes, assign bus operators, and coordinate with the main grid," said Shaline Kishore, Iacocca

Chair and professor of electrical and computer engineering, and director of Lehigh's Center for Advancing Community Electrification Solutions (ACES).

Altogether, VTA is projected to save about \$1.2 million a year on energy costs, which is a savings that can be put toward other operating needs, like transit service.

[**Read more about VTA's sustainability program.**](#)

From: VTA Board Secretary <Board.Secretary@vta.org>
Sent: Friday, September 26, 2025 3:33 PM
To: VTA Board of Directors <VTABoardofDirectors@vta.org>
Subject: VTA Correspondence: Week Ending September 26, 2025

VTA Board of Directors:

We are forwarding to you the following correspondence:

From	Topic
SCC Planning Commission	Planning Commission Agenda Packet Supplemental Information (multiple updates)

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: Planning Commission
To: Planning Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supplemental Information (3): Planning Commission 9/25/25 Meeting
Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 5:07:18 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png

CAUTION: This Message originated from outside VTA. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe!

Good evening,

The following supplemental information has been added to the September 25, 2025 agenda:

Item No. 5: Public hearing to consider an appeal of the August 7, 2025 decision by the Department of Planning and Development to deem incomplete an application for the Almaden Road housing development project, consisting of a Major Subdivision and Grading Approval for 49 housing units and related amenities on an existing 19-acre parcel. Applicant/Appellant Representative: Michael LaBarbera. Property Owners: Jaylene N. Morgan, Trustee, et al. Property Address/Location: 19780 Almaden Road, San José (Assessor's Parcel No. 742-07-001). Zoning: A-20Ac-sr. Supervisorial District: Five. File No.: PLN24-063-SB330-APL1.

- [Public Comment \(259 Pattern Comments\)](#)  **Supplemental Information**
- [Public Comment 2](#)  **Supplemental Information**

Item No. 7: Public hearing to consider an appeal of the August 1, 2025 decision by the Department of Planning and Development to deem incomplete an application for the Circle Hill housing development project, consisting of a Major Subdivision and Grading Approval for 18 lots for 20 housing units (16 single-family homes and 4 accessory dwelling units) on an existing 97.5-acre parcel. Applicant/Appellant: Mike LaBarbera. Property Owner: Mike LaBarbera Trustee. Property Address/Location: 6591 Woodcliff Court, San José (Assessor's Parcel No. 575-20-037). Zoning: HS-d1. Supervisorial District: Five. File No.: PLN24-062-SB330-APL1.

- [Public Comment \(259 Pattern Comments\)](#)  **Supplemental Information**
- [Public Comment 2](#)  **Supplemental Information**

The agenda and related materials, including the above supplemental information, may be viewed at:

https://sccgov.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_Meeting.aspx?ID=16775

Members of the public may access the virtual meeting through the following link:

<https://sccgov-org.zoom.us/j/87465858148> (recommended) or by smart phone at (669) 219-2599, Meeting ID 874 6585 8148# (participant ID not required)

Please do not hesitate to contact our office with any questions.

Peggy Doyle
Deputy Clerk
Clerk of the Board
Santa Clara County
East Wing, 10th Floor
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose, CA 95110

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From: Planning Commission
To: Planning Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supplemental Information (4): Planning Commission 9/25/25 Meeting
Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 4:17:50 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png

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- [Public Comment 3 \(18 Pattern Comments\)](#)  **Supplemental Information**
- [Public Comment 4](#)  **Supplemental Information**
- [Letter from Green Foothills, SCVBA, and Sierra Club](#)  **Supplemental Information**

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- [Public Comment 3 \(18 Pattern Comments\)](#)  **Supplemental Information**



Public Comment 4 **Supplemental Information**

- [Letter from Green Foothills, SCVBA, and Sierra Club](#)  **Supplemental Information**

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From: Planning Commission
To: Planning Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supplemental Information (5): Planning Commission 9/25/25 Meeting
Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 1:12:39 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png

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- [Letter from California Housing Defense Fund](#) 📎 **Supplemental Information**
- [Public Comment 5 \(11 Pattern Comments\)](#) 📎 **Supplemental Information**
- [Public Comment 6](#) 📎 **Supplemental Information**

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Public Comment 6 Supplemental Information

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