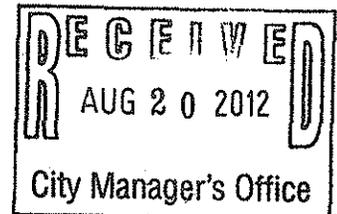




August 13, 2012

Mr. Gary Luebbers  
City Manager  
City of Sunnyvale  
456 West Olive Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086



Subject: Sunnyvale City Council Request for Improved North-South Traffic Flow on the Mathilda Avenue/Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road Corridor

Dear Mr. Luebbers:

Thank you for your letter of June 12 (attached) requesting the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA) assistance in examining ways to reduce congestion and increase travel speeds on the above-referenced corridor. Your letter requests that VTA staff return to the City Council by August 24 to discuss proposals to reduce congestion and increase travel speeds in this corridor. As the Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for Santa Clara County, VTA is responsible for the preparation of the Countywide Transportation Plan and administration of regional, state, and federal funding sources. As a member agency of the CMA, Sunnyvale is considered by the VTA to be a partner in the development of regionally significant transportation projects and funding of local transportation improvements.

VTA is always prepared to assist you and your staff in examining potential proposals for reducing congestion on major roadways within your city. A major step in that direction is the implementation of Bus Rapid Transit in this area. The VTA Board of Directors supports that investment of voter approved funding in this area. The City's continued interest in a project at the Mathilda/237/101 interchange is commendable. Staff will be working cooperatively with the City to determine if there are any funds available to advance this project and then seek approval from the Board of Directors for any potential investment in this project.

VTA has previously partnered with the City on planning and funding numerous improvements in the Mathilda Avenue, Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road, and other north-south corridors in the City. VTA and the City partnered on a Route 237 Corridor Study which looked thoroughly at the Mathilda/237/101 area and developed a comprehensive plan of local roadway and freeway improvements. This document provided the template for many transportation projects which are included in the Countywide Transportation Plan, including the pending Mathilda/237/101 project. VTA was a funding partner for the installation of three state-of-the-art adaptive traffic signal control systems in the corridor which have provided real time signal cycle length

Mr. Gary Luebbers  
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Page 2 of 2

adjustment and improved capacity by 10 percent on average. VTA provided funds for the recently completed Mathilda Caltrain Bridge improvement that provided new alternative access to downtown Sunnyvale and improved service levels at the Mathilda/Washington Avenue intersection. Most recently VTA approved funding for new bike lanes on Mathilda Avenue, the first bike lanes to be installed on this street.

Regarding transit improvements, this corridor was comprehensively studied as part of our 2007 Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA), the 2009 Bus Rapid Transit Strategic Plan, as well as our 2010 Express Bus Study. To justify allocating resources for service along a new route, VTA Board's policy necessitates the route maintain a minimum level of ridership. The findings from these studies indicate that existing transit service on Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road and Mathilda Avenue is sufficient to meet the current demand. We will, of course, continue to monitor these lines and development patterns along the corridor to accommodate future needs.

We will continue to work in partnership with the city of Sunnyvale, providing feedback and assistance to you and your staff as you address issues of regional import. Please advise if the City is still interested in having VTA attend an upcoming City Council meeting. If there is interest, we seek your guidance in determining the agenda that would best meet the Council's needs and assure a prudent investment of their time.

If you have any additional questions or require further assistance, please contact John Ristow, Chief Congestion Management Agency Officer, at (408) 321-5713.

Yours truly,



Michael T. Burns  
General Manager

Attachment

cc: John Ristow, VTA

# CITY OF SUNNYVALE

456 WEST OLIVE AVENUE      SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA 94086      (408) 730-7480  
Office of the City Manager

June 12, 2012

Mr. Michael Burns  
General Manager  
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
3331 N. First Street, Building B  
San Jose, CA 95134-1906

VTA  
MANAGER  
JUN 18 10 29

**SUBJECT:** Sunnyvale City Council Request for Improved North-South Traffic Flow  
on the Mathilda Avenue/Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road Corridor

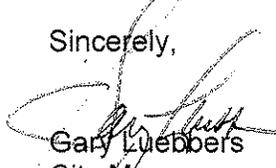
Dear Mr. Burns:

At its May 22, 2012 meeting, the Sunnyvale City Council considered the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA's) Preferred Investment Strategy for an El Camino Real Bus Rapid Transit project. The City is grateful for the information and support provided by your staff during the consideration of this project. The City Council acted to request that the VTA staff, namely the Director of Transit Planning, return to the City Council by August 24, 2012, with proposals to reduce congestion and increase travel speeds on the Mathilda Avenue/Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road corridor in Sunnyvale. This correspondence memorializes that request.

This may be an opportunity to discuss past, present and future improvements developed in partnership between the City and the VTA to affect improvements to Mathilda Avenue. The City Council welcomes your response to this request.

Please contact Kent Steffens, the Director of Public Works, at (408) 730-7420 with any questions or comments. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Gary Luebbers  
City Manager

cc: Kevin Connolly, VTA  
John Ristow, VTA  
Kent Steffens, Director of Public Works  
Jack Witthaus, Transportation and Traffic Manager