

FACT SHEET: **Transit**

Rapid 523 Project

Overview/Project Description

Based on current ridership demand along the Stevens Creek corridor, VTA is implementing Rapid 523 bus service that will provide a connection from the Berryessa BART Station to West San Carlos/Stevens Creek via Downtown San Jose, providing fast, frequent, and reliable service to Santa Clara and Cupertino. The Rapid 523 service will improve the Limited 323 service by increasing service frequency, improving bus stops, and speeding up the service with coordinated traffic signals.

The Rapid 523 project will improve travel time, enhance the passenger waiting area and evaluate opportunities to encourage more walking and bicycling in the corridor. The goal of the project is to design a compelling, attractive service that will build ridership for future Bus Rapid Transit implementation. The Rapid 523 project is focused on providing an enhanced service that will serve the Berryessa BART Station when it opens in Fall 2017. The Rapid 523 Project is part of the BART Transit Integration Plan providing an improved service plan between Berryessa BART and De Anza College.

VTA also plans to work with the cities of San Jose, Santa Clara and Cupertino to help achieve their goals of transforming the Stevens Creek corridor into a multi-modal street that improves safety for bicycles, pedestrians, and connections to transit. VTA will work in partnership with the cities to identify ways to improve safety and streetscapes around stations including connecting sidewalks and bicycle lanes, adding landscaping and pedestrian lighting, and reducing the length of pedestrian crossings.

Rapid 523 service will include the following:

- **Specialized Vehicles** – Hybrid, comfortable modern interiors, and Wi-Fi on board
- **Enhanced Stations** – Weather protection, real-time schedule displays and passenger amenities
- **Transit Signal Priority** – Improves speed and timing by holding green lights for approaching buses
- **Fast, Frequent, Reliable** – Better service with improved bus travel times and on-time performance

Project Schedule

Preliminary Planning. Fall 2014-Fall 2015
Final Design Fall 2015-Fall 2016
Construction. Fall 2016-Late 2017
First Day of Service Late 2017*

*Opening of the Berryessa BART station.

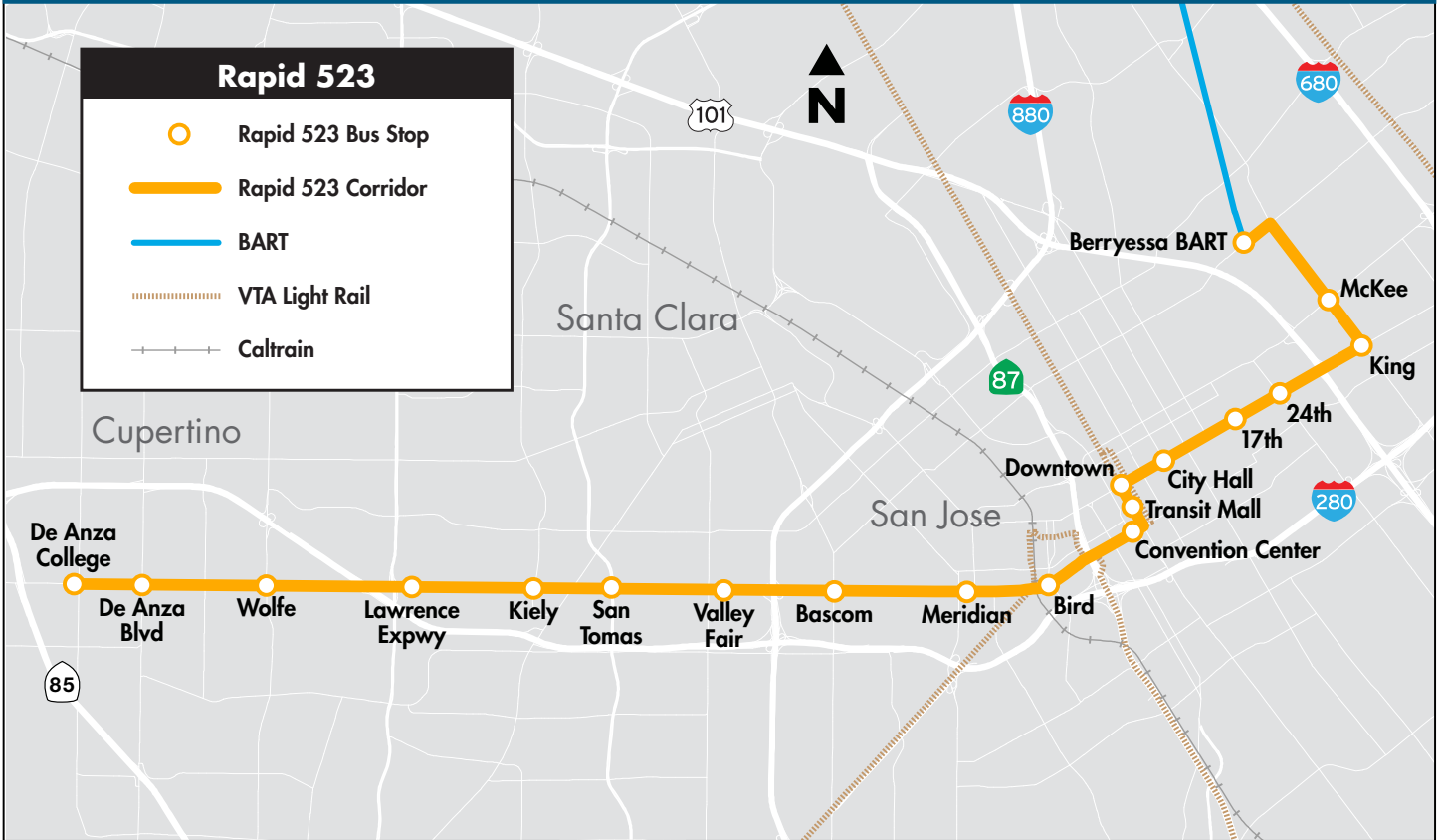
Project Cost and Funding

The total cost for the Rapid 523 project will not exceed the \$7.7M budget. The funding for the project will come from the Measure A Transit Improvement Program.



Continued

Rapid 523 Project



How to Reach Us

For more information on the Rapid 523 project, please contact VTA Community Outreach (408) 321-7575, TTY for the hearing impaired (408) 321-2330. You may also visit us on the web at www.vta.org/rapid523, or e-mail us at community.outreach@vta.org.

VTA Mission: *VTA provides sustainable, accessible, community-focused transportation options that are innovative, environmentally responsible, and promote the vitality of our region.*