



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Vice Mayor Chappie Jones
Councilmember Pam Foley
Councilmember Dev Davis
Councilmember Johnny Khamis

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: December 12, 2019

APPROVED:

SUBJECT: SUBMIT LETTER TO VTA IN AFFIRMATION & PRESERVATION OF FUNDING FOR PLANNED HIGHWAY & STREETS PROJECTS WITH COMMITTED VTA MEASURE B TAX DOLLARS

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a position of support for the preservation of existing VTA Measure B highway and streets funding commitments against efforts to divert & redirect the voter-approved funding to non-highway/streets purposes, and submit a letter to the VTA Board of Directors calling for implementation of Measure B's funding program as passed by voters in 2016, in advance of their January 9th Board meeting.

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS

Out of respect for city and countywide voters, it is imperative that we, as a City, take an affirmative position to preserve and protect the original intent of Measure B as originally envisioned and understood by the voters who assented to the sales tax.

Based on recent discussions during Public Comment at the December 5th VTA Board of Directors meeting, it became apparent that members of the community have a desire to change direction in the pursuit of transportation solutions, namely through the reprogramming of funding dedicated for highways towards other transit categories. While we support other transit projects and regional environmental priorities and understand the inclination to reallocate funds for transit purposes, we must remain focused on delivering all Measure B listed transportation priorities as equally important and necessary. We must prepare for the future, and we also must improve today's reality.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

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Subject: Submit Letter to VTA in Affirmation & Preservation of Funding for Planned Highway Projects

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Per the ballot text of Measure B, which voters passed on November 8, 2016 with 71.74% of the county-wide vote, commitments to “repair streets, fix potholes [and]...relieve traffic on all 9 expressways and key highway interchanges...” were made. Funding at stake, per the current Measure B spending plan, is as follows: \$1.2 billion for local streets and roads; \$750 million for highway interchanges; \$750 million for County Expressways; and \$350 million for State Route 85 Corridor improvements.