

May 7, 2009

Tom Fitzwater  
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
Environmental Programs and Resources Management  
3331 North First Street, Building B  
San Jose, CA 95134-1927

Dear Tom:

The San Jose Arena Authority appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Please be advised that the items listed below specifically relate to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) extension in the vicinity of HP Pavilion at San Jose and the San Jose Diridon Station. The Arena Authority considers the Draft Environmental Impact Statement as a critical foundation document in the evolutionary process for the design and construction of the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor project in the vicinity of HP Pavilion at San Jose.

As you know, the Arena Authority has previously responded with written comments on the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor project. With that in mind, the Arena Authority respectfully requests that the following issues continue to be considered at the forefront of discussions with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority and other critical stakeholders in the development and implementation of this significant regional project:

- Identification of potential issues relating to the California High Speed Rail Project
- Pertinent land development issues contemplated in the Arena/Diridon area
- Continued, coordinated analysis of Pavilion vicinity parking and traffic access issues
- Evaluation of Pavilion event coordination issues with BART construction and operation
- Continued analysis of neighborhood integrity issues during BART construction
- Establishment of a standing stakeholders committee to oversee project construction
- Integration of BART operations plans with Pavilion event management plans

I appreciate your consideration on the items listed above and look forward to continuing to work cooperatively on this essential regional transit project. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions. I can be reached at 408-977-4783 or at [morrisey@sjaa.com](mailto:morrisey@sjaa.com).

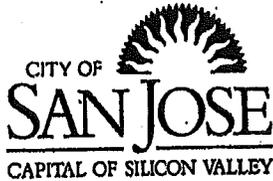
Sincerely,



Chris Morrisey  
Executive Director

**Tom Fitzwater**  
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cc: **Members of the Arena Authority Board of Directors**  
**Members of the Arena Events Operations Committee**  
**Jim Benshoof, Wenck Associates, Inc.**  
**Jim Goddard, HP Pavilion Management**  
**Jim Helmer, Department of Transportation**  
**Dennis Korabiak, Redevelopment Agency**  
**Hans Larsen, Department of Transportation**  
**Abi Maghamfar, Redevelopment Agency**  
**Jim Ortbal, Department of Transportation**  
**Henry Servin, Department of Transportation**



# Memorandum

TO: City Council

FROM: Mayor Chuck Reed  
Councilmember Sam Liccardo  
Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio

SUBJECT: DIRIDON STATION AREA  
GOOD NEIGHBOR  
COMMITTEE

DATE: May 8, 2009

APPROVED: *Chuck Reed* DATE: 5/8/09

RECOMMENDATION

*Sam Liccardo* *Pierluigi Oliverio*  
Approve the Good Neighbor Committee purpose, structure and membership.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the committee is to provide a forum for neighbors to work collaboratively in solving problems in the neighborhood that arise from developments in the Diridon Station neighborhood. The committee will promote good communication, cooperation and collaboration among neighborhood residents, businesses, property owners, the city and other entities that operate or plan to build major facilities in and around Diridon Station. The committee will discuss potential impacts of existing and planned development and collaborate to devise reasonable mitigations. The committee will also be a forum to discuss implementation and effectiveness of mitigation measures that are required as conditions of approval of projects. The committee should start its work with reviewing the potential impacts and mitigation measures identified in the Environmental Impact Report for a baseball stadium which was completed in 2007. Recommendations that come out of the committee that require Council action will come to the Council through the Community and Economic Development Committee.

BACKGROUND

On April 7, 2009, the City Council approved the initiation of a Diridon Station Area Good Neighbor Committee as recommended by Mayor Reed in his memo of April 2, 2009 on the A's Stadium in San Jose.

The concept of the committee has received a positive response from community members with whom we have had the opportunity to meet since the April 7 Council meeting. They see this committee as a mechanism by which in-depth engagement of all of the stakeholders can be achieved.

We recommend that the committee, identified on page 2, be formed as early as June 2009. Redevelopment Agency and City staff will facilitate the efforts of the committee.

