## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

(408) 354-6801

Council@LosGatosCA.gov

Steve Leonardis, Mayor Marcia Jensen, Vice Mayor Rob Rennie, Council Member Marico Sayoc, Council Member Barbara Spector, Council Member

Date

VIA: Email

## **RE:** SR 85 Corridor Study

Dear: Members of the VTA Board of Directors, the VTA SR85 Policy Advisory Board, and VTA staff,

This letter provides input from the Town Council with respect to the future use of the SR 85 corridor and the upcoming study.

The original intent of the median island was to provide light rail service to the West Valley. Leading up to the construction of SR 85, the Town of Los Gatos had concerns over the future of that median and entered into a written agreement titled "Route 85 Performance Agreement" with the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority, the predecessor to the VTA, that specified:

The TRAFFIC AUTHORITY agrees that no new freeway lanes shall be constructed in the Route 85 median or in the shoulders of Route 85 within the geographical limits of TOWN without prior written approval by the Town Council of the TOWN.

The Town understands that, subsequent to the construction of SR 85, VTA priorities have pivoted and light rail is no longer considered a viable option for the corridor. The Town of Los Gatos is interested in seeing the following components addressed through the study:

- Similar to the Cupertino request, a physically separated transit guideway for high-capacity transit vehicles, with travel speeds comparable to rail, for use by public vehicles and fee-paying high capacity private shuttles.
- Limited stops, but with one stop at Winchester Boulevard.
- The Winchester stop will have adequate parking infrastructure, including bicycle parking, to support anticipated high utilization.
- Consideration for local shuttle service to address first mile and last mile needs.

The Town of Los Gatos is not interested in additional freeway lanes, including Express Lanes or Toll Lanes.

Thank you for the continued work towards understanding the needs of Los Gatos and the West Valley.

Sincerely,

## **STEVE LEONARDIS**

Mayor

SL:jj

cc: Town Council

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