SANTA CLARA
Valley Transportation Authority

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August 8, 2011

AUG - 9 2011

Mayor Jose S. Esteves
City of Milpitas
455 East Calaveras Boulevard
Milpitas, CA 95035

Dear Mayor Esteves:

By the end of December, 2011 the terms of office for all members of the VTA Board of Directors will expire. In order to provide a seamless transition, we are asking that, by November 1, 2011 the various city groups select a delegate and alternate to the board to serve the next two-year term beginning January 2012.

The legislation that created VTA is very clear that the city groups are the entities responsible for selecting the directors and alternates for each group. VTA is requesting two action items from each city group:

1. Each group collectively determines in advance how they will select their representative and who will convey the group's final decision to VTA. The groups have done this in various ways in the past, from sending a joint letter signed by the cities' mayors to electing a chairperson who will notify us of the selection.
2. Forward the names of your appointments to VTA no later than November 1, 2011.

I would like to remind you that a change to the small city groups beginning January 2012 will affect the selection of delegates for several city groups. The selection of delegates for the County of Santa Clara, the City of San Jose and the West Valley Cities will not be affected by the changes.

The changes, outlined below, came about in response to a recommendation in the Organizational and Financial Assessment, completed in 2007. This review of VTA's governance, structure and finances suggested that VTA consider ways to address the high turnover on the Board.

In doing so, the Board of Directors assigned a Board subcommittee to look at the issue, and following extensive analysis by the subcommittee and outreach to all the cities and the county, the reconfiguration was approved in 2009 to take effect with the term beginning in January 2012.

The current small city groupings are as follows:

North County – 3 Seats	West Valley – 1 Seat	MGM – 1 Seat
1 Alternate	1 Alternate	1 Alternate
Palo Alto	Cupertino	Milpitas
Los Altos	Saratoga	Morgan Hill
Los Altos Hills	Monte Sereno	Gilroy
Mountain View	Campbell	
Santa Clara	Los Gatos	
Sunnyvale		

The new small city groupings are as follows:

North County – 1 Seat
1 Alternate
Los Altos
Los Altos Hills
Mountain View
Palo Alto

North East – 2 Seats
1 Alternate
Milpitas
Santa Clara
Sunnyvale

South County – 1 Seat
1 Alternate
Gilroy
Morgan Hill

West Valley – 1 Seat
1 Alternate
Campbell
Cupertino
Los Gatos
Saratoga
Monte Sereno

The representation for the City of San Jose continues as 5 Seats and 1 Alternate while the County of Santa Clara continues as 2 Seats and 1 Alternate.

We respectfully encourage you, Mayor Esteves, or your designee, to work with the mayors or designees of the cities in your group to determine who will be your group's delegate(s) and alternate to the Board.

Thank you for your cooperation with this important matter. VTA staff is available to answer any questions and provide any assistance you need. I can be reached at 408.321.7046 or sandra.weymouth@vta.org.

Sincerely,

Sandra Weymouth

Sandra Weymouth
Board Secretary

cc: City Manager
City Clerk
VTA Board of Directors

bcc: Tom W.
Greg A.
Mike Ogaz

City Groupings – Background

In 2007, VTA authorized the HayGroup to conduct a comprehensive Organizational and Financial Assessment, which produced a number of recommendations regarding VTA's governance, financial management and organizational effectiveness.

The report found that high Board turnover posed a challenge to VTA's governance, particularly for the small city groupings. Members of several cities also had expressed concern about the configuration and mutual interests of these groups.

In response, the Board of Directors appointed a subcommittee to study the issue, and in November 2009, after extensive review by the subcommittee, the Board of Directors voted to reconfigure the small city groupings and establish a new group comprising Sunnyvale, Santa Clara and Milpitas, and referred to as the "Northeast Cities." This group would appoint two Board members and one alternate to the Board of Directors.

A necessary step to make the changes to the governance structure required a vote in favor of amending the 1994 joint powers agreement for the administration of VTA. By spring of 2010, the VTA Board of Directors, County Board of Supervisors and a majority of the cities in the county representing a majority of the population had done just that.

These new groupings are effective January 1, 2012, and they do not affect the other groupings (San Jose – 5 seats, 1 alternate; County of Santa Clara – 2 seats; 1 alternate).

The current small city groupings are as follows:

North County – 3 Seats
Palo Alto
Los Altos
Los Altos Hills
Mountain View
Santa Clara
Sunnyvale

West Valley – 1 Seat
Cupertino
Saratoga
Monte Sereno
Campbell
Los Gatos

MGM – 1 Seat
Milpitas
Morgan Hill
Gilroy

The new small city groupings are as follows:

North County – 1 Seat
Los Altos
Los Altos Hills
Mountain View
Palo Alto

North East – 2 Seats
Milpitas
Santa Clara
Sunnyvale

South County – 1 Seat
Gilroy
Morgan Hill

West Valley – 1 Seat
Campbell
Cupertino
Los Gatos
Saratoga
Monte Sereno