CITY COUNCIL

May 8, 2009

Subject: Diridon Station Area Good Neighbor Committee

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**DIRIDON STATION AREA GOOD NEIGHBOR COMMITTEE**

1. Adobe Systems: Randall Knox III, Sr. Director Global Workplace Solutions
2. Alameda Business Association Board Designee
3. California High Speed Rail Authority: Dominic Spaethling, Regional Manager
4. Caltrain: Ian McAvoy, Director of Planning
5. College Park Neighborhood Association Board Designee
6. Burbank Del Monte Home Owners Association Board Designee
7. Cahill Home Owners Association Board Designee
8. Delmas Park NAC Board Designee
9. Friends of the Guadalupe River and Gardens: Leslee Hamilton, Executive Director
10. Gardner Advisory Council Board Designee
11. Georgetown Home Owners Association Board Designee
12. Greenbelt Alliance: Michele Beasley, Senior South Bay Field Representative
13. HP Pavilion at San Jose: Silicon Valley Sports and Entertainment Designee
14. Market Almaden NAC Designee
15. North Willow Glen Neighborhood Association Board Designee
16. San Jose Arena Authority: Chris Morrissey, Executive Director
17. San Jose Downtown Association Board Designee
18. San Jose Downtown Residents Association Board Designee
19. Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority: John Ristow, Deputy Director
20. Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association Board Designee
21. The Alameda Business At-Large, Schurra's Candy Factory: Brian Mundy, Owner
22. West San Carlos Business Association Board Designee
23. Xactly Corporation: Christopher Cabrera, CEO
24. Reserved for possible Baseball Team Representative

District 3 Designee

25. Frank Penrose, District 3 Resident

District 6 Designees

26. Dr. Eloy Wouters, St. Leo's Resident
27. David Malandrino, St. Leo's Resident

The members listed above will be asked to contact Kip Harkness of the Redevelopment Agency at 408.795.8500 to confirm their availability to participate in the Committee's work program.

# dimension

DOWNTOWN

Letter from the President

## Major League Baseball coming to San Jose?

It would be hard to miss all of the news stories about the Oakland A's proposed new baseball stadium in downtown San Jose. You would think it was a done deal and we all should get in line to sign up for our season tickets. The reality is that the planning and logistics for a privately built stadium on what is now publicly owned land is incredibly complicated. If it were easy to do, the A's would be playing baseball in Fremont and the 49ers would be playing football in Santa Clara next season.



Eric Sahn

Unlike what recently occurred in Fremont, where bureaucracy and neighbors doomed that stadium proposal, there is a right way to get a project of this magnitude accomplished. First of all, everyone needs to take a deep breath and settle down. I am sure we will have a lot to hear from the surrounding neighborhoods about traffic and noise; at the same time businesses and baseball fans will be cheering on their interests. So long as we listen to each other's concerns and objectives, we can ultimately achieve a positive outcome. The key criteria will be to respect the process, be reasonable and play fair.

After all, San Jose can easily look at its own experience coming together as a community and deciding to build the HP Pavilion for the San Jose Sharks. That was a deal decidedly more risky, involving a very significant amount of public money. The outcome was the development of what is still considered by many to be the No. 1 professional hockey arena in the country - serving as an invaluable anchor for downtown business activity while proving to be a good neighbor to residents living on the west side of downtown.

Done correctly, a downtown baseball stadium can be all that and more.

**HP Pavilion:** More than 20 million visitors have walked through turnstiles to attend more than 2,600 sports and entertainment events at HP Pavilion, 525 W. Santa Clara St., now in its 15th year of operation. Cumulative economic impact of the arena during its life is \$1.7 billion, according to an Economic & Fiscal Impact Analysis study prepared by Berkeley-based SportsEconomics. The facility has also provided San Jose annually with direct fiscal impacts of \$5.4 million and with an ongoing economic impact of \$254 million and the creation of about 5,000 full-time equivalent jobs.