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**From:** Joseph P Thompson <translaw@pacbell.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 15, 2024 8:39 AM  
**To:** Michael Moore; supervisorkosmicki@cosb.us; supervisorzanger@cosb.us; SBC Board of Supervisors; Supervisor Bea Gonzales; Supervisors; supervisorsotelo@cosb.us; Angela Curro; Monica Gomez; San Benito Civil Grand Jury; sbcsuper@cosb.us; Roxy Montana; r wells@edcsanbenito.org  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT: NEXT MEETING, REAL OR VIRTUAL; REGULAR OR SPECIAL; STUDY SESSION OR PUBLIC WORKSHOP; AND ESPECIALLY THE SO-CALLED "MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP" VTA & COG; MOTORISTS & TAXPAYERS REPLY TO TRANSIT DEMAND FOR HIGHER TAXES SO THAT LOCAL ELECTED LEA...  
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Dear Friends,

Recent history teaches us that reliance on "community advisory boards" or "citizen watchdog committees" is badly misplaced to offset the governance abuse stemming from false promises made by Statists like COG.

Skeptics remember the Citizens Watchdog Committee appointed by COG's partner in the unconstitutional "Mobility Partnership." The watchdogs were so lax that the VTA was judged the worst transit agency in the nation by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

During the same time a county Grand Jury report blasted VTA's directors for governance flaws, fiscal irresponsibility, and taxpayer abuse. And during the same time VTA rejected South County's plea for median barriers on U.S. 101 between Gilroy and Morgan Hill because "they didn't have the money." While pleading poorhouse on the safety issue, they transferred \$52.6 million to their employee pension plans. After more deadly cross-over accidents, VTA "found" the money and spent less than \$2 million to install the barriers.

During the same watchfulness watchdogging by the citizens' watchdog committee, VTA's auditors found numerous abuses.

After ignoring MIT, the Grand Jury, and their own auditors, they had their own auditors audit and they confirmed what the outside auditors had found.

Then VTA fired its General Manager, paying his Golden Parachute on his way out. The "new" GM, from San Francisco, where they really do know how to waste tax dollars, established "new VTA," and there was no change in policy whatsoever. Governance abuse continues to this day. Local government leaders, who drink the same Koolaid, do absolutely nothing.

Lenin would be so proud of them.

We ought to recall the COG directors, who govern without the consent of the governed, and show them how pleased we are with their taxpayer abuses and phony sham watchdogs, nothing more than lapdogs of the Statists.

Caveat viator.

Joe Thompson,  
Charter-Member SBCCOG Citizens Transit Advisory Board;  
Charter-Member SBCCOG Citizens Rail Advisory Committee;  
Past-Chair, Legislation Committee, Transportation Lawyer Assn.  
Past-President 1999-2001, 2006, Gilroy-Morgan Hill Bar Assn.  
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