



LoopWorks

LoopWorks Quarterly Members Meeting

Meeting Minutes for March 8, 2025 at 9:00 am

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

Light breakfast on site at 9:00 am, formal meeting at 9:30 am

Meeting Ground Rules: Work on consensus basis * Step up / Step back * Try on the process * Don't interrupt / raise hands / use a stack * Turn off cell phones * Talk to everyone (not facilitators) * Expect unfinished business * Leave your ego at the door * Lead by example

1. Welcome
2. Accomplishments over the past quarter:
 - Rob completed and submitted the [Mark1 Startup Application](#) for grant funding.
 - Uploaded the Hao-edited Transit Forum [video](#) to our YouTube channel.
 - Populated our [YouTube channel](#) with additional videos (bringing our total to 6).
 - The South Bay Progressive Alliance (SBPA) published a [web page](#) that calls for redirecting funds from the BART Extension Phase 2 project to other transit solutions.
 - Sent the [SBPA Media Release](#) opposing the BART Burrow to San Jose Spotlight, Bay Area News Group, Mineta Institute, Milpitas Beat, and various social media groups in Milpitas.
 - Met with newly-elected Milpitas Council member William Lam.
 - Presented LoopWorks, PRT, and the project to the monthly [SNA](#) Community Breakfast.
 - Presented LoopWorks, PRT, and the project to the [Santa Cruz PRT group](#).
 - Displayed the LoopWorks/PRT poster at the Rotarian Climate Action Summit.
 - Emailed a variety of organizations about PRT and its possible value to them: [Citizens for Balanced Growth](#) (Livermore, Pleasanton, Sunol, Dublin), the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club, Dr. Ledoux (the Director overseeing transportation proposals at ARPA-E), President of the Silicon Valley Democratic Club, and the San Francisco Bay Area Progressive Directory.
 - Spoke at 3 [VTA Board](#) meetings and 5 VTA Committee meetings about the Republican administration withholding the \$5B from the BART Burrow, and the need for a Plan B.
3. Federal Funding Update: Persistent pressure on Ro Khanna's Chief of Staff (Tom Pyke) for the past 3 years resulted in a personal note from Ro to DOT Secretary Buttigieg. LoopWorks will submit a concept paper for a [SPARKS grant](#) from ARPA-E. DOT's webinar channel for [The New Behavioral Science of Mode Choice](#) was canceled, then re-established by Harvard people. The federal government may no longer be trustworthy.
4. State Funding Update: [Senator Dave Cortese](#) is the Chair and only local representative on the Senate Transportation Committee. [Assemblyman Patrick Ahrens](#) is the only local representative on the Assembly Transportation Committee. **Rob will reach out to their respective transportation aides.
5. Foundation Funding: Submitted the [Mark1 Startup Application](#) for grant funding. Commercial section (pages 4-9) includes business model, TAM, unit economics, and key differentiation from competitors. Just reading the headings and a few paragraphs will provide an indication of the strength of our proposal.
6. Milpitas City Council support – depends upon securing funding, strong public support, or changing Council membership through an election. Three members (Chua, Lien, and Lam) seem open to the

project if other support is secured.

7. VTA Funding: Publicly challenging the BART Burrow with the question “With Trump Republicans controlling D.C., what is the likelihood of the promised \$5B for the BART Burrow actually showing up?” [Plan B](#) = 80 podcar stops serving 10 square-miles for just \$1B. Milpitas City Council support for [Plan B](#) unlikely unless VTA Board takes an interest. **Rob will persist in attending VTA meetings with this message.
8. Conversation about strategy for creation of the Milpitas PRT. The general public still does not know about PRT or the value of a podcar network.
9. Final Comments - Republican regime and the future of PRT. Funding from the federal government is unlikely.
10. Adjournment