



FACT SHEET: *Transit*

Downtown San José Light Rail Realignment

Overview

VTA's Light Rail system operates three routes across several cities in Santa Clara County. Although the system can reach speeds up to 55 mph, most segments run significantly slower due to urban conditions, infrastructure limitations, and operational constraints.

The slowest section is in Downtown San José, where trains are limited to a maximum speed of 10 mph—and often travel even slower. This results in delays, reduced reliability, and a poor rider experience.

To address these issues, VTA is launching a project to improve service in the Downtown San José corridor. The goal is to make travel safer, faster, and more dependable for all riders.

Project Features

- Consolidating light rail onto First Street. The trackway on Second Street would be removed and the alignment on First Street would be rebuilt into a modern two-track light rail corridor.
- Improve safety for all modes and users. The project would add safety enhancements to create a more defined separation between light rail and other uses
- Consolidate Light Rail stations downtown. The project would reduce the number of stations from three to two. The Paseo de San Antonio Station would be rebuilt near its current location, but the St. James and Santa Clara stations would be removed. A new Santa Clara station would be rebuilt at a location just north of Santa Clara Street, adjacent to the planned Downtown San José BART station.
- Reducing at-grade crossings. The project would reduce the number of driveways that cross the light rail tracks improving overall safety and reducing delays.
- Allow for the restoration of St. James Park. Removing the tracks from Second Street would allow for a unified and more useful public space.

Project Schedule

Phase	Date
Alternative Analysis	Fall 2025
Environmental Clearance	2026
Final Design and Construction	TBD

Project Costs

The project has an estimated cost of \$75M. Funding for Environmental Clearance, Final Design, and Construction has not yet been identified.

How to Reach Us

VTA's Community Outreach

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