

Dear District 10 Residents,

One of the responsibilities I have as your Councilmember is to represent you on the Board of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA). In my November newsletter I explained that VTA is considering options for expanding Highway 85 by adding an additional commuter lane that would be a Fast Track toll lane. Many of you have expressed your support of the project to me and I have been passionately speaking on your behalf.

As you may know, the San Jose City Council supported my memo in support of keeping the additional express lane between SR-87 & I-280 in the scope of the project. Unfortunately, this additional lane is now in limbo as residents from San Jose have not taken the time to voice their support of the project to VTA. However, at the November 6<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, people living in cities outside of San Jose voiced their opposition to the expansion, regardless of how it impacts the residents of San Jose.

This is an important project and I encourage you to please visit the VTA website to learn more about it: <http://www.vta.org/projects-and-programs/highway/silicon-valley-express-lanes> Click the link on the left "SR85 Project." Also, scroll to the bottom for links "SR85 Express Lanes Project Fact Sheet" and "Project Study Report."

This project would be tremendously beneficial to District 2, 9, and 10 commuters, as well as other residents who use SR-85 every day. If you are supportive of this project, I encourage you to contact the following VTA Officials and Board Members to let them know:

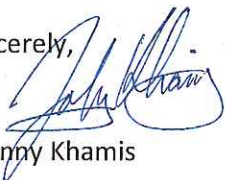
Councilmember Khamis:	<a href="mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov">district10@sanjoseca.gov</a>	408-535-4910
Nuria Fernandez:	<a href="mailto:general.manager@vta.org">general.manager@vta.org</a>	408-321-5559
John Ristow:	<a href="mailto:john.ristow@vta.org">john.ristow@vta.org</a>	408-321-5713
Ken Yeager:	<a href="mailto:supervisor.yeager@bos.sccgov.org">supervisor.yeager@bos.sccgov.org</a>	408-299-5040
Cindy Chavez:	<a href="mailto:cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org">cindy.chavez@bos.sccgov.org</a>	408-299-5020
Jose Estevez:	<a href="mailto:jestevez@ci.milpitas.ca.gov">jestevez@ci.milpitas.ca.gov</a>	408-586-3029

In addition to contacting the above people, please consider attending as many meetings as possible. The next VTA Board Meeting is coming up on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM in the County Government Center at 70 West Hedding Street in San Jose. This topic is not on the agenda, but please take the opportunity to speak during the public comments portion of the meeting.

VTA held one public meeting in San Jose and few residents attended as it was not well publicized. My office is working to arrange another public meeting and will ensure the date is known in advance so residents can plan ahead to attend.

**The sooner you take action, the better.** It would be helpful if your correspondence reached the VTA before the end of the year so it is included for consideration at the January Board Meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Victor Gomez, my Deputy Chief of Staff, at [victor.gomez@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:victor.gomez@sanjoseca.gov) or 408-535-4979.

Sincerely,



Johnny Khamis