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San Jose General Plan Task Force:

I write in support of the staff recommendation to transition the Evergreen Development Policy area to the City's new Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) protections.

The County, in cooperation with the City, recently completed a Reid-Hillview Vision Plan, which engaged the community in exploring the repurposing of the 180 acres of Reid-Hillview Airport. A post-aviation Reid-Hillview would also encourage investment in the 100 acres of Eastridge Mall for more mixed-use redevelopment that is limited because of airport restrictions. In addition, the former Pