



Alum Rock Community Working Group Meeting

Date of Meeting: June 10, 2015 (4:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.)

Attendees:

Members in Attendance: Terry Christensen, Bob Van Cleef, Davide Vieira, David Dickey for Joan Rivas Cosby, Kelly Daugherty, Craig Chivatero, Justin Triano, Geoff Hatchard, Kathy Ericksen, RJ Castro, Charisse Lebron

Members not in Attendance: Matt Bell, Dario Lerma

Other Attendees: John Ristow (VTA), Bernice Alaniz (VTA), Kevin Kurimoto (VTA), Brent Pearce (VTA), Krishna Davey (VTA), Paul Smith (CSJ), Jim Ortbal (CSJ), Hope Cahan (Policy Aide to Supervisor Chavez), Michael Branson (Congresswoman Lofgren's office), Lesley Xavier (CSJ), Susan Silva (County Health Department), Victor Gomez (Councilmember Carrasco's office), Domingo Candelas (Senator Beall's office), Roland Lebron, Danny Garza, Mary Van Cleef, David Dickey, Larry Ames, George Honore, Dick Silva, Helen Ebert, and others

Project Team in Attendance: Kathleen Podrasky (VTA), Erica Roecks (VTA), Jessica Zenk (CSJ), Eileen Goodwin (Apex)

Project Team not in Attendance: Rosalynn Hughey (CSJ), Michael Brilliot (CSJ), Ray Salvano (CSJ), Leyla Hedayat (VTA)

Location: Mexican Heritage Plaza, 1700 Alum Rock Avenue, San Jose CA

Summary:

The Meeting agenda included:

- Welcome and Introductions
- CWG Process Recap (role of committee, role of member) – Facilitator
- Follow up items – Facilitator including election of a Chair
- Project Status Update – VTA Staff
- Community Engagement Process – VTA staff
- Ridership and Modeling – VTA Staff
- Existing City and Community Plans – City Staff
- Pending BART Phase II Studies – City Staff
- Review Action Items and Next Meeting Date (August 12th, 2015 4 p.m.-6 p.m.) – Facilitator

There was an extended discussion about the potential duties of a potential chairperson for the group. The discussion included whether it would be better to refer to the position as a spokesperson and how “consensus” might be defined. There was discussion regarding the benefits of having a Chair to communicate to elected officials. The CWG members also acknowledged that they were still able as individual members contact elected officials and other stakeholders separately if they were not the Chair or if there was not a Chair.

At the end of the discussion (condensed and summarized here with permission and direction from the CWG) the group agreed to the following duties and determined that Davide Vieira would serve as the Chairperson of the Alum Rock CWG.

CWG chairperson duties:

- liaise with the VTA-designated facilitator and/or staff in advance on the agenda for each meeting of the CWG,
- at the request of CWG members and in consultation with the facilitator and/or staff, add items to agendas,
- at the request of CWG members or at the discretion of the chair, negotiate deferring agenda items with the facilitator and/or staff,
- assist the facilitator in the management of meetings (but not chair the meetings), and
- Serve as spokesperson for the CWG as deemed appropriate by the full CWG.

Key Issues/Comments/Questions:

Comment/Question	Response
The tunnel design already being at 95% is a surprise.	Comment noted.
Which route is being used near Coyote Creek?	The northern option.
What about the existing railroad bridge?	That is being evaluated as an outcome of the scoping process.
What height of a building is being assumed over the station?	A three story building.
What if there is a 20 story building?	There are ways to accommodate a 20 story building. VTA and BART would work with the developer on the design of the foundation. The foundation would need to be clear of the station box.
Please give the CWG a presentation on the evolution of these design decisions that have already been made.	We will provide a presentation at the August meeting.

London's metro has good examples of coordinating with the community.	Comment noted.
We don't want to be short sighted. The community has a plan we would like to see implemented.	Comment noted.
For the public land use workshop it would be ideal to have the timing align with the General Plan Task Force reconvening.	Comment noted.
Hold public meetings on weekend and evenings so working people can attend.	Will do, that is the plan.
Can the environmental scoping report be made more obvious on the website? Can the report also be a direct link on the CWG page?	The environmental scoping report is on the landing page of the website already. We will add a link to the CWG page.
Are there really fewer jobs per household predicted for the future?	Yes, this is due to the aging work force and perhaps fewer jobs in general.
What is the quality of the data?	We use the census data and ABAG information. We also calibrate it to reality as much as possible.
Are there challenges with the data?	Yes we have gaps we need to fill.
Do the maps match the City General plan?	Yes.
Concerned about the combined impact of Berryessa and Alum Rock from traffic at different stages of the project especially during the time that Berryessa is an end of line. VTA should have a community meeting on that topic to show the traffic information and plans.	VTA outreach staff can arrange for that meeting.
Concerned about the overall trend to drop ridership numbers? Will that impact the federal dollars and the support from Congress?	FTA looks at more than just one station's numbers when they look at funding a project. This project should still compete well and VTA needs to use the model process FTA has set up. There are a lot of key measures in addition to ridership numbers.
The City's Envision 2040 projections don't seem to match with ABAG.	ABAG is in the process of working with the Cities to coordinate and our model will be updated again as a result.
Would like more demographic information.	That can be provided.
Are there new square footage numbers? The Town Square is a major feature of the plan.	Yes, there are new numbers. Yes, the square is a major feature of the Five Wounds Plan.
Are the horizon designations mixed up on the PowerPoint.	Good catch yes some of them are mixed up we will fix it.
There are 85 foot plus 10 foot cornices	Yes and there is a spot where 120 foot

allowed near Carnegie Library and also at Empire Lumber.	building is allowed right near the station.
Will the walking tours be set up to give feedback?	Yes, that is their purpose.
All of the City plans can be found on http://five-wounds.equoria.org/ website which is owned and maintained by CWG member Bob Van Cleef	Comment noted.

