



Town of Atherton

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October 22, 2015

April Chan
Executive Officer, Planning and Development
San Mateo County Transit District
1250 San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070

RE: Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program – Grand Boulevard Initiative Implementation Planning Letter of Support

Dear Ms. Chan,

On behalf of Town of Atherton, I am writing to support the San Mateo County Transit District's Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program application for Grand Boulevard Initiative implementation planning. The Grand Boulevard Initiative is a unique inter-jurisdictional collaboration consisting of 19 cities, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, and local and regional agencies, united to transform an auto-oriented State Highway into a people-friendly corridor of sustainable communities that support walking, biking, transit and an improved quality of life.

The proposed project addresses the key issue of safety in local communities, as more pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders have joined auto users on the roadway. A high proportion of collisions in both Santa Clara and San Mateo counties occur on El Camino Real, indicating the need for multimodal safety improvements. Through extensive public participation and outreach, conceptual streetscape improvement designs will be prepared for case study segments on El Camino Real with high opportunity for multimodal safety improvements. This preliminary design phase is the critical first step in implementing physical improvements to the Corridor. The designs and strategies will offer guidance for improved multimodal safety, mobility, and access for other jurisdictions along the El Camino Real Corridor, and along similar urban corridors throughout the state.

The Town of Atherton is an active participant in the Grand Boulevard Initiative, and we support the funding of this worthy project which meets all of the State and Federal Transportation Planning Goals. We believe that the Grand Boulevard Initiative is well-positioned to effectively facilitate the proposed activities based on their success to date, and the broad range participation and support by the cities, regional agencies, public and private partners.

Sincerely,

Rick De Golia, Mayor
Town of Atherton