



September 2, 2011

The Honorable Sam Liccardo  
City of San Jose  
200 E. Santa Clara Street, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Councilmember Liccardo:

VTA has had recent communications with the city of San Jose staff on the proposed Five Wounds Trail. To summarize our position, VTA supports the Five Wounds Trail Project and supports bicycle and pedestrian access to the BART Silicon Valley Corridor. VTA's highest priority for the former Union Pacific Railroad corridor south of US 101 is to facilitate the implementation of the BART Project. As part of this effort, VTA recognizes the need for corridor preservation for the proposed trail extending from East William Street to Silver Creek.

VTA worked with the community and city staff on development of the *BART Station Area Community Concept Plan* (September 2010). Concurrently, VTA included the design for a segment of the Five Wounds Trail (between Julian and Santa Clara streets) and a public plaza (town square) in the Alum Rock BART Station Campus conceptual site plan.

It is VTA's intent to develop a funding plan and project delivery strategy for the remaining segment of BART Silicon Valley, following execution of a Full Funding Grant Agreement for the Berryessa Extension. In order to have an effective delivery strategy, VTA wants to maintain some flexibility in the use of VTA-owned property to support engineering and construction activities for the BART extension to downtown San Jose. To that extent, we requested the VTA-owned property between US 101 and East William Street to have the land-use designation of *Transportation and Utilities* in our letter to the city of San Jose staff dated August 12, 2011. We believe this provides flexibility for implementing the BART Project while also allowing the proposed trail to move forward.

VTA will continue to work with the city of San Jose Department of Transportation, Parks, Planning and Economic Development staff to discuss the city's plan, share the status of the BART Project, and discuss the needs for the parcels south of US 101.

Thank you for your continued support of the BART Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael T. Burns". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael T. Burns  
General Manager