

July 15, 2019

John Hoang  
San Mateo City/County Association of Governments  
555 County Center, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063

Re: Grant Proposal for the City of San Mateo Transit Oriented Development Pedestrian Access Study

Dear Mr. Hoang,

On behalf of the San Mateo City Council, I am writing to express the Council's strong support of the City of San Mateo's grant application for TDA Article 3 funds for the proposed Transit Oriented Development Pedestrian Access Study. The study will expand on the work contained in the City's Pedestrian Master Plan, Rail Corridor Transit-Oriented Development Plan, and Hillsdale Station Area Plan to evaluate improvements needed to create safe and comfortable walking routes to transit locations for all ages and abilities.

The City's study will focus on transit-oriented development zones located within a half-mile radius surrounding each of San Mateo's three Caltrain stations. Walking the short distance to the transit stations is highly encouraged within these zones. However, when walking is perceived as unsafe or highly stressful, many will choose to drive to the transit station or to their final destination regardless of the short distance. For walking to be a preferred mode of access to transit, it is critical we identify improvements such as sidewalk widening, increased lighting, and safe crossings to ensure pedestrians can comfortably, efficiently, and safely navigate their environment.

Given the effort of the City and region to encourage multimodal transportation and equitable access to transportation, identifying necessary improvements for pedestrian paths of travel to Caltrain stations is of utmost importance. Toward this end, the Council strongly supports the City of San Mateo's grant application for this study.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane Papan  
Mayor