VTA is delivering transportation solutions that are critical to the health, vitality, prosperity and quality of life for all those who live, work, study and play in Santa Clara County.

This commitment can be seen in VTA’s ongoing, successful implementation of Measure A, a voter-approved 30-year half cent sales tax devoted to specified public transit capital improvement projects and operations. Although most of the ballot-defined projects are massive and very complex, requiring years to plan, design and construct, VTA has delivered significant results in achieving Measure A goals including:

- **Extending BART to the Santa Clara County** cities of Milpitas, San Jose and Santa Clara, with the extension to Berryessa currently ahead of schedule and under budget.
- **Extending and improving light rail service** with projects such as the Mountain View Double-Track and Tasman Drive Pocket Track projects enabling enhanced service to Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Levi’s Stadium in Santa Clara.
- Completion of environmental and planning to increase Caltrain service and electrify the system from Palo Alto to Gilroy.

VTA is fully committed to successfully delivering all Measure A projects.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) for the 2000 Measure A Transit Sales Tax Program (“Measure A”) is holding a public hearing on Measure A revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015) to receive input from the community:

**Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.**

**VTA Auditorium**

**3331 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95134**

*(This location is served by VTA Light Rail and Bus Line 58.)*

The public is encouraged to attend. Sign language and additional interpreter services will be provided upon request by contacting VTA Customer Service at least five days prior to the meeting at (408) 321-2300, TTY (408) 321-2330. For those unable to attend, written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on September 7 by email to: board.secretary@vta.org or by mail to: Office of the Board Secretary, 3331 North First Street, Building B-1, San Jose, CA 95134-1927.
BACKGROUND

Measure A, approved by Santa Clara County voters in November 2000, is a 30-year half cent sales tax devoted to improvement projects for the area’s public transit network. The Measure A program is in its ninth year, since fund collection did not begin until 2006 upon expiration of a previous measure. Measure A specified the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) as the implementing authority. A few of the projects specified in the ballot include:

- Extend BART to Silicon Valley.
- Extend Light Rail from Downtown San Jose to the East Valley.
- Improve bus service in major corridors, including implementing Bus Rapid Transit (BRT).
- Purchase zero-emission buses and construct service facilities.
- Provide connections from Mineta San Jose Airport to BART, Caltrain and VTA light rail.
- Construct a new Palo Alto Intermodal Transit Center.
- Increase Caltrain service and electrify from Palo Alto to Gilroy.

The Measure A ballot specified that the Citizens Watchdog Committee, comprised of the private citizens serving on VTA’s Citizens Advisory Committee, must review all 2000 Measure A expenditures, have an independent audit conducted each fiscal year, hold public hearings and issue reports at least annually to inform Santa Clara County residents how the funds are being spent, and publish the results of the independent audit and the annual report in local newspapers and make them available to the public.

The VTA Board of Directors is responsible for implementation of the 2000 Measure A Program and for all policy-related decisions including the composition, implementation schedule and funding level of projects. The Citizens Watchdog Committee is responsible for reviewing all 2000 Measure A expenditures to ensure funds are being spent in accordance with the intent of the ballot.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT

Fulfilling its ballot-defined responsibilities, the CWC commissioned an audit of the Measure A Program financial records and schedule for Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015). Macias Gini & O’Connell LLP, independent certified public accountants, conducted the compliance audit in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). Accordingly, their audit included examining, on a test basis, evidence about VTA’s compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as they deemed necessary. They issued an unqualified, or “clean,” opinion, meaning that in their professional opinion VTA complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements that are applicable to the 2000 Measure A Program. This makes the tenth consecutive audit receiving a clean opinion. The audit report is available on VTA’s website at www.vta.org/cwc and at the Valley Transportation Authority offices at 3331 North First Street, San Jose, CA, in the Building B Lobby from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.
The Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) for the 2000 Measure A Transit Sales Tax Program (“Measure A”) is holding a public meeting to discuss the progress of Measure A projects. VTA is fully committed to successfully delivering all Measure A projects.

Measure A goals include:

- Increasing Caltrain electrification from Palo Alto to Gilroy.
- Providing connections from Mineta San Jose Airport to BART, Caltrain and VTA Light Rail.
- Extending Light Rail from Downtown San Jose to the East Valley.
- Extending BART to Silicon Valley.
- Increasing light rail service and reliability by adding a second light rail track between the Mountain View and Whisman stations and providing an extended pedestrian underpass between the Mountain View and Whisman stations.
- Raising the level of service for commuters transferring between Caltrain and VTA Light Rail at the Santa Clara Station.
- Reducing congestion, ahead of schedule and under budget. VTA sights are set on late 2016 for the project.
- De Anza College Transit Center Improvements.
- Stevens Creek Rapid Transit Planning.
- BRT (Bus Rapid Transit).

BACKGROUND

The Measure A Program is in its ninth year, since fund collection did not begin until 2006 upon expiration of a sales tax devoted to improvement projects for the area’s public transit network. The Measure A, approved by Santa Clara County voters in November 2000, is a 30-year half cent sales tax dedicated to enhancing the county’s public transit system. Revenue collection did not begin until 2006 upon expiration of a project sales tax devoted to improvement projects for the area’s public transit network.

BENEFITS AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In November 2000, Santa Clara County voters approved Measure A, a 30-year half cent sales tax dedicated to implementing the Santa Clara County transit system’s 2000 Measure A Program /financial records and schedule for Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015).

Measure A tax dollars were spent in accordance with the intent of the ballot and the CWC’s conclusion that during this period Measure A tax dollars were spent as intended by the ballot. The audit report is available on VTA’s website at www.vta.org/cwc and at the public libraries and other public locations throughout the county as well as at VTA’s website: www.vta.org/projects-and-programs/Programs/2000-Measure-A-Citizens-Watchdog-Committee (accessible versions are available). A hard copy may be requested by writing to: VTA Office of the Board Secretary, 3331 N. First Street, Building B-1, San José, CA 95134-1927 or by emailing your request to: board.secretary@vta.org.

Questions on the public hearing, independent audit or other Measure A matters should be directed to: Stephen Flynn, Advisory Committee Coordinator, at (408) 321-5720 or stephen.flynn@vta.org.