

Memorandum

TO: BUILDING BETTER
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

FROM: James R. Helmer

SUBJECT: BART TO SAN JOSÉ

DATE: 03-22-04

Approved

Date

RECOMMENDATION

Receive a status report on the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor (BART to San José) project.

BACKGROUND

Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) has been leading the development of the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor/BART to San José project. On March 16, 2004 the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) was released for public review. The release of the EIS/EIR is a major step in the development process of the BART project and will facilitate Preliminary Engineering on the BART extension.

A series of Public Hearings have been scheduled in order to receive input on the environmental document. Attachment A outlines the schedule for the environmental review, as well as other upcoming project milestones which will be discussed further below. The Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement (PBCE) will coordinate City of San José review of the EIS/EIR and will provide comments to VTA by the May 14, 2004 deadline. Final approval of the EIS/EIR by the VTA Board of Directors is expected in November 2004.

Final Alignment and Station Location Recommendations

Throughout the environmental process VTA has carried forward several different alignment options and specific station locations along the corridor. These options have been reviewed by the affected communities along the corridor through the Community Working Group (CWG) process. In San José, the remaining decisions include the following:

- Berryessa Station
 - Parking and access

- Alum Rock Station Alignment
 - 28th Street Railroad Corridor
 - US 101/Diagonal Alignment

- Civic Plaza/SJSU Station
 - Seven potential Station Entrances

- Downtown Crossover Track Location
 - West of Civic Plaza/SJSU Station
 - West of Market Street Station

- Market Street Station
 - 11 Potential Station Entrances

- Diridon/Arena Alignment and Station Location
 - North Alignment (just South of East Santa Clara Street)
 - South Alignment (beneath the former Crandall Street right-of-way)

The VTA will be holding Public Hearings as well as meetings with stakeholder groups to receive public input on both the EIS/EIR and the Alignment and Station Location recommendations. Attachment A details the planned meetings.

Upon completion of the next phase of community outreach, Department of Transportation (DOT) staff will make a recommendation regarding the Final Alignment and Station Locations at the May 3, 2004 Building Better Transportation (BBT) meeting. The Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor Policy Advisory Board is expected to conduct a review and adopt final Alignment and Station Locations at their May 26, 2004 meeting.

COORDINATION

This item has been coordinated with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, the Department of Planning, Building & Code Enforcement, and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency.

JAMES R. HELMER
Director of Transportation

Attachment

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