Santa Clara Transit Station
Pedestrian/Bicycle Tunnel

PROJECT STATUS:
The feasibility study has been completed, and the project has been unanimously approved by the VTA Board of Directors. It is in its final stage of design and will be constructed Summer 2015.

SPONSOR: VTA, City of Santa Clara

LOCATION: Santa Clara

AWARD: $725,000 (2 cycles)

At the Santa Clara Transit Center, railroad lines separate the eastern neighborhood around the station and provide no legal crossing across the tracks for 1.5 miles. Pedestrians therefore cross illegally or walk on the surrounding high traffic streets. Safe Routes to Transit is helping fund the extension of the tunnel from the center Caltrain platform to the end of the east side of the Union Pacific tracks to Brokaw Road. This improvement will enhance safety for pedestrians and bicyclists and increase ridership by providing safe access to transit from the east side. The Santa Clara Transit Center includes transit service from VTA, Caltrain, ACE, Amtrak, and future service from the Berryessa BART Station.
“I used to walk over the tracks to the other side. Then they put up those scary signs and put up a fence. Now I can’t walk across unless someone cuts a hole in the fence. So now I drive. I used to bike but it’s scary biking under the train bridge. There’s also the overcrossing, but when you’re running late, you don’t have time to go through the twirly thing.”

-Paul, Caltrain passenger