



**Santa Clara Community Working Group Meeting**

**Date of Meeting:** May 14, 2015 (4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

**Attendees:**

Members in Attendance: John Urban, Sudhanshu Jain, Rahul Chandhok, Richard Fedesco, Denise Harris, Chris Shay, Jack Morash, Chris Lepe

Members not in Attendance: Ron Miller, Steve Bures

Other Attendees: Raj Srinath (VTA), Mike Smith (VTA), Tom Fitzwater (VTA), Kevin Kurimoto (VTA), Brent Pearse (VTA), Margaret Rhee (Ernst & Young), Brian Adams (Bellarmine), Rob Means

Project Team in Attendance: Leyla Hedayat (VTA), Erica Roecks (VTA), Eileen Goodwin (Apex)

Project Team not in Attendance: Debby Fernandez (City of Santa Clara), Dennis Ng (City of Santa Clara)

**Location:** Santa Clara Senior Center, 1303 Fremont Street, Santa Clara, CA

**Summary:**

**The Orientation Meeting agenda included:**

- Welcome and Introductions
- Agenda Review and Meeting Format
- Review Community Working Groups Process (role of committee, role of member)
- Receive Overview of Project (project status, funding, and environmental process)
- Discussion of Work Plan
- Review Action Items and Next Meeting Date (June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 4 p.m.-6 p.m.)

**Key Issues/Comments/Questions:**

Comment/Question	Response
Requested clarification on CWG role and how the information gathered would be communicated to policy makers—will recommendations come out of this group?	The SVRT PWC and VTA Board would receive updates on all of the CWG meetings-CWG member encouraged to still attend and express their points of view at meetings should they want some specific point of view to be clear to policy makers—no specific recommendations are

	expected from the CWGs they are an information exchange not an advisory body.
What parts of the project are already decided what are not?	The project team will be making that clear in various presentations and updates. In general many of the decisions have been made and the project is in various levels of design. There is more to still be decided regarding station access for example than the placement of stations or portals.
How was this group chosen? Can we suggest members? The City CAC should be represented.	The CWG has some organizations that were on the CWG when it was active in the early 2000's. They City staff and Mayor also added new organizations. We can look at adding a CAC representative.
For the Envision project list will there be operations and maintenance type projects?	That project list is not yet determined and right now all types of projects are being considered.
Will there be financial analysis of this extension?	Yes, as part of the FTA New Starts process this is required. We will share that information as it is available.
What escalation rate does VTA assume for projects?	The escalation rate for the BART project is 3%.
When parking is phased how is that done? What goes first?	Parking garages will be phased horizontally not vertically to be able to keep existing parking open during construction. VTA will be careful not to over build parking and will preserve opportunities for transit oriented development (TOD). As to what goes first, some sort of parking structure will be in place when station is open.
How does the 55k new riders breakdown by station?	Approximately Downtown 24k, Diridon 13k, Santa Clara 11k, and Alum Rock 7k
What will the pedestrian connections be and when will they be constructed	There will be a pedestrian undercrossing constructed by the end of 2016 from the Caltrain station platform under the railroad tracks to the east (just west of the planned station box) and north to Brokaw Road. When the BART station is constructed, the undercrossing will continue further east under the BART station and will provide access to the fair gates to enter into the station as well as continue north to Brokaw Road just east of the station
Clarification on alignment.	Clarified.

