



LoopWorks

LoopWorks Annual Members Meeting

Meeting Minutes and Election Results for June 21, 2025 at 10:00 am

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

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:
 - Spoke at 1 Milpitas City Council meeting, 2 VTA Board meetings, and 7 VTA Committee meetings about the loss of federal funding (\$5B) for the BART Burrow, and the need for a Plan B.
 - Spoke at the California Energy Commission meeting during Public Comment.
 - The South Bay Progressive Alliance (SBPA) is planning a publicity campaign that calls for redirecting funds from the BART Extension Phase 2 project to other transit solutions.
 - Submitted comments to a Milpitas Beat article and 2 San Jose Spotlight articles, and several social media posts.
 - Displayed our PRT project at *Our planet, our future – climate change film screening and discussion*, EV Ride and Drive plus Eco Home Expo.
 - Rob attended a Pizza and Policy gathering, talked with several community activists about PRT, and followed up with an email to County Supervisor Otto Lee's staffer.
 - Emailed organizations about using PRT to avoid the impact of BART's construction on local merchants (San Jose Downtown Association, San Jose Chamber of Commerce, and Alum Rock Avenue East Santa Clara Street Business Association).
 - Submitted an e-comment to the Advisory Committee for the Clean Transportation Program Investment Plan.
 - Steve Hamilton (CityTram) created a [43-minute video](#) entitled *Minimizing Transport Emissions* that includes a few minutes devoted to the (in)efficiency of buses. (The bus emissions section starts 22 minutes into the video, and lasts about 3 minutes.)
 - In examining the BART Burrow, this [video by the the Armchair Urbanist](#) points out the cost of undergrounding large-bore tunnel, and the time required to walk and ride escalators down to the stations (starting at 6:40 into the video).
 - [Irvine's Great Park](#), the long-awaited crown jewel of the meticulously master-planned suburb in [Orange County](#), will use PRT technology from [Swyft Cities](#).
3. Federal Funding Update: The U.S. Department of Transportation is [threatening to pull all federal funding](#) from California's high-speed rail project based on missed deadlines, budget shortfalls, and overrepresentation of projected ridership. The BART Burrow is likely vulnerable in all 3 areas, so federal funding is unlikely. Another unfavorable indicator is how slow and meager are FEMA funds for victims of the Palisades Fire.

Despite meeting with Ro Khanna's Chief of Staff nearly 3 years ago, and Ro's call for a Transportation Forum, nothing notable has occurred.

4. State Funding Update: Sen. Aisha Wahab left the Senate Transportation Committee, leaving member Dave Cortese as the remaining local representative on a transportation committee.
5. Valley Transportation Authority (VTA): We will continue selling benefits to VTA Committees and elected officials, while also calling out the BART Burrow to the general public. Basic Message: Without the \$5B from the feds, VTA needs to choose: 1) Find funding elsewhere (unlikely given the low return on investment). 2) Delay until a friendly administration returns to power (if ever). 3) Let go of last century's vision and embrace a new one that addresses the sprawling reality of Santa Clara County - and the urgency of our Climate Crisis. Rob is working the South Bay Progressive Alliance on an Op-Ed about the matter.
6. Milpitas City Council support – depends upon securing funding or changing Council membership through an election.
7. Compensation adjustment – To support Paul's effort to buy a home, his hourly compensation will be \$100/hour in the future.
8. Conversation about strategy for creation of the Milpitas PRT.
**Rob will seek an entrée to a climate-solution-seeking organization associated with [Sir Richard Charles Nicholas Branson](#).

9. Election of 2 Directors – Governance Director/President and Community Director. – *As a Community Member, you have the right to vote on the following Board of Director positions. Please clearly mark your votes for each on the ballot below. Write-in candidates must be willing to serve in order to be elected. You may vote by marking the following ballot to indicate your vote on each Director, and returning this ballot via email to info@MilpitasPRT.com or sending/bringing the hard copy to 1421 Yellowstone Ave, Milpitas, CA 95035 before the end of this meeting.*

Governance Director/President

 5 Paul Okoye
 _____ (write-in candidate)
 withhold vote

Community Director

 [no candidates listed]
 5 Mike Pelizzari (write-in candidate)
 withhold vote

10. Final Comments

11. Adjournment