

July 10, 2019

John Hoang
San Mateo City/County Association of Governments
555 County Center, 5th 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 City of San Mateo Sustainability and Infrastructure Commission, acting as the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, I am writing to express the Commission'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 evaluate improvements needed to create safe and comfortable walking routes to transit locations, improving access to sustainable transportation for all users in these areas.

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. Given the proximity to transit, walking to the stations is highly encouraged in these zones. However, if the path of travel 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 efforts 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 Commission strongly supports the City of San Mateo's grant application for this study.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Clifford Robbins
Chair, Sustainability and Infrastructure Commission