

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP MEETING

Friday, April 16, 2021

### MINUTES

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

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The Workshop Meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA) Board of Directors (Board) was called to order by Chairperson Hendricks at 10:42 a.m. via video and teleconference.

##### 1.1 ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Margaret Abe-Koga	Ex-Officio	Present
Marie Blankley	Alternate Board Member	Absent
Patrick "Pat" Burt	Board Member	Present
Magdalena Carrasco	Board Member	Present
Cindy Chavez	Board Member	Present
Rich Constantine	Board Member	Present
Dev Davis	Alternate Board Member	Absent
Lisa Gillmor	Alternate Board Member	Present
Glenn Hendricks	Chairperson	Present
Sergio Jimenez	Board Member	Present
Charles "Chappie" Jones	Board Member	Present
Otto Lee	Alternate Board Member	Absent
Lynette Lee-Eng	Alternate Board Member	Present
Sam Liccardo	Board Member	Present
Carmen Montano	Board Member	Present
Darcy Paul	Board Member	Present
Raul Perez	Board Member	Present
Rob Rennie	Alternate Board Member	Absent
Joe Simitian	Board Member	Present

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

**A quorum was present.**

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

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Blair Beekman, Interested Citizen, commented on the following: 1) spread of COVID-19; and 2) consider the reduction of shot spotters at Berryessa BART station.

Kathryn, Interested Citizen, commented on the importance of being cautious in re-opening due to COVID-19.

Adina Levin, Interested Citizen, encouraged VTA to work with county health partners to include transit directions to vaccination sites.

### **3. WORKSHOP ITEMS**

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#### **3.1. FY 2022 and FY 2023 Proposed Biennial Budget**

Kathleen Kelly, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and Franklin Wong, Deputy Director of Finance, Budget & Program Management, provided an overview of the staff report and a presentation entitled “Proposed Biennial Budget Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023.”

#### **Public Comment**

Anita McGraw, Board Assistant, stated for the record the following Interested Citizens submitted written public comment, which was provided to the Board and posted on the online agenda portal:

- Gayle Boesch
- Karen Nelson
- Monica Mallon
- Felicia Gershberg
- Lauren Weston
- Rusty & Marilynn Smith
- Roland Lebrun
- Julia Cline
- Tiffany Rodriguez
- Kjirste Morrell
- Hoai-An Truong
- Judy Thompson
- Jim Stallman

The following Interested Citizens commented on the following: 1) expressed concern for VTA bus pass-ups; 2) encouraged VTA to prioritize allocating funds to restore transit service to pre-COVID service levels as soon as possible; 3) consider climate preservation, equity and social justice; 4) hire new drivers; and 5) incentivize ridership.

- Hoai-An Truong
- Michael
- Raj Singh
- Sonia Patel
- Radhika Agarwal
- Eugene Bradley
- Kevin Ma
- Scott Mace
- James Kuszmaul

- Katherine Scott-Smith
- Emily Wheeler
- Huascar Castro
- Adam Buchbinder
- Dean Chen
- Monica Mallon
- Nathan
- Bonnie Lockhart
- Annie Lloyd
- Richard Marcantonio
- Adina Levin
- Zac
- Shane Weinstein

John Courtney, Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 265, encouraged Board Members to discuss with Union Representatives the following items that could help alleviate bus pass-ups: 1) increase training cycle; 2) use of CARES Act funding; and 3) increase workhours.

Mr. Beekman commented on the allocation of funding for 2016 Measure B projects, transit operations, congestion management and possible natural disasters.

Joty Dhaliwal, Interested Citizen, encouraged VTA to use the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Stimulus funding now to create new jobs to provide more service.

Members of the Board and staff discussed the following: 1) Coronavirus Relief and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding timelines/deadlines; 2) service levels, staffing and training; 3) additional engagement with ATU regarding implementation of opportunities to eliminate pass-ups; 4) Caltrain funding subsidy reduction; 5) immediate use of stimulus funding and incentives to increase ridership; 6) pass-up tracking; 7) draft a solution for keeping customers/drivers safe and the reduction of pass-ups; 8) sales tax projections; 9) 10-year projection; 10) suggest the Board discuss the budget effect of implementing the 2017 Grand Jury suggestion to increase VTA's farebox recovery to 21%; 11) status of employee vaccinations; 12) enlist lifeline services for those most dependent on transit; 13) impact of increasing service levels on ridership versus the service responds to the ridership; and 14) impact of revenue decline to local share.

Board Member Carrasco requested updated information on where the routes and pass-ups are taking place. Staff indicated updated information would be provided.

Board Member Paul noted his policy support for any motion or administrative attempt to reduce the number of pass-ups as much as possible and as quickly as possible, and as a goal to eliminate those pass-ups up to and including the restoration of bus service to pre-pandemic levels as quickly and as safely as the agency can do so. Further, he expressed policy support for exploring and

implementing alternatives for transit as well as technology that could be more directly and quickly mobilized in order to address this issue, while at the same time deployed in conjunction with the restoration of bus service to pre-pandemic levels. He expressed support for policy that direct and encourage the agency to explore, promote and develop alternative and innovative possibilities and solutions to address transit needs.

Board Member Chavez recommended the following: 1) staff provide a weekly update that acknowledges the number of pass-ups and the routes; 2) provide a structure of new driver training schedule, hiring schedule and training strategies; and 3) when reporting, note the sources used to determine number of employees being vaccinated.

**On order of Chairperson Hendricks** and there being no objection, the Board reviewed and discussed the Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 Proposed Biennial Budget.

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

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

There were no Announcements.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

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**On order of Chairperson Hendricks** and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita McGraw, Board Assistant  
VTA Office of the Board Secretary