How wedded is VTA to this station location? Can it be moved to some other place in Santa Clara?	The final project definition for the environmental document will be determined in Spring 2016. This station was chosen because of the connection to the University, the Airport, and there has been a Specific Plan and General Plan adopted by the City that will provide supportive land uses for the station in this location.
High Speed Rail (HSR) is a bait and switch. Why are we still looking at going to Santa Clara when we cannot afford it? Go to Diridon and stop there.	Comment noted. The maintenance facility would still be in this location even if the station was not built as there are not any sites elsewhere along the alignment that are considered feasible.
2000 Measure A is not building every project it promised. How can VTA drop projects?	We will add a presentation on this topic to the work plan.
Is this project coordinating with HSR? How will Diridon Station work?	We will add a presentation on this topic to the work plan
Is the West Parking Lot environmentally cleared? This seems like a bad site for parking as it would be more valuable as TOD, especially office.	Comment noted. No, it is not cleared. It will be part of this new document project description.
When will environmental document be released?	Spring 2016.
Can we discuss staging of construction?	Yes that is in the work plan.
Is there a way to share parking?	The project team is looking into that and hoping so. We will add this topic to the work plan.
Would like to better understand the community outreach process for the public that will be going simultaneously with the CWG and environmental process. Would like that presentation as soon as possible to be able to influence it.	We will add a presentation on this topic to the work plan for the June meeting.
Can we add the envision process to the schedule graphic?	Comment noted as an action item.
Want to learn more about Measure B.	We will add this topic to the work plan.
Does internet commerce impact the VTA's sales tax revenues?	Not that we have tracked. We will look into that.
Request for further clarification of original sales tax assumptions and the intervening economy.	Clarification provided.
Is VTA more conservative in its financial projections now?	Yes.
The financial gap of \$2.4b is a very big	Comment noted.

number.	
Can an EIR be updated and amended?	Yes.
Appreciate the opportunity to sit on this group and get information and give feedback.	Comment noted.
Group may want to see if it can find some common goals/values it wants to be able to express as coming from the whole group, such as perspectives on parking strategy.	Comment noted.
Interested in know how and when our list or blog would be helpful.	We can build that into community outreach presentation.

### Follow-Up Items:

- Add Envision Process to schedule graphic.
- Send to Jack an 8-1/2" x 11" of the station graphic —Done ER
- Coordinate with Denise to set up a tour for her members—Done BP
- Send Jack Diridon meeting dates and locations.—Done EG

### Requested Links:

- **Link to BART to San Jose project web page:** <http://www.vta.org/bart/>
- **Link to CWG web page:** <http://www.vta.org/bart/phasellCWGs>
- **Link to SVRT PWC web page:** <http://www.vta.org/get-involved/standing-committee/svrt-program-working-committee>
- **Link to Envision web page:** <http://www.vta.org/envision-silicon-valley/envision-silicon-valley>
  - We mentioned that we would provide a link to the Envision Survey – the survey is being refined and we will provide a link to you in June
- **Link to Scoping Report:** <http://www.vta.org/bart/Environmental/scopingreportPhasell>

### Add to Work Plan:

*Items discussed to be added to the Work Plan have been added as new topics or integrated into existing topics already shown on the Work Plan. The Work Plan will be updated quarterly to ensure relevant topics are presented at appropriate times with the current environmental activities.*

- BART staff to present need for maintenance facility and justification of location of maintenance facility including why facility cannot be in Berryessa
- Presentation on proposed ridership at Santa Clara Station—justification for station in Santa Clara and dollar savings from deferring Santa Clara Station
- Financial Analysis as part of New Starts program, including operations and maintenance assumptions.
- Presentation on emerging technologies (driverless cars, parking garage technologies etc.)
- Presentation on 2000 Measure A--how can those projects be modified or dropped.
- Presentation on HSR Interface at Diridon.
- Presentation regarding details of construction staging.
- Presentation on shared parking opportunities.
- Presentation in June about VTA's community engagement process for this effort. Cover how CWG member blogs and lists can be utilized.
- Presentation on Measure B BART operations fund.
- Impact of internet sales on sales tax revenues.
- Presentation on project status regarding what is at what level of design particularly the 90% level in June.
- City to present its plans in June.
- Have a panel of BART construction "neighbors" come and do a Q and A with the group at a future meeting.

**Prepared by:** Eileen Goodwin, Apex Strategies

**Distribution:**

CWG  
Project Team  
City Staff  
Distribution list