

# COMPREHENSIVE BUS ENHANCEMENT AND TRANSIT INNOVATION PROPOSAL

*Submitted through Call for Projects Process (8-31-15)*

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Co-sponsor: Valley Transportation Authority

## **Proposal 1**

**Title:** Frequent Core Bus Network

**Short Description:** Provide 15 minute all day service on VTA's highest ridership routes.

**Detailed Description:** The project would upgrade service frequency on ten or more of VTA's top core network routes to 15-minutes or better in order to improve convenience, reliability, connectivity, ridership, farebox recovery and support local land use plans. The upgrade would improve the quality of service for existing riders and attract new riders which would decrease VMT, traffic congestion and pollution.

## **Proposal 2**

**Title:** Enhance Frequent Core Bus Network

**Short Description:** Provide 10 minute all day service on VTA's highest ridership routes.

**Detailed Description:** This project is an upgrade to the Frequent Core Bus Network project and would upgrade service frequency on 12 or more of VTA's top core network routes to 10-minute or better in order to improve convenience, reliability, connectivity, ridership, farebox recovery and support local land use plans. The upgrade would improve the quality of service for existing riders and attract new riders which would decrease VMT, traffic congestion and pollution.

## **Proposal 3**

**Title:** Fast and Reliable Bus Network

**Short Description:** Provide capital improvements to improve travel times and on-time performance for high ridership bus corridors not currently planned for rapid transit improvements.

**Detailed Description:** This project would fund capital and technology improvements such as transit signal priority, dedicated bus lanes, bus priority lanes, rapid boarding infrastructure, level boarding and other improvements that improve transit travel speeds. Transit speeds in Santa Clara County decline each year due to increases in congestion due to population and job growth. This makes transit slower, less reliable, more expensive to operate and less appealing as a travel option. This project would address those problems by increasing transit travel speeds, decreasing operating costs, improving on-time reliability, maximizing the investment in a frequent transit network, increasing transit mode share and decreasing VMT and pollution.

#### **Proposal 4**

**Title:** Bus Stop Improvements

**Short Description:** Create comfortable and dignified transit waiting environments by improving accessibility and amenities at VTA bus stops.

**Detailed Description:** Attractive, accessible, safe, and informative passenger waiting areas are crucial to improving the rider experience and attracting new users. The project would fund new shelters, seating, transit information, real-time information, accessibility improvements and bus stop maintenance.

#### **Proposal 5**

**Title:** Affordable fares

**Short Description:** Increase ridership by reducing the cost of transit services for low-income populations including seniors, persons with disabilities, youth and students.

**Detailed Description:** This project would provide funding to offset new discounts in transit fares for communities unable to afford existing services. Lowered or free fares for low-income transit-dependent riders will impact entire families as existing high costs continue to price out certain members. This would increase transit ridership while decreasing VMT, pollution and traffic congestion.