

**MAYOR SAVITA VAIDHYANATHAN**

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Jeannie Bruins
Chairperson, Board of Directors
Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)
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Through this letter, I am expressing my interest in, and providing my qualifications for, the position of Vice Chair on the Valley Transportation Authority's Board of Directors.

I have been on the Board of VTA since 2016. Prior to that I served on VTA's Policy Advisory Committee since 2014. These years with VTA have given me intimate knowledge and comprehensive understanding of the transportation issues facing the South Bay, the concerns of our constituents, and how to work with a variety of interests to ensure mutual understanding while coming to agreements that benefit our communities.

A few of my accomplishments include:

- Representing five cities (Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, and Saratoga) during the creation of Next Network, VTA's comprehensive Transit Service Plan for fiscal year 2018/19. I led multiple dialogs between the cities that aided VTA to review and optimize the affected routes.
- Working with three West Valley cities (Cupertino, Los Gatos, and Saratoga) on an amicable settlement for alternative transportation on State Route 85. VTA is now able to move forward with an objective study that should help build consensus and allow all parties to move forward together. This was particularly challenging since I had to ensure there were no conflicts of interest between my roles on VTA and the Cupertino City Council.

- Opening up dialogue between VTA and some of its constituents who felt they were not being heard. By facilitating meetings between VTA staff and the senior Indian community I helped improve the perception of VTA amongst these constituents.
- Coordinating meetings with West Valley Mayors and CEO Nuria Fernandez to discuss solutions for seniors that eventually led to the introduction of RYDE with support from West Valley Community Services in Cupertino and the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Council (SASCC) in Saratoga.
- Helping host several conversations with De Anza College students about VTA's Eco Pass during the budgeting cycle. These conversations allowed VTA to modify rate structures with inputs and support from the student community.

These initiatives have enabled the creation of a bridge between VTA and the different constituents that it serves and improved the overall image of VTA among the public. I am a natural consensus builder and have used my personal standing to create these dialogs.

I continue to support the BART extension to San Jose and am currently working with staff and Mayor Sam Liccardo on a transit solution along Stevens Creek Boulevard. I was also a vocal supporter of Measure B, working with SVLG and investing considerable time to share with the Cupertino community the importance of the initiative to our transit future.

I look forward to continuing to work with VTA Board of Directors, elected officials, VTA staff, and the communities we serve to find ongoing transit solutions.

Sincerely,



Savita Vaidhyanathan, Mayor
City of Cupertino