

# **Silicon Valley Berryessa Extension Project**

## **San Jose, California**

(January 2015)

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is constructing a 10.15-mile extension of the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) heavy rail system from Fremont to Berryessa Road in San Jose. The Silicon Valley Berryessa Extension (SVBX) project will be built on former Union Pacific freight railroad right-of-way, linking the future Warm Springs BART station in Fremont to Berryessa with an intermediate station adjacent to the existing VTA Montague light rail station in Milpitas. The SVBX will be a two-track, third rail powered, exclusive guideway heavy rail system operating under automatic train control. The project includes the purchase of 40 new BART passenger cars for operation on the extension, 4,800 parking spaces as well as improvements to the existing BART-Hayward rail car storage and maintenance yard. The project is expected to serve 46,000 average weekday trips in 2035.

Hours of operation in the opening year will be from 4:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Service will operate every 7.5 minutes during weekday peak periods, every 7.5 to 15 minutes during weekday off-peak periods, and every 20 minutes on weekday evenings.

Service in 2035 will be provided every 6 minutes during peak periods on weekdays, every 6 to 12 minutes during mid-day off-peak periods, and every 15 minutes on weekday evenings and weekends. The hours of operation will be the same as stated above for the opening year 2018.

This extension of the BART system will provide a direct rapid transit connection between Santa Clara County and San Mateo, San Francisco, Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The project will provide increased transit access to and from Santa Clara employment and activity centers for both Santa Clara residents and residents from throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Regional transit connectivity will be improved by extending and interconnecting BART with VTA light rail and other existing transit services in Santa Clara County. Increasing transit service in the project corridor will provide improved travel alternatives to the severely congested and worsening travel routes of Interstate 880 (I-880) and Interstate 680 (I-680) between Alameda and Santa Clara counties.

The total project cost under the Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) is \$2,330.02 million. The Section 5309 New Starts funding share is \$900.00 million.

### **Status**

In November 2000, Santa Clara County voters approved a 30-year one-half cent sales tax to raise funds for extension of BART from Fremont to San Jose. In 2001, VTA conducted a Major Investment Study/Alternatives Analysis for a 16-mile Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor (SVRTC) that would extend BART from Warm Springs (a new BART station currently under construction in Fremont) through Milpitas to San Jose and Santa Clara. In 2007, due to concerns about funding availability for the entire SVRTC project, VTA added the shorter 10-mile SVBX alternative for examination in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

On July 23, 2008, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission approved the SVRTC, including the SVBX project, into the financially constrained long range transportation plan. In November 2008, Santa Clara voters approved an additional one-eighth cent sales tax for operation of the SVRTC.

FTA approved the SVBX into preliminary engineering in December 2009. A Final EIS was completed and a Record of Decision for the project was issued in June 2010. FTA approved the project into final design in April 2011.

VTA and FTA entered into an FFGA in March 2012, with revenue operations scheduled for June 2018. More than 80% of the contracts have been awarded and the majority of the utility relocation work has been completed. Construction activities are progressing well and the project is approximately 30% complete. VTA has possession of most of the 100 private acquisitions required. Availability of the remaining 13 parcels is not expected to impact the construction schedule. All master agreements are completed with the cities and affected utilities; sub-agreement negotiations remain to be completed for operation and maintenance of the corridor.

Section 20008 of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act authorized FTA to award Federal major capital investment funds for final design and construction of the Silicon Valley Berryessa Extension (SVBX) project. Through FY 2015, Congress has appropriated a total of \$552.59 million for the project.

Reported in Year of Expenditure Dollars		
Source of Funds	Total Funding (\$million)	Appropriations to Date
<b>Federal:</b> Section 5309 New Starts FFGA commitment	\$900.00	\$552.59 million in total appropriations through FY 2015
<b>State:</b> Transportation Congestion Relief Program (Gasoline Tax)	\$250.97	
<b>Local:</b> Measure A (1/2-cent Sales Tax)	\$1,179.05	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,330.02</b>	

**NOTES:** The sum of the figures may differ from the total as listed due to rounding.

# BART Silicon Valley Extension

## Santa Clara County, California

