



COUNCIL AGENDA: 6/4/2019

ITEM: 2.18

FILE NO: 19-400

# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Toni J. Taber, CMC  
City Clerk

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** June 4, 2019

**SUBJECT: Actions Related to Multi-Jurisdiction Stevens Creek Boulevard Complete Streets and Transit Planning.**

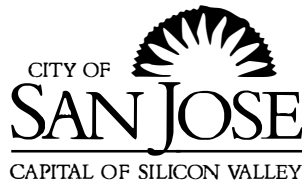
**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution to:

(a) Support the development of A Complete Streets and Near Term Transit Implementation Plan for the Stevens Creek Boulevard corridor to be prepared jointly by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and the Cities of Santa Clara, Cupertino and San José; and High Capacity Transit Service along the Stevens Creek Boulevard corridor currently being planned and investigated in VTA's High Capacity Transit Study and San José's joint Request for Information for an Airport-Diridon-Stevens Creek Transit Connection; and

(b) Authorize the City Manager to assess resources needed to develop these projects.

CEQA: Statutorily Exempt, File No. PP17-001, CEQA Guidelines Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies with no commitment to future actions. Council District 1. (Transportation)  
[Deferred from 5/21/19 - Item 2.19 (19-360)]



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** John Ristow

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** May 21, 2019

Approved

Date

5/22/19

**COUNCIL DISTRICT: 1**

**SUBJECT: MULTI-JURISDICTION STEVENS CREEK BOULEVARD COMPLETE  
STREETS AND TRANSIT PLANNING**

## RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution to:

- a. Support the development of A Complete Streets and Near Term Transit Implementation Plan for the Stevens Creek Boulevard corridor to be prepared jointly by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and the Cities of Santa Clara, Cupertino and San José; and High Capacity Transit Service along the Stevens Creek Boulevard corridor currently being planned and investigated in VTA's High Capacity Transit Study and San José's joint Request for Information for an Airport-Diridon-Stevens Creek Transit Connection; and
- b. Authorize the City Manager to assess resources needed to develop these projects.

## OUTCOME

The proposed resolution supports the creation of multi-jurisdictional Complete Streets and Near Term Transit planning efforts, the on-going VTA High Capacity Transit study, and the City's Request for Information (RFI) for an Airport-Diridon-Stevens Creek Transit Connection that is investigating new technologies and operational models for grade-separated transit. These efforts will create a multi-jurisdictional vision and implementation plan to create the near and medium term multi-modal transportation systems along Stevens Creek Blvd. needed to meet San José's Envision 2040 General Plan goals.

## **BACKGROUND**

On August 8, 2017, Council approved forming a multi-jurisdiction group comprised of San José, Cupertino, Santa Clara, and Santa Clara County to discuss key regional issues affecting West San Jose, with a focus on transportation and circulation. Vice Mayor “Chappie” Jones and Councilmember Deb Davis were appointed co-chairs. The first meeting of this multi-jurisdictional group occurred on March 25, 2019.

City of San Jose staff have been coordinating with staff from the City of Santa Clara, City of Cupertino and VTA regarding transportation and circulation along the Stevens Creek Blvd. corridor since a working group was formed for this purpose in August 2017. This group has been discussing how to coordinate transportation planning and project delivery along Stevens Creek Blvd., including streetscape improvements to improve bicycle and pedestrian circulation along the corridor, in addition to the need for high-capacity transit as this corridor has evolved into a major health, education, technology industry, shopping, and housing spine in the South Bay.

In 2012, VTA began planning and evaluation efforts for a proposed Bus Rapid Transit service along Stevens Creek Blvd. with a total of 13 stations that would connect the entire corridor from Cupertino to the downtown San Jose Transit Mall. VTA has not pursued this project beyond this planning and evaluation stage to date.

As part of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Horizon Initiative, a Bay Area wide contest in search of innovative transportation concepts, City staff submitted a proposal for a high-capacity transit line from Diridon Station west to Cupertino. The proposal was selected among 94 other transportation projects for consideration to be included in MTC’s Plan Bay Area 2040.

San José, with input from the Stevens Creek corridor partner jurisdictions, is developing an RFI for a grade-separated transit service along the same corridor; the RFI will also include a connection to the San José Airport from Diridon station. The RFI will ask the following key questions of potential transit project delivery and service providers.

- Are there new technologies that can provide grade separated transportation solutions?
- Do these new technologies have a significantly lower cost structure than current systems that will enable quick deployment?
- Do these solutions have viable operations plans?
- How will these new technologies construct and deliver services on the Stevens Creek and Airport corridors?

## **ANALYSIS**

The proposed resolution supports the work of the multi-jurisdictional Stevens Creek corridor group and would support the engagement of the City in the development of a Complete Streets and Near Term Transit Plan and VTA's High Capacity Transit Study along with the City of Santa Clara, City of Cupertino, County of Santa Clara, and VTA to bring high capacity transit to the Stevens Creek corridor. The term "High Capacity Transit Service" could include a number of transit technologies, such as light rail, subway, bus rapid transit, aerial conveyances, or other emerging technologies. The resolution recommended for adoption demonstrates the Council's support of "High Capacity Transit Service" along Stevens Creek Blvd. to connect the entire corridor from Cupertino to Downtown San Jose and the growing regional transportation network node of Diridon Station. The proposed resolution supports a grade separated long term solution.

VTA has offered to play a led role in the development of the Complete Streets and Near Term Transit Plan. At the initial meeting of the multi-jurisdiction group on March 25, 2019, VTA requested that all jurisdictions involved officially show their support for the planning efforts.

## **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

Staff will coordinate with the District 1 Council office on the final scope of work for the joint Complete Streets and Near Term Transit Implementation plan. Staff will also return to Council with a budget request in support of these efforts once a final scope of work is established. Staff will report to Council in Winter of 2019 on the outcome of the Airport-Diridon-Stevens Creek Transit Connection RFI.

## **POLICY ALTERNATIVES**

Council could choose to not approve the proposed resolution. If the resolution is not approved, Department of Transportation staff will continue working on the Airport-Diridon-Stevens Creek Transit Connection RFI, and VTA will continue work on the High Capacity Transit Study.

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

This memorandum will be posted on the City's website for the June 4, 2019 Council agenda.

## **COORDINATION**

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

May 21, 2019

**Subject: Multi-Jurisdiction Stevens Creek Complete Streets and Transit Planning Support**

Page 4 of 4

### **COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION/INPUT**

There is no commission recommendation on this action at this time.

### **COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS**

No specific funding is required at this time. An initial estimate for the unfunded Complete Streets and Near Term Transit Implementation Plan is \$2 million. Staff will return with a specific budget request once the scope of work is finalized and a shared cost burden proposal is developed among the corridor partner jurisdictions.

### **CEQA**

Statutorily Exempt, File No. PP17-001, CEQA Guidelines Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies with no commitment to future actions. Any plan to be adopted as a result of these joint efforts will require its own CEQA clearance.

/s/

JOHN RISTOW  
Director of Transportation

For questions please contact Ramses Madou, Interim Division Manager, Planning, Policy, and Sustainability, [ramses.madou@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:ramses.madou@sanjoseca.gov), 408-975-3283