



Santa Clara Community Working Group Meeting

Date of Meeting: November 16, 2017 (4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

Attendees:

Members in Attendance: John Urban, Nick Kasper, Jack Morash, and Chris Shay

Members not in Attendance: Ron Miller, Richard Fedesco, Steve Bures, Sudhanshu Jain, and Rahul Chandhok

Other Speaker Attendees: Jill Gibson (VTA), Oxo Slayer (VTA), Gretchen Baisa (VTA), John Davidson (City of Santa Clara), Nanci Klein (CSJ), and Steve McHarris (CSJ)

Additional Project Team in Attendance: Erica Roecks (VTA), Alex Shoor (VTA), Adriano Rothschild (VTA), Tyla Treasure (VTA), and Eileen Goodwin (Apex Strategies)

Project Team not in Attendance: Leyla Hedayat (VTA), Brandi Childress (VTA)

Location: City Council Chambers 1500 Warburton, Santa Clara, CA

Summary:

The Meeting agenda included:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Follow-up Items
- Phase I Update
- Phase II Update
 - Environmental Update
 - Project Decision Making Process
 - Program Management Services Update
- San Jose Diridon Integrated Station Concept Plan
- Two-Year look Ahead
- Developing a Future Outreach Plan
- Planning Department Updates near Santa Clara Station
- Review Action Items and Next Meeting Dates:

Next CWG Meeting:

Key Issues/Comments/Questions:

Comment/Question	Response
Follow Up items	
Can we have the maintenance facility tour earlier than June?	We are hoping to have the new members of the CWG join on the tour. They won't be on board until April. We can see about timing.
Phase I	
When will Phase I open?	By June 2018.
Phase II	
Tunnel decision timing? Can we get a report?	The peer review results are anticipated to be released in December. Yes, we will send information as soon as it is available. The Peer Review Findings and Recommendations presentation was emailed to CWG members on 11/28/17.
Public comment: Will the Board have only one option in the document? What will the comment period be for the document? The HNTB team does not have experience in twin-bore tunneling.	The document will be released with both tunneling options in it. There is no comment period for a Final document. Comments will be taken by the VTA Board when they consider it for approval in January. Comment noted
San Jose Diridon Integrated Station Concept Plan	
Why is the high-speed rail environmental document delayed?	They are considering some new options at the request of San Jose and Gilroy.
How long until the partnership agreement is in place?	The hope is to have all of the partner agencies adopt something in first quarter 2018.
There is a lot of effort and money being invested in planning Diridon. Will there be something on a smaller scale for Santa Clara Station?	Yes. There are existing City plans as well as the future access planning efforts we will be bring to the group in 2018.
I am concerned that things are filling in so fast that the opportunity to push higher density at the station will be lost because the market is ahead of the planning.	Comment noted. Let's discuss further down in the agenda when planning department staff are present from both cities involved.
Public Comment: VTA and the City should look at higher densities. I like the draft guiding principles. This should have been part of the BART EIR. Now VTA is saying it is part of a larger effort.	Comments noted.
Public comment: Can there be a graphic developed for Diridon only?	Comment noted.

Two-Year Look Ahead	
What is the process for funding? Local first then the federal money?	Yes. The fact the VTA has so much local funding available through the sales tax measures makes the federal funding more likely. Federal funding will be reimbursed and not provided as a lump sum upon receiving the FFGA.
Public Comment: is the utility relocation on schedule? If we don't know what we are doing and are winging it we will get caught. The Phase I project we knew what we were getting and we got it. Someone needs to look into how the subway stations were constructed in London.	Yes, the utility relocation is on schedule. Additional comments noted.
Developing a Future Outreach Plan	
Coordinate with three homeowner associations in the area I can put you in touch.	Action Item.
I really like this brochure for Phase I. I recommend you create something similar for Phase II. I would help distribute such a brochure.	Action item.
Planning Department Updates near Santa Clara Station	
Is gateway development a "luxury" development?	It will have the required 10% affordable and is proposed to be market rate.
What is parking requirement for the 1,600 units?	1:1 ratio parking to bedroom is required.
This is close to Caltrain and future BART shouldn't these be denser and require less parking?	Please come and speak to our council regarding your thoughts. The Council would like to hear from someone who is supportive of density.
The University encourages density. What became of the commercial portion of the project?	The commercial is slightly less than the previous plan for the site (29,000 sq ft originally and 25,000 sq ft currently proposed).
Avaya is a fundamental asset. Is there integration through a paseo for access to destinations on both sides?	Yes. The City is working with the property owners on the circulation.
Will there be an opportunity on the San Jose side? Housing is a desperate situation.	San Jose would like to see jobs there. Comment noted.
What is the VTA plan?	A TOD Strategy and Access Planning update is already an agenda item for our next meeting in February.
Could there be three or four soccer fields nearby? I thought they were planned for.	City of San Jose found out that those planned fields cannot happen in the spot they were planned for because of the airport flight path
I like the revenue of providing additional office near the Caltrain, BART and other	Comment noted.

transit rather than soccer fields.	
We need a map with all of this in one place.	That will be developed as part of the TOD Strategy effort.
I understand the job generation on Campbell Avenue in San Jose. I hope the Santa Clara Council goes as dense as possible on the former Irvine site.	Comment noted.
Public comment: The Gateway project is stunning. The Crossing in Redwood City should be looked at as a model. They share office parking with downtown parking and it is working. Did the city look at several types of cladding for Avaya.	Thank you. Comments noted. Yes, the City of San Jose looked at the technology you are interested in for Avaya.

Follow-Up Items:

- Revisit tour timing
- Follow-up regarding the three homeowner associations.
- Produce a brochure for Phase II
- Create map with the land uses around the station

Prepared by: Eileen Goodwin, Apex Strategies

Distribution:

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