SILICON VALLEY
PHASE 1 - BERRYESSA EXTENSION

DRAFT 2ND SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
(SCH# 2002022004)

PREPARED PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE 21000 ET SEQ., AND THE CEQA GUIDELINES, CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, 15000 ET SEQ.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

NOVEMBER 2010

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ABSTRACT

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) has prepared this 2nd Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR-2) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Public Resources Code 21000 et seq.; and the CEQA Guidelines, California Administrative Code, 15000 et seq. The SEIR-2 updates information presented in the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor - BART Extension to Milpitas, San Jose and Santa Clara - Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (May 2007). BART Silicon Valley, formerly called Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor – BART Extension to Milpitas, San Jose, and Santa Clara, is the extension of the BART system from its current planned terminus in Fremont through Milpitas and San Jose to Santa Clara. The extension would begin at the planned BART Warm Springs Station (to be implemented by 2014) in the City of Fremont and proceed on the former Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) right-of-way through the City of Milpitas to near Las Plumas Avenue in the City of San Jose. The extension would then descend into a subway tunnel, continue through downtown San Jose, and terminate at grade in the City of Santa Clara near the Caltrain Station. The total length of the BART Silicon Valley alignment would be 16.1 miles.

This SEIR-2 addresses a number of project changes including a phased construction approach. Therefore, SEIR-2 focuses only on the first phase of BART Silicon Valley, the BART Silicon Valley Berryessa Extension (Phase 1). Phase 1 consists of the first 9.9 miles of BART Silicon Valley and includes two stations: Milpitas Station (formerly Montague/Capitol Station) and Berryessa Station. Passenger service for Phase 1 is planned for 2018, assuming funding is available. The remaining 6.2 miles of BART Silicon Valley to Santa Clara would be constructed when funding is available and any design changes to the remaining 6.2 miles of BART Silicon Valley would be addressed under separate environmental review.

The VTA Board of Directors certified the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR-1) in June 2007 in accordance with CEQA. Analysis of the BART Extension Project presented in the SEIR-1 was based on approximately 35 percent design plans prepared during the Preliminary Engineering design phase of the BART Silicon Valley. This SEIR-2 describes the design changes and evaluates the potential environmental impacts of Phase 1 based on approximately a 65 percent design level. This SEIR 2 also covers any new information since certification of the SEIR-1.

Comments

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