

written comment: 8/9/2022 Council meeting, Agenda Item 5.2, "Transit First Policy", SUPPORT

Liana Crabtree <[REDACTED]>

Tue 8/9/2022 11:20 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

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Honorable Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones, and Council Members Jimenez, Peralez, Cohen, Carrasco, Davis, Esparza, Arenas, Foley, Mahan:

Please include this letter as part of the public record for the 8/9/2022 Council meeting, Agenda Item 5.2, "Transit First Policy".

***Please SUPPORT the passage of Agenda Item 5.2, "Transit First Policy"***, where funding and infrastructure priority will focus on Grand Boulevards, High Quality Transit ("Transit routes served by headways of 15 minutes or less, with buses, trains, or other vehicles arriving at a stop within every 15 minutes during peak commute hours"), and Public Transit System.

**Comment 1:** I recently visited Downtown Minneapolis (summertime visit) and was so appreciative of narrowed streets in the City Center that prioritize walking and transit use. As a regular transit rider in Santa Clara County, I welcome more "human-scale" streets that prioritize pedestrian safety and access.

**Comment 2:** Related to the goal of prioritizing "High Quality Transit", please consider for future an endorsement of the expansion of frequency and hours of operation of VTA Route 51 (Moffet Field/Ames Center - West Valley College) serving destinations popular with San José residents, including De Anza College and Downtown Mountain View. To expand the frequency and service of VTA Route 51 would also have the added benefit of unlocking many more priority sites for affordable housing development in the West Valley communities of Saratoga, West San José, West Cupertino, Los Altos, and Mountain View (as the State has decided—agree or disagree—that proximity to a bus route with a threshold schedule of frequency and service hours shall confer land use entitlements for "transit-oriented development"—preferably for the development of safe, stable, long-term, affordable housing).

Finally, Thank You to Monica Mallon, "transit advocate in Santa Clara County" for the article "San Jose to Consider Transit First Policy on August 9th" alerting others to today's important Council vote on San José's Transit First Policy and to Eugene Bradley of Silicon Valley Transit Users for promoting Monica's article today.

Sincerely,

Liana Crabtree  
Cupertino resident  
VTA Transit Rider

## References

Memorandum, Transit First Policy, 7/25/2022: <https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=11100098&GUID=D9C99876-B678-4161-A827-ED8A1010F3C3>

VTA Route 51, Moffet Field/Ames Center - West Valley College: <https://www.vta.org/go/routes/51>

“San Jose to Consider Transit First Policy on August 9th” by Monica Mallon, 8/5/2022,  
Medium: <https://medium.com/@monicamallon/san-jose-to-consider-transit-first-policy-on-august-9th-4fce4f16ec85>

Silicon Valley Transit Users: <https://www.svtransitusers.org>

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August 9, 2022

San José City Council  
City of San José  
200 E. Santa Clara Street  
San José CA 95113

**Comments for Item 5.1 File 22-1135 – Move San José – and Item 5.2 File 22-1136 – Transit First Policy.**

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones and Councilmembers:

SPUR submits this letter in regard to the following two items on today's Council agenda; Move San José and the Transit First Policy. We commend the city and staff in pursuing strategies, projects, and policies that will move San José closer to meeting its environmental, equity, and economic goals. To that end, SPUR has been a supporter of the city's efforts to align its many transportation policies and strategies to better serve people traveling within the city by prioritizing transit operations and improving access.

Given that the adoption of these proposed policy changes will align with San José's Envision 2040 General Plan, Climate Smart Plan, and Zero Emissions 2030 Pledge, the Council will be taking an important step toward bringing San José and its residents a more connected and sustainable city. And while the COVID-19 pandemic required a reprioritization of work plans and progress on the City Roadmap process, the development of the Move San José and Transit Priority Plan advanced with the convening of council and community workgroups and engagement plans that included and uplifted the input of communities across the city.

We are supportive of the strategies outlined in Move San José and the Transit First Policy that will bring the city's many efforts under one roof. Moreover, Move San José's focus on key goals, metrics, performance indicators, and co-creation with community organizations and the public will ensure that good planning will guide the city's decision-making process. These elements are critical as the city moves forward with the final adoption and implementation of changes such as its update to citywide parking policy and transportation demand management, which will be

subject to the policies, strategies, and vision set forth for a more connected, equitable, and economically vibrant San José.

San José enjoys a growing transit network with ongoing local and regional investments, and employers in Silicon Valley are continuously interested in great places for people to live, work, and play. This requires updating existing plans and policies to support equitable, reliable, safe, and accessible transit connections that will increase ridership. It is important to set a structure to prioritize transit and multi-modal access within San José, and it is our hope that by taking these important steps to craft and adopt Move San José and the city's Transit First Policy, the city and its staff will effectively plan for more livable and equitable communities.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area of the letter.

Erika Pinto  
San José Planning Policy Manager

Fred Buzo  
San José Director

## FW: Transit Fist Policy

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Tue 8/9/2022 2:01 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** Daniel Strokis <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 09, 2022 1:52 PM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Transit Fist Policy

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To the Honorable Mayor and City Council,

I would like to voice my support for a Transit First Policy in San Jose. Improving transit operations in our city just makes sense. Improved transit:

- Takes cars off the streets, which reduces air pollution, green house gases, and traffic fatalities
- Decreases traffic congestion, thereby reducing wear and tear on our roads
- Supports businesses by removing the need to construct parking, and makes it more likely that people will visit businesses that don't have much (if any) parking

But improving transit operations in SJ will be an uphill battle if transit is an afterthought during city planning and development. Please vote for a transit first policy, for the sake of our citizens and our environment.

Sincerely,

- Daniel Strokis

Sent from my iPhone

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