



## Transportation Transit

### Client

Santa Clara Valley  
Transportation Authority

### Location

Santa Clara County, CA, USA

## Rail and Light Rail Transit Project Management Oversight

### Project Highlights

- Program management oversight for rail and light rail building program
- Urban and industrial areas of corridors require coordination and co-existence with active freight lines

### Project Description

Santa Clara County (SCC), California, is funding nearly \$1 billion in light rail and commuter rail projects over the next 10 years. Lacking a rail- and transit-experienced staff, SCC has no buildout capability, and depends upon a quasi-public agency, the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), to perform the actual permitting, engineering, contracting, and CM associated with the buildout of the Caltrain system within the county. With the political pressure associated with this level of public works funding, SCC retained CH2M HILL to perform program oversight of VTA and to protect the County's financial interests. These responsibilities include making recommendations to VTA regarding everything from project development, design, and QA/QC, to relationships with local governing agencies (cities, water districts, Public Service Commission, etc). Additionally, we are expected to advise the county regarding planned expenditures and schedules by the VTA and its appropriateness. Responsibilities include monitoring of budgets and schedule, design and constructibility reviews, value engineering, cost estimating, and reporting of the status and findings to county and elected officials. CH2M HILL attends most inter-agency work sessions to protect the SCC budget.

Project components include Tasman East LRT—4.8 miles of double track with seven stations and a 1.5 mile aerial structure; Capitol LRT—3.5 miles of double track and four stations; Vasona LRT—4.8 miles of single and double track on a shared right-of-way with an active railroad, seven stations, and a 1,500-foot tunnel section; Fremont to South Bay Commuter line—28 miles of double track on a shared right-of-way with an active freight railroad, including six stations; and Gilroy to Palo Alto Commuter line—30 miles of existing tracks and stations that will be upgraded, including 10 miles of double track.