

**From:** VTA Board Secretary

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2020 2:06 PM

**To:** VTA Board of Directors; VTA Advisory Committee Members

**Subject:** From VTA: FYI - letter to CA Gov Newsom regarding request to prioritize public transportation workers in vaccine distribution plan

**VTA Board of Directors and Advisory Committee Members:**

Attached for your information is a letter addressed to California Governor Newsom from VTA General Manager/CEO Fernandez regarding the request that public transit workers be included in Phase 1B of the California's vaccine distribution plan.

Thank you.

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
3331 North First Street, Building B-1  
San Jose, CA 95134-1927  
Main line: 408.321.5680  
Email: [board.secretary@vta.org](mailto:board.secretary@vta.org)





December 29, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Prioritize Public Transportation Workers in Vaccine Distribution Plan**

Governor Gavin Newsom:

On behalf of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), I write to request that public transit workers be included in Phase 1B of the state's vaccine distribution plan. This is consistent with the interim recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Throughout the pandemic, California's public transportation agencies have played a critical role in transporting essential workers to their jobs in health care, education, food service and hospitality. While seeing a major decline in ridership, VTA continues to provide vital transit service to an average of thirty-three thousand trips per day. Our ridership surveys find our passengers are overwhelmingly low income and people of color. Most are essential workers and rely on public transit to perform the essential tasks of keeping our economy running. Additionally, public transportation operators continue to provide critical services to elderly and disabled people throughout California, often serving as a lifeline. Public transit workers have supported these Californians directly by operating the bus and rail systems that get them to their destinations and by frequently sanitizing transit facilities and vehicles to limit the spread of the virus, consistent with federal, state and local guidance.

Given the clear societal, economic and equity benefits of the services public transit workers provide, we believe it would be a significant mistake for the state to fail to include public transit workers in Phase 1B of the state's vaccine distribution plan. Much like health care professionals, emergency service workers and food and agricultural workers, public transit workers provide an essential service, cannot work from home, and must interact with the public in the course of their duties. In doing so, these dedicated employees come in close contact with large numbers of the traveling public on a daily basis. They do this willingly and with a clear understanding of the critical nature of public transit.

As the pandemic subsides, public transit service will be vital to a balanced recovery and the continued health of our public transit workers must be a top priority for the state.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me at (408) 321-5559.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Nuria I. Fernandez'.

Nuria I. Fernandez  
General Manager and CEO

cc:

Bob Wieckowski, Senator, District 10

Josh Becker, Senator, District 13

Dave Cortese, Senator, District 15

John Laird, Senator, District 17

Marc Berman, Assemblymember, District 24

Alex Lee, Assemblymember, District 25

Ash Kalra, Assemblymember, District 27

Evan Low, Assemblymember, District 28

Mark Stone, Assemblymember, District 29

Robert Rivas, Assemblymember, District 30

Nadine Burke, MD, MPH, Surgeon General, State of California

Erica S. Pan, MD, MPH, Acting State Public Health Officer, Department of Public Health

Members, Vaccine Drafting Guidelines Workgroup, California Department of Public Health

Members, Community Advisory Vaccine Committee, California Department of Public Health

**From:** VTA Board Secretary  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 31, 2020 3:35 PM  
**To:** VTA Board of Directors  
**Subject:** VTA Information: January 7, 2021 Board of Directors Agenda Packet

**VTA Board of Directors:**

You may now access the VTA Board of Directors Agenda packet for the **Thursday, January 7, 2021 Meeting** on our [agenda portal](#).

Please note that you will be receiving a calendar invitation for the Closed Session items.

Board Members will receive a unique “Panelist” link via email from VTA Board Secretary. The email will provide instructions on how to join the meeting.