Follow-Up Items:

- Provide a presentation at the August meeting on the evolution of the design decisions including tunnel portals, design elements and anything else that impacts the neighborhood.
- Align the timing of the community workshop on land use to be in synch with the City of San Jose General Plan Task Force reconvening.
- Scoping report to be a direct link on the CWG page.
- Post scalable maps from modeling presentation. And add link in meeting summary.
- Community Meeting for Berryessa end of line traffic conditions topic.
- Provide ridership demographic detail (% students, low income, transfers, etc.) and detail about housing or jobs as destinations in ¼, ½ and 1 mile increments around the station.
- City of San Jose community plans' links to be added to CWG homepage.
- Get the update City PowerPoint with the horizon phase corrected for website.
- Send out Walking Tour information as soon as available and include information regarding the Day 2 and day 3 events as well.

Requested Links:

- **Envision web page:** <http://www.vta.org/envision-silicon-valley/envision-silicon-valley>
 - We mentioned that we would provide a link to the Envision Survey – the survey is being refined and we will provide a link to you when it is available
- **Envision Silicon Valley Schedule:** http://vtaorgcontent.s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/Site_Content/envisionsv-0603.pdf
- **Scoping Report:** <http://www.vta.org/bart/Environmental/scopingreportPhaseII>

- Public Records Request from VTA: <http://www.vta.org/news-and-media/resources/public-records-request>
- FTA website: http://www.fta.dot.gov/12907_9197.html
- Five Wounds/Brookwood Terrace BART Station Area Community Concept Plan: http://vtaorgcontent.s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/Site_Content/FWBT_BART-concept-plan.pdf
- Five Wounds Urban Village Plan: [http://vtaorgcontent.s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/Site_Content/Five Wounds Urban Village Plan.pdf](http://vtaorgcontent.s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/Site_Content/Five_Wounds_Urban_Village_Plan.pdf)
- Downtown Strategy 2000: <http://www.sjredevelopment.org/PublicationsPlans/Strategy2000.pdf>
- Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1737>
- Diridon Station Area Plan: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1743>
- Santa Clara Station Area Plan: <http://www.vta.org/bart/santaclarareaplan>

Discussion notes for Work Plan:

Items discussed to be added to the Work Plan have been added as new topics or integrated into existing topics already shown on the Work Plan. The Work Plan will be updated quarterly to ensure relevant topics are presented at appropriate times with the current environmental activities.

- Presentation on the Berryessa Station parking. *In Work Plan under station features and modeling items.*
- Presentation on access studies and specifics of Alum Rock Station design especially as the design relates to surrounding potential transit oriented development. Also cover Kiss and Ride lot plans. *In Work Plan under station features and access planning items.*
- BART staff to present need for maintenance facility and justification of location of maintenance facility including why facility cannot be in Berryessa or another location. *This will be part of the BART staff's Operations and Maintenance Presentation*
- Financial Analysis as part of New Starts program, including operations and maintenance assumptions. *In Work Plan under New Starts Overview item.*
- Presentation on the evolution of the parking requirements/strategies since there are now about half the spots planned for Alum Rock than there used to be. Include discussion of whether lessening of parking impacts the viability of the

project and FTA's support. *In Work Plan under station features and modeling items.*

- Added to next month's discussion on ridership and modeling the specifics about what is the Route 101 access assumption to the Berryessa and Alum Rock Stations. Will be clarified with the group in the project status update in August
- Presentation of potential right-of-way impacts and relocations and a discussion on gentrification as a result of the BART project. In Work Plan under ROW Requirements for BART Phase II. Gentrification is not part of the scope of this project
- Present the demographics of the Alum Rock area (1 mile, ½ mile and ¼ mile). Present not just typical demographics but also social equity components such as existing transit ridership. *Action item from June CWG meeting.*
- Update on Five Wounds Trail. *In Work Plan under next meetings discussion of other City projects.*
- Presentation on marketing plan to generate new BART riders on this extension. *In Work Plan.*
- Convene a panel of developers/economists to discuss what can be done to make the Alum Rock area more attractive to developers and also what makes an area less desirable. *In Work Plan under City's economic analysis update.*
- Present project vibration impacts specifically as they relate to Five Wounds Church. *Present findings after the environmental analysis is complete.*
- Present how VTA does its contracting covering the topics of SBE/DBE outreach and local business outreach and preference. *In Work Plan.*
- Presentation on ridership assumptions and affordability, potential for fare integration and subsidies. *This will be discussed at a BART Board meeting and an update provided to the VTA Board will inform the CWG, VTA does not set the fares for the BART system.*
- Impacts to Christo Rey School site during construction including dust, noise and impacts from station box construction. *Present findings after the environmental analysis is complete.*
- How will the community near the Tropicana Shopping center access the Alum Rock Station, specifically bike riders' ability to navigate the hill. *Not in project area.*

Prepared by: Eileen Goodwin, Apex Strategies

Distribution:

CWG
Project Team
City Staff
Distribution list