

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE/ 2000 MEASURE A CITIZENS WATCHDOG COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

Citizens Advisory Committee

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is an independent special district responsible for bus and light rail operations, paratransit services, congestion management for Santa Clara County, countywide transportation planning, implementing certain highway and roadway improvement projects, and management of voter-approved transportation sales tax programs.

VTA is the solution that moves YOU! VTA provides solutions that move people to their jobs, recreational activities, school, appointments, home, and more. From highways to bikeways to safer routes to school, VTA makes sure Silicon Valley residents and workers have the ability to get where they need to go.

VTA is governed by the 12-member VTA Board of Directors (Board), which represents all jurisdictions in Santa Clara County. The VTA Board sets VTA policy.

VTA History

VTA was created in 1972 pursuant to the Santa Clara County Transit District Act. Effective December 1, 1994, VTA became the Congestion Management Agency in Santa Clara County, undertaking the responsibility for countywide transportation planning and funding and for managing the county's blueprint to reduce congestion and improve air quality.

Prior to January 1, 1995, the County Board of Supervisors served as the governing board for VTA. Effective January 1, 1995, pursuant to State legislation, VTA has operated under a separate Board of Directors composed of county and city representatives. On January 1, 2000, pursuant to State legislation, VTA's name was officially changed from the Santa Clara County Transit District.

VTA Mission

Solutions that move you.

VTA Vision

To innovate the way Silicon Valley moves.

VTA Core Values

Safety, Integrity, Quality, Sustainability, Diversity, Accountability.



Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Citizens Advisory Committee

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) History and Description

The Board formed the CAC in 1995 to improve communication between VTA and the community, , businesses, stakeholder groups, drivers and transit. The CAC was envisioned to have an advisory role to the Board, providing the Board recommendations on important policy issues.

In November 2000, the voters in Santa Clara County approved Measure A, a 30-year half cent sales tax devoted to transit improvement projects. Measure A mandated that an independent citizens watchdog committee, consisting of VTA's CAC members, review 2000 Measure A expenditures, commission audits, and issue reports to inform the public.

2008 Measure D specified the VTA CAC as the advisory body that reviews and comments on VTA's comprehensive transit program as part of the countywide transportation plan.

CAC Mission

The mission of the VTA CAC is to assist and advise the Board on transportation policy issues and initiatives. The Committee provides a communication channel for transportation stakeholders and residents of the county by providing input, analysis, perspective and timely recommendations to the Board.

CAC Composition

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is composed of thirteen (13) members. Members are appointed to represent stakeholder groups from either of two broad categories: (1) Community & Societal Interests; or (2) Business & Labor.

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

Citizens Advisory Committee

CAC Roles and Responsibilities

- Act as the communication link between transportation stakeholders and Santa Clara County (county) residents and the Board
- Review and provide feedback and recommendations on VTA policy matters referred to the Committee by the Board or General Manager
- Review and comment on VTA's comprehensive transit program as part of the countywide transportation plan
- Additional duties as assigned by the Board, which may include:
 - Review and comment on biennial budget
 - Review and comment on work plan as necessary
 - Identify and report relevant issues and projects that may impact the Board or VTA as an organization
 - Assist the Board and VTA in communicating with various stakeholder groups, communities, organizations, and citizens on issues that may affect the Board and/or VTA
 - Attend special events as assigned by the Board
- Serve as the ballot-defined independent Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) for the 2000 Measure A Transit Sales Tax ("2000 Measure A") during its term (April 2006 – March 2036). The CWC duties include:
 - Review 2000 Measure A expenditures
 - Commission annual independent audit of 2000 Measure A
 - Review and comment on annual audit
 - Publish results of annual audit
 - Hold public hearings
 - Issue and publish annual reports to the County residents

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Citizens Advisory Committee

CAC Member Roles and Responsibilities

- Regularly attend meetings
- Actively and respectfully participate in meetings
- Provide meaningful and timely feedback
- Stay informed about VTA related initiatives and concerns
- Assist in the recruitment of new CAC members
- Provide and ensure effective two-way communication between county residents, neighborhood groups, stakeholders and VTA
- Participate in VTA-related or sponsored events as requested
- Complete annual California Fair Political Practices Commission's Statements of Economic Interests - Form 700

CAC Member Terms

Selected and appointed members serve a four (4) year term, and are limited to two (2) consecutive terms.

CAC Meetings

The CAC generally meets once a month, on the Wednesday following the first Thursday. Meeting normally last two (2) hours or less.

CAC Leadership

The CAC elects its own Chairperson and Vice Chairperson on an annual basis. Selected Chair and Vice Chair serve for one year.

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

Citizens Advisory Committee

CAC Member Recruitment & Selection Process

Eligibility to serve on the Committee

The CAC bylaws require that all members must be residents of Santa Clara County (county) during their term. Members of any VTA committee, elected public officials at any level of government, and VTA employees are ineligible to serve.

Member Selection Process

The member selection process is open and competitive. Selected members are subject to approval by VTA's Governance and Audit Committee (G&A).

- 1) Eligible candidates completes the CAC Member Application Form online.
- 2) Evaluation Panel will review and evaluate the applications. Evaluation Panel will rank and short-list the applicants based on demonstrated:
 - Interest and background in transportation and/or mobility
 - Skills, experience and expertise
 - Previous service on committees, boards, or planning/land-use commission is advantageous
 - Willingness to devote time and effort on carrying out the duties of the CAC/CWC.
 - Ability to foster bilateral relations between citizens, stakeholder groups and VTA
- 3) Evaluation Panel will make a concerted effort to: (a) have equal representation from residents throughout the County's geographic area; (b) balance the number of positions in each broad stakeholder category; and (c) reflect diversity of the County in the CAC.
- 4) Short-listed candidates may be interviewed by the Evaluation Panel.
- 5) Evaluation Panel will recommend the candidate to the G&A for approval.
- 6) Evaluation Panel will periodically evaluate to determine if other stakeholder constituencies could serve on the CAC to provide relevant input to the Board of Directors and community. This may include consulting with the CAC/CWC.

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Citizens Advisory Committee

CAC Member Recruitment & Selection Process (continued)

Member Selection Process (continued)

Stakeholder constituencies may include but are not limited to:

A. Business & Labor

1. Building Industries (real estate development and construction)
2. Organized Labor
3. Local Commerce
4. Large Employers
5. Real Estate
6. Healthcare
7. Education

B. Community & Societal Interests

1. Senior Citizens
2. Disabled Community
3. Environmental
4. Non-Motorized Transportation (Bicyclists & Pedestrians)
5. Motorists
6. Transportation Planning/Advocacy