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](tel:408-321-5680)



**From:** VTA Board Secretary  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 31, 2020 4:27 PM  
**To:** VTA Board of Directors  
**Subject:** VTA Correspondence: Week ending December 31, 2020

**VTA Board of Directors:**

We are forwarding to you the following correspondence:

<b>From</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Roland Lebrun, Member of the Public	Comments addressed to MTC pertaining to redirecting surplus VTA CARES Act funding to Caltrain

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](tel:408-321-5680)



**From:** Roland Lebrun

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:23 PM

**To:** MTC Info <info@bayareametro.gov>

**Cc:** Caltrain Board <board@caltrain.com>; SFCTA Board Secretary <clerk@sfcta.org>; VTA Board Secretary <Board.Secretary@vta.org>; general@morganhill.ca.gov; AllCouncilMembers@ci.gilroy.ca.us; Caltrain CAC Secretary <cacsecretary@caltrain.com>; SFCTA CAC <cac@sfcta.org>

**Subject:** MTC 12/15 Commission Item 7d Redirecting surplus VTA CARES Act funding to Caltrain

Dear Chair Haggerty,

Further to VTA's current projection of a \$55.4M to \$89.9M Cares Act surplus for FY21

<http://santaclaravta.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=6&ID=1494> (slide 2)

and Caltrain's new 2-hourly 64-train timetable effective 12/14

[https://www.caltrain.com/schedules/weekdaytimetable/Weekday\\_Timetable\\_-\\_Effective\\_Dec\\_14\\_2020.html](https://www.caltrain.com/schedules/weekdaytimetable/Weekday_Timetable_-_Effective_Dec_14_2020.html),

please consider directing VTA to collaborate with Caltrain and use a portion of this surplus funding to extend half (32) of these trains to Gilroy for the following reasons:

1. Address equity issues between San Jose and Gilroy by providing relief on VTA bus route 68, the only viable public transit route connecting San Jose to Morgan Hill and Gilroy.
2. Minimize the number of TASI furloughs [https://www.smdailyjournal.com/news/local/caltrain-to-furlough-40-positions-starting-in-january/article\\_466a2bda-35ef-11eb-a9da-eb0aea033b9f.html](https://www.smdailyjournal.com/news/local/caltrain-to-furlough-40-positions-starting-in-january/article_466a2bda-35ef-11eb-a9da-eb0aea033b9f.html).
3. Prove once and for all that the low Caltrain ridership (**including 3 stations in south San Jose**) and massive Highway 101 congestion between San Jose and Gilroy is a direct result of lack of Caltrain service.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Roland Lebrun

## FY2021 Operating Balance Preliminary Projections – (as of December 2020)

	FY21 Current Budget	FY21 Projections		
		Conservative	Base	Optimistic
Subtotal - Sales Tax Related	\$439.6M	\$354.7M	\$369.9M	\$385.2M
Subtotal - Fares	\$38.6M	\$15.5M	\$15.5M	\$15.5M
Subtotal - Other Revenues	\$35.7M	\$30.7M	\$32.7M	\$34.7M
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$513.9M</b>	<b>\$400.9M</b>	<b>\$418.1M</b>	<b>\$435.3M</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$525.5M</b>	<b>\$481.6M</b>	<b>\$481.6M</b>	<b>\$481.6M</b>
<b>OPERATING BALANCE (before applying CARES Act Funding)</b>	<b>(\$11.6M)</b>	<b>(\$80.7M)</b>	<b>(\$63.5M)</b>	<b>(\$46.2M)</b>
<b>CARES ACT FUNDS REMAINING (after budget gap is bridged)</b>	<b>\$124.5M</b>	<b>\$55.4M</b>	<b>\$72.6M</b>	<b>\$89.9M</b>

CARES Act Funding remaining is currently at approximately \$136.1M, which will be used to bridge any negative operating balance at the end of FY2021.



CC  
 Caltrain Board of Directors  
 VTA Board of Directors  
 SFCTA Commissioners  
 Morgan Hill Mayor and City Council  
 Gilroy Mayor and City Council  
 Caltrain CAC  
 VTA CAC  
 SFCTA CAC