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**FW: SVLG Support Letter - Airport Connector Project**

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**From** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Date** Wed 2/19/2025 1:38 PM  
**To** Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (218 KB)

SVLG Letter of Support - San Jose Airport Connector.pdf;

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**From:** Kristen Brown <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2025 1:25 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Cc:** District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Subject:** SVLG Support Letter - Airport Connector Project

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Hello,

Attached, please find a letter from SVLG CEO Ahmad Thomas, in support of the San Jose Airport Connector Project, which we understand will be discussed at the March 4th Council Meeting.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

All the best,  
Kristen

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**Kristen Brown (She/Her)**  
Vice President, Local & Regional Government Relations  
Co-Lead, Women's Leadership Series  
[REDACTED]

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## OFFICE OF THE CEO

02/19/2025

Mayor Matt Mahan and Honorable Members of the San Jose City Council  
San Jose City Hall  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Support for San Jose Airport Connector Project

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the San Jose City Council,

On behalf of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG), I am writing to express our strong support for advancing the San Jose Airport Connector project to the next phase of study. This innovative transportation solution will provide a long-awaited, reliable, and efficient link between Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC) and Diridon Station, our region's most significant transit hub.

Representing hundreds of innovative companies, SVLG is the region's most dynamic business association focused on fostering collaboration between the public and private sectors to address shared policy challenges and promote economic growth and a more inclusive and sustainable future for our region.

SVLG has been a leader in championing transportation investments in Silicon Valley for over three decades. We have played a pivotal role in the passage of all major transportation sales tax measures in Santa Clara County since 1992. When polling voters on priority transportation projects for these measures, the Airport Connector has consistently ranked as a top priority. It was promised to voters in the most recent transportation measure, and now is the time to move this critical project forward.

We applaud the City of San Jose for its leadership and vision in pursuing an innovative autonomous electric solution that will provide predictable ride times and improve regional connectivity. This project offers a unique opportunity to leverage cutting-edge technology to move passengers quickly and efficiently to their destinations while reducing congestion and emissions. It is precisely the type of forward-thinking infrastructure investment that will help encourage mode shifts from private vehicles to transit.

We also appreciate that this project is seeking outside investment and utilizing a public-private partnership (P3) model, rather than requesting city funding at this time. The business community strongly supports this effort and recognizes the economic and mobility benefits that this connection will provide for San Jose and the broader Silicon Valley region.



We encourage the City Council to take the next critical step in advancing this project. This is an opportunity to demonstrate San Jose's leadership in transit innovation and to deliver on a long-standing commitment to voters.

SVLG looks forward to continuing our work with the city and key stakeholders to bring this transformative project to fruition. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Ahmad Thomas.


Ahmad Thomas  
CEO, Silicon Valley Leadership Group



**FW: SJDA Letter of Support re Airport Connector**

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**From** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Date** Thu 2/20/2025 2:40 PM  
**To** Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (1 MB)  
Airport connector Letter of support - SJDApdf.pdf;

Hey Michelle,

I don't know if this is coming up in a meeting or not.

Thanks,

Mitsy

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**From:** Alex Stettinski [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2025 2:36 PM  
**To:** Alex Stettinski [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Subject:** SJDA Letter of Support re Airport Connector

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of City Council,

Please accept SJDA's letter of support of the airport connector project.

Warm regards,  
Alex

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**Alex Stettinski**  
CEO  
San Jose Downtown Association

[sjdowntown.com](http://sjdowntown.com)



San Jose Downtown Association  
28 N. First Street, Suite 1000  
San Jose, CA 95113

sjdowntown.com  
408.279.1775



February 13, 2025

Mayor Matt Mahan and Members of the San Jose City Council  
San Jose City Hall  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the San Jose City Council,

On behalf of the San Jose Downtown Association, I am writing to express our strong support for the San Jose Airport Connector project. This transformative infrastructure investment will provide a much-needed, seamless connection between Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC) and Diridon Station, enhancing mobility for residents, workers, and visitors while positioning San Jose as a leader in innovative transportation solutions.

The success of Downtown San Jose is intrinsically linked to our ability to provide world-class connectivity. With the importance of our downtown economy and the ongoing investments in transit-oriented development, ensuring easy access between SJC and Diridon Station is vital to our city's future. A reliable, high-quality connection will not only reduce congestion but will also enhance San Jose's appeal as a destination for businesses, conferences, and tourism.

The proposed autonomous transit technology represents a forward-thinking approach that aligns with San Jose's commitment to innovation and sustainability. By reducing reliance on private vehicles and integrating with our existing transit networks, the Airport Connector will promote environmentally friendly travel while supporting economic growth.

Moreover, this project is an investment in the future of Downtown San Jose. By strengthening the link between our airport and transit hub, we will attract more visitors to our downtown businesses, hotels, restaurants, and entertainment venues. This connection will enhance our urban core's vibrancy, benefiting both local businesses and residents alike.

