



LoopWorks

LoopWorks Annual Members Meeting

Meeting Minutes and Election Results for June 10, 2023 at 10:00 am

Location: 1421 Yellowstone Ave, Milpitas **or online:** <https://zoom.us/j/8238203495>

1. Welcome
2. Accomplishments over the past year:
 - Sent 5 [Media Releases](#) to various local outlets.
 - Two [wide-area coverage documents](#) and 2 in-depth [grant applications](#) added to our [Documents web page](#).
 - Completed [PRT Station Design & Art Contest](#), and awarded prizes.
 - Candidates wanting to represent Milpitas asked for support of PRT Project: [14 of 24 support](#).
 - Facebook advertising is ongoing.
 - Introductory remarks on behalf of LoopWorks to 10 City commissions were accompanied by our postcards (with our website and survey URLs).
 - Comments were submitted to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), California Energy Commission, and City of Milpitas.
 - Public outreach continued with comment posts on 12 San Jose Spotlight articles, 2 San Jose Inside articles, 2 Milpitas Beat articles, and several postings on Facebook and Nextdoor.
 - We also tabled at the Halloween Party at Sunnyhills-Augustine Park and [Day On The Bay 2022](#).
3. Federal Funding Update: Federal Transit Agency (FTA) grants depend upon the definition of the term “public transportation” and “transit” both of which exclude PRT due to their “shared-ride surface transportation” phrase. Rob is working with Tom Pyke, Rep. Ro Khanna’s District Director, and sent to him a draft letter that 1) argues for a change in the definition of “public transportation”, and 2) requests \$6M for design work of the Milpitas PRT project.
4. State Funding Update: California funds are reserved for specific purposes that don’t include PRT, or for recipient classes that don’t include mutual benefit corporations. Advanced transit was omitted from the Senate/Assembly Joint Transportation Committee hearing and its [Background Paper](#). Comments were submitted to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (twice), California Energy Commission, and staff of Sen. Aisha Wahab who is on the Transportation Committee.
5. Milpitas City Council support – presentation to City Council Transportation Subcommittee (Mayor Montano and Vice-Mayor Chua) on June 14; Milpitas activists and PRT supporters urged to attend. **Rob and Carol will make invitation/reminder phone calls.
6. Conversation about strategy for creation of the Milpitas PRT. Outreach to businesses, HOAs, local community groups, city commissions, property owners, and Metro Area residents. Is a model (like a train set) possible and valuable? **Rob will investigate bringing the cab/bogie from Minnesota (that was once displayed at the State Fair).

7. Election of 2 Directors – Governance Director/President and Community Director. Election results:

Governance Director/President

___4___ Paul Okoye

_____ (write-in candidate)

_____ withhold vote

Community Director

_____ [no interested candidates at this time]

_____ (write-in candidate)

_____ withhold vote

Governance Director/President - Paul Okoye; Community Director position remains open.

8. Final Comments

9. Adjournment

Addendum

Paul Okoye, candidate for President

Mr. Okoye graduated from the University of Lagos, Nigeria, with dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Environmental Studies and Architecture. He worked for multiple architecture firms as an architect before taking on project management roles with 3 different companies. During this time, he served with the Nigerian Institute of Architects, Lagos State Chapter, in a secretarial role for 2 years before being elected as Public Relations Officer for 2 years (2008-2010). Since immigrating to the U.S. in 2010, Paul has worked primarily as a CTE (Career and Technical Education) teacher of Engineering and Architecture at high schools in So. California before starting with Milpitas Unified School District in 2020. Building upon a scientific perspective that understands and values PRT technology, he brings teaching and public relations skills to accomplish the most difficult part of the Milpitas PRT – educating and enrolling the many stakeholders of this demonstration project about the benefits that each can enjoy.