CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Office of the Mayor and City Council • 500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
650-903-6305 • FAX 650-903-6039

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Brown
State Capitol Building, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RESETTING THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR CALTRAIN AND THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

Dear Governor Brown:

The City of Mountain View is committed to working collaboratively to build better transportation solutions on the San Francisco Peninsula. We understand the desirability for cities on the Peninsula to reach general agreement on a transportation vision that will guide the Peninsula into the future.

By working together, we will have greater influence on how to improve both Caltrain and high-speed rail. We will attract more Federal and State funding, as well as private investment, when we agree upon the plan we have for transportation in our respective communities.

Now that preliminary high-speed rail funding has been designated for the Central Valley, we have the time to complete the planning process the right way.

Our City requests:

1. An independent ridership study, which is essential to inform the scope of the design alternatives. For example, it may dictate whether we need two tracks or four tracks in some areas—options that have tremendous cost and design ramifications. This analysis is vital and we ask for it to be completed as quickly as possible.

2. An independent review of the budget and business plan for high-speed rail in California. Planning for this project must be grounded in reality and we ask for this independent review to be completed as quickly as possible.

3. An informed discussion among all relevant parties about the freight issues and opportunities on the Peninsula. Freight has environmental benefits for our communities, but there are design constraints that need to be resolved. We want an open dialogue directly with the freight operators and freight customers to develop solutions and build a consensus along the corridor.

4. A more thorough vetting of alternatives, with adequate analysis of impacts, before the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) goes forward. There must be agreement between our City and the California High-Speed Rail Authority on the final alternatives that are studied in the Draft EIR. There is no need to rush completion of the EIR, rather the document should be prepared with thorough analysis, adequate time for public comment and thoughtful and sensitive mitigations that will enhance the community. This document should be a viable plan that has the full support of our City.

5. A final plan that preserves and enhances the character of our community. The Caltrain corridor already bisects Mountain View and creates a barrier between the south and north parts of our City—a barrier that concerns our residents and that the City has been working to mitigate by building pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly connections. The currently proposed route of the High-Speed Rail in the Caltrain right-of-way will create an even more dramatic barrier in our community unless significantly mitigated. The character of our community must be an overriding consideration as part of the alternative analysis, environmental review process and engineering/urban design solutions for the high-speed rail project.

We understand that other Peninsula cities may be expressing common recommendations.

Sincerely,

Jac Siegel

Jac Siegel
Mayor

JS/HK/5/PWK
915-01-06-11L-E^/DL^

cc: Peninsula Cities (South San Francisco, San Bruno, Millbrae, Burlingame, San Mateo, Belmont, San Carlos, Redwood City, Atherton, Menlo Park, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, Santa Clara and San Jose)

Mr. Roelof Van Ark, CEO, California High-Speed Rail Authority Board

Mr. Dominic Spaethling, Regional Manager, California High-Speed Rail Authority Board

Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board

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Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Board

City Council

CM, CA, CC, PWD, CDD, APWD, PM—Kim, BISM, F/c

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Office of the Mayor and City Council • 500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
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January 25, 2011

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 331
Washington, D.C. 20510

RESETTING THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR CALTRAIN AND THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

Dear Senator Feinstein:

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Jac Siegel
Mayor

JS/HK/5/PWK
915-01-06-11L-E^/DL^

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Office of the Mayor and City Council • 500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
650-903-6305 • FAX 650-903-6039

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 112
Washington, D.C. 20510

RESETTING THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR CALTRAIN AND THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

Dear Senator Boxer:

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Mayor

JS/HK/5/PWK
915-01-06-11L-E^/DL^

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Office of the Mayor and City Council • 500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
650-903-6305 • FAX 650-903-6039

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Elaine Alquist, 13th District
State Capitol Building, Suite 4088
Sacramento, CA 95814

RESETTING THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR CALTRAIN AND THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

Dear Senator Alquist:

The City of Mountain View is committed to working collaboratively to build better transportation solutions on the San Francisco Peninsula. We understand the desirability for cities on the Peninsula to reach general agreement on a transportation vision that will guide the Peninsula into the future.

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Jac Siegel

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Mayor

JS/HK/5/PWK
915-01-06-11L-E^/DL^

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City Council

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CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Office of the Mayor and City Council • 500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
650-903-6305 • FAX 650-903-6039

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Anna Eshoo, 14th District
205 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0514

RESETTING THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR CALTRAIN AND THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

Dear Representative Eshoo:

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Office of the Mayor and City Council • 500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
650-903-6305 • FAX 650-903-6039

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Paul Fong, 22nd District
State Capitol, Suite 4162
Sacramento, CA 95814

RESETTING THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR CALTRAIN AND THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

Dear Assemblyman Fong:

The City of Mountain View is committed to working collaboratively to build better transportation solutions on the San Francisco Peninsula. We understand the desirability for cities on the Peninsula to reach general agreement on a transportation vision that will guide the Peninsula into the future.

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January 25, 2011

Board of Directors
California High-Speed Rail Authority
925 L Street, Suite 1425
Sacramento, CA 95814

RESETTING THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR CALTRAIN AND THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

Dear Board of Directors:

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