

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING

Friday, April 17, 2020

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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The Special Meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA) Board of Directors (Board) was called to order by Chairperson Chavez at 9:01 a.m. via teleconference.

##### 1.1. ROLL CALL ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Marie Blankley	Alternate Board Member	Absent
Jeannie Bruins	Ex-Officio Member	Present
Larry Carr	Board Member	Absent
Magdalena Carrasco	Board Member	Present
Cindy Chavez	Chairperson	Present
David Cortese	Board Member	Present
Dev Davis	Alternate Board Member	Present
Lan Diep	Board Member	Present
Susan Ellenberg	Alternate Board Member	Absent
Glenn Hendricks	Vice Chairperson	Present
Charles "Chappie" Jones	Board Member	Present
Liz Kniss	Alternate Board Member	Present
Sam Liccardo	Board Member	Present
John McAlister	Board Member	Present
Howard Miller	Alternate Board Member	Present
Bob Nuñez	Board Member	Present
Teresa O'Neill	Alternate Board Member	Present
Raul Peralez	Board Member	Present
Rob Rennie	Board Member	Present

\* Alternates do not serve unless participating as a Member.

**A quorum was present.**

##### 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance commenced.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

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Roland Lebrun, Interested Citizen, commented presentations should be posted online no less than 12 hours prior to the meeting.

## 3. REGULAR AGENDA

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### 3.1. VTA's BART Silicon Valley Phase II Update

Nuria I. Fernandez, General Manager/CEO, provided background of VTA's BART Silicon Valley Phase II Extension Project. Bernice Alaniz, BART Silicon Valley, Director of Business Operations & Communication; Takis Salpeas, BART Silicon Valley Extension Project Chief, and Carl Holmes, BART Assistant General Manager, provided a presentation entitled "VTA's BART Silicon Valley Phase II Extension Project."

Chairperson Chavez noted the following public comments were received and posted on the VTA portal:

- Gerald Cauthen
- Jim Stallman
- Nicolas Ball-Jones
- Benjamin Schneider
- Susan Setterholm
- Steven Green
- Coalition including: East Bay for Everyone, Friends of Caltrain, Sierra Club Loma Prieta, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, Transbay Coalition, Urban Environmentalists and other individuals

#### Public Comment

Scott Knies, Interested Citizen, expressed support for the presentation and consensus between BART and VTA. He stated he is hopeful VTA will receive stimulus funding.

Mr. Lebrun encouraged the Board to read the letter from the Coalition and expressed concern with the stacked configuration under East Santa Clara and Stockton Avenue as well as Diridon. He suggested a viable solution is cut and cover at 28<sup>th</sup> and Diridon and a center bulb mine platform downtown which is all connected via twin bore tunnels.

Monica Mallon, Interested Citizen, suggested the Board consider the letter from the Coalition and use a different tunneling method to reduce construction costs.

Blair Beekman, Interested Citizen, encouraged the reduction of project costs and efficiency, and also noted the importance of good public outreach.

Derek S., Eastbay for Everyone, suggested VTA reconsider the proposed design and explore a more efficient, cost effective design that prioritizes riders. He also commented the Santa Clara station is redundant based on Caltrain's business plan and would be a net loss for both agencies. He encouraged collaboration between the agencies.

Ron Kappesser, Interested Citizen, offered the following comments: 1) Santa Clara Street is more suitable for cut and cover, such as the Milan tunneling method, which has much better access; 2) consider a shallow tunnel for better station access; 3) building all the way to Santa Clara seems redundant; and 4) look for a yard location that requires less tracks to be built.

John Courtney, Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 265, offered a reminder that the stimulus funding is for operations to bring transit back to Santa Clara County as well as procuring Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Adina Levin, Friends of Caltrain, expressed support for bringing BART to Silicon Valley and thanked VTA for rethinking the cost for the region. She noted it is a good time to reconsider the extension to Santa Clara and recommended not building a redundant operating service.

Angus L., Interested Citizen, suggested the proposed ventilation tunnel/station between the Santa Clara Street Station and Little Portugal Station be moved to a small portion of county-owned land to save funds.

Ms. Fernandez reiterated VTA's breakthrough to solve concerns BART had raised regarding ventilation for the underground structure. The proposed changes will also serve to accommodate emergency egress.

Board Member Peralez and staff discussed the following: 1) expressed support for the presentation and the collaboration to move the project forward; 2) support reduction of ramps and enhancement of emergency egress; 3) status of small business assistance study; 4) project footprint and its impacts to businesses and residents; 5) nine month timeline of impacts for cut and cover is reasonable; 6) street access during construction will be segmental; 7) benefits and cost effectiveness of single versus double bore; and 8) importance of multiple pedestrian entrances. He requested staff to begin outreach to communities along East Santa Clara Street and Stockton Avenue in the City of San Jose.

Board Member Liccardo and staff discussed the following: 1) transitioning between two different sized boring machines; 2) timeline for preliminary cost estimates, schedule and design; and 3) expectation of when VTA will be filing the application with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Chairperson Chavez commented on the following: 1) reinforced a concern about cut and cover; 2) expressed concern about downtown circulation and requested the City of San Jose and VTA to conduct a survey, status and assessment of possible impacts to businesses on East Santa Clara Street and Stockton Avenue; and 3) acknowledged the tremendous amount of construction happening on the south side of downtown

San Jose, and the importance of multiple station connection entrance/exits and whether the City of San Jose is considering above-grade skyways.

**On order of Chairperson Chavez** and there being no objection, the Board of Directors received VTA's BART Silicon Valley Phase II Update.

#### **4. OTHER ITEMS**

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##### **4.1. Announcements**

Chairperson Chavez announced the next VTA Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 7, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

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**On order of Chairperson Chavez** and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita McGraw, Board Assistant  
VTA Office of the Board Secretary