



Memorandum

TO: BUILDING BETTER
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

FROM: James R. Helmer

SUBJECT: VALLEY TRANSPORTATION
PLAN 2030

DATE: 01-20-04

Approved

Date

RECOMMENDATION

Accept status report on Valley Transportation Plan 2030.

BACKGROUND

The Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is preparing an update to the transportation master plan for Santa Clara County. The master plan is updated on a 3-year cycle and the new plan is referred to as Valley Transportation Plan 2030 (VTP 2030). The purpose of the plan is to identify and prioritize improvement projects for various regional transportation funding sources.

During the months of September through December 2003, the Building Better Transportation (BBT) Committee reviewed reports and recommendations regarding the City's priorities for regional transportation funding. On December 16, 2003, the City Council approved recommendations to the Valley Transportation Authority on the City's priorities for VTP 2030. The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the status of VTP 2030.

ANALYSIS

Summary of City Position

The City's VTP priorities as approved by the City Council are summarized on Attachment A. The list includes a total of 29 projects covering the program categories of Freeways, Expressways, Local Streets and County Roads, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), Pavement Maintenance, Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities, Sound Mitigation, Aesthetic Enhancements, and Transit. The priority list represents the preferred projects for regional transportation funding over the next ten years. On December 17, City staff met with VTA representatives to communicate the City Council's recommendations on VTP 2030.

Local Streets and County Roads Program

An important near term element of the VTP 2030 plan is the Local Streets and County Roads Program (LS&CR), which identifies major city arterial and county rural roadways that Santa Clara cities and the County have determined require significant improvements. Department of Transportation staff engaged in a detailed evaluation of the City's inventory of potential LS&CR improvements and identified a list of 36-candidate projects. The project list was approved by the City Council on September 30, 2003. This list was then transmitted to the VTA for evaluation against similar projects from throughout the county of Santa Clara.

VTA appointed a technical scoring committee comprised of staff representatives from various Santa Clara County cities and the scoring committee reviewed each project application. From a pool of 104 projects the City of San José secured 13 out of the top 25 project priorities. Attachment B outlines the San José projects in order of scoring priority. As the VTP 2030 plan is developed a funding level will be determined for the LS&CR program. Once the level of funding is identified, those most competitive projects that fit within the available funding will then compete on an even level for programming using specific criteria for the programming phase. Those criteria are likely to include project readiness, local match and geographic equity. As a result, DOT staff expects San José projects to be very competitive when program allocations commence.

Schedule

VTA staff expects to move forward with review and approval of the VTP 2030 program in the following manner:

- January - Project lists and County investment targets to go before the VTA Board at the January 30th Board Workshop.
- February - Specific project allocations and project priorities to go before the VTA Board at the February Board Workshop.
- March – The public review process begins. The following VTP 2030 Public Outreach Meetings have been scheduled. All of the meetings will be held from 6-8 pm.
 - Thurs. March 4 -- Roosevelt Community Center in San Jose
 - Mon. March 8 --- Mountain View City Hall
 - Tues. March 9 -- Great Mall, Milpitas
 - Wed. March 10 - Campbell City Library
 - Thurs. March 11 - Morgan Hill City CouncilThe format for the meetings will be in an Open House format with no formal presentations. VTA staff will be present to answer questions.
- April – VTA Board adopts program

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The VTA will conduct public outreach as part of the VTP 2030 update process during early 2004.

COORDINATION

Review of City issues and interests related to VTP 2030 has been coordinated with Planning, Building and Code Enforcement; Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services; Public Works; Office of Economic Development; Office of the City Attorney; and the San José Redevelopment Agency.

JAMES R. HELMER
Director of Transportation

Attachments