We urge the City Council to take decisive action in advancing the San Jose Airport Connector project. The San Jose Downtown Association is eager to support this effort and collaborate with the city and key stakeholders to bring this critical infrastructure to fruition.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to improving San Jose's transportation network. We look forward to working together to ensure a more connected and prosperous future for our downtown community.

Sincerely,

  
Alex Stettinski  
CEO, San Jose Downtown Association



**FW: March 25th Council Agenda Item 5.1**

**From** Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Date** Mon 3/24/2025 4:17 PM  
**To** Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

1 attachment (257 KB)  
2025.03 SHPNA to Council - Diridon Airport Connector.pdf;

**From:** Edward Saum <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 24, 2025 4:10 PM  
**To:** The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Cc:** District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Subject:** March 25th Council Agenda Item 5.1

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Dear Honorable Mayor Mahan and Honored Members of City Council:

Please find attached a letter from the Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association regarding the Diridon Station to Airport Connector project.

By copy of this email, we are supplying the letter to the City Clerk.

**Edward Saum**

Planning and Land Use Director



Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association

**P**  
**E** [REDACTED]



Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association

March 24, 2025

Mayor Mahan and Members of City Council  
City of San José  
200 East Santa Clara St  
San José, CA 95113  
[sent via email]

Re: March 25, 2025 Council Agenda - Item 5.1  
*San Jose Diridon Station to Airport Connector Feasibility Validation Report and Phase 2a Recommendation*

Dear Honorable Mayor Mahan and Honored Members of City Council:

On behalf of the Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association (SHPNA), I am writing to express our support for the further study of the San José Diridon Station to Airport Connector project. SHPNA was founded forty years ago to advocate for the residents of San José immediately west of Diridon Station in the Garden Alameda, Shasta Hanchett Park, and St. Leo's neighborhoods. We consistently work with the City of San José, developers, and neighbors to create a vibrant neighborhood. Our advocacy for an enhanced connection to - and through - Diridon Station is evident in decades of correspondence and our engagement with the Station Area Advisory Group (SAAG), the Diridon Station Area Plan (DSAP), and the VTA Downtown-Diridon Community Working Group (CWG).

The future of Diridon Station depends upon it becoming what some have called the "Grand Central Station of the West". This goal is contingent upon a strong, reliable, and affordable connection to San José Mineta International Airport (SJC). In the last several years, SHPNA has seen several plans that would have their positive economic impacts multiplied by the proper connection to SJC, including, but not limited to, the following:

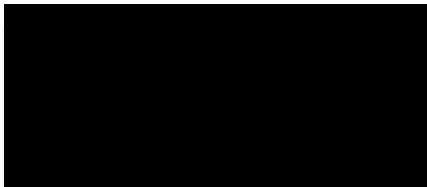
- The Alameda Urban Village, a transit-oriented development at the heart of SHPNA, terminates one block from Diridon Station.
- The Work Plan for the Office of Economic Development (OED) Fiscal Years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 calls for '*a sports and entertainment district within walking distance of the SAP Center for City Council approval by December 2025*'.
- In 2024, with SHPNA's endorsement, The Alameda Business Association (ABA) submitted a grant proposal to VTA for the creation of wayfinding signage that connects the services at Diridon Station to The Alameda's art, history, shopping, and dining.

A high-quality connection will reduce congestion while enhancing the Diridon Station Area's ability to attract additional businesses, events, and tourism. There remains a great deal of work to be done to ensure that autonomous transit can provide the level of service such a connector deserves; that being said, if successful, the Airport Connector will reduce reliance on private vehicles, integrate with and enhance the region's current transit networks, and promote both environmentally friendly travel and economic growth.

We also endorse the Memorandum of March 21st from Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Foley, and Councilmembers Kamei, Cohen, and Mulcahy. No additional City dollars, staff time, or resources should be spent until San José Connection Partners (SJCP) secures new funding and completes an investment-grade study of ridership, revenue forecasting, and the ability to accommodate future potential growth at SJC. Holding the Public Private Partnership (P3) to a higher standard of financial and operational accountability must be a central part of the Airport Connector project moving forward. The Memorandum strikes the appropriate balance between the clear benefits of an Airport Connector and the need for a firm commitment from all parties.

An enhanced connection between the airport, one of San José's most historic neighborhoods, a vibrant and growing business association, SAP Center, and what is intended to become the premiere multimodal hub for the West Coast is an opportunity that the City should cultivate further. SHPNA is eager to support this effort and collaborate with the City, its partners, and key stakeholders to leverage our previous efforts, which can only enhance our neighborhoods and the greater community.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward Saum  
Director for Planning & Land Use  
Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association

cc: Toni Taber, City Clerk