Santa Clara County Circulation and Mobility Element Program EIR Scoping Meeting

Meeting Summary

June 19, 2014

Present Staff: Dawn Cameron, County Transportation Planner

Rob Eastwood, Principal Planner

David Rader, Planner

I. Presentation by Staff

David Rader, County of Santa Clara Advanced Planning, discussed the purpose of the scoping meeting and the environmental review process.

Dawn Cameron, County Roads and Airports, provided an overview of the project, including the components of the County Road System and basic issue areas of policies and strategies to be included in the Circulation and Mobility Element of the County's General Plan, to attending public agency staff and members of the public.

II. Comments and Questions:

- A. <u>Map in Notice of Preparation:</u> Steve Levin requested that the map legend in the County Roads Map be larger.
- B. Relationship to Other Elements and Policies in the General Plan: Steve Levin asked how the Circulation Element will mesh with other elements in the General Plan including the Health Element and the relationship to roads in islands within urban areas that may be annexed through LAFCO. Would like to see consistency with Parks and Recreation policies addressed.
- C. Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Priority Development Areas: Steve Levin asked how MTC priority development areas relate to the Element and planned improvements.
- D. <u>Alternatives:</u> Steve Levin asked about the types of alternatives that will be included in the EIR.
- E. <u>Unincorporated areas and urban pockets:</u> John Baty, City of Morgan Hill
 - a. When pockets are annexed into cities, would like to see policies in the Circulation Element that support transition over from unincorporated pockets into city streets.
- F. Policies to Address Aging Population and Transportation needs: Steve Levin
 - a. Policies would like to see in the Element include how to address the aging population and dependence on other modes of transit; improving transit bus, shuttle for people that are not driving.
 - b. Dawn Cameron responded: "We do not have policies and plans for a transit system because VTA, not the County, operates the transit system. The County

will continue to improve bike connections and promote walkability for connecting to transit systems. We have policies that support VTA's plans to expand service, i.e. road improvements that accommodate bus stops. The County will not provide plans for shuttles and transit. We are working on developing frontage roads and working with cities for a balanced transportation system".

G. <u>Population and Housing, potential environmental impact of the project:</u> Doug Muirhead provided noted he would like to see in the Element take into consideration population and housing trends.

H. Foothill Area, Page Mill/280 Study:

- a. Suzanne Avila and Steve Padovan, Town of Los Altos Hills. Their focus is looking at Page Mill/280/Arastradero Road planned improvements in the Circulation and Mobility Element. Plan to submit concerns/questions in writing.
- I. Concern for project/plan for a site—the City of Morgan Hill does not plan to build the Hale (Santa Teresa) to connect to DeWitt but is preserving the right-of-way for it but may also be building into it. What are the potential impacts of Santa Teresa-Hale corridor for people in Morgan Hill? (Doug Muirhead)
 - a. Dawn Cameron: "This particular road connection project will be listed as part of the Expressway Plan 2040. We have talked about it with the City of Morgan Hill already—when the funds for the project become available, the project will be completed"
- J. <u>County-City Roadway Transitions:</u> Steve Levin expressed concern about having a plan for a segment of County road or expressway (Santa Teresa/Hale) going into incorporated Morgan Hill where it will be a pinch point in between the County road segments if the City of Morgan Hill does not widen the portions in its jurisdiction.
- K. <u>Utilities Policies:</u> Steve Levin asked if policies against sabotage will be included.

III. Conclusion

June 30, 2014 deadline for written comments regarding the Notice of Preparation on the environmental document and scope of the Draft Program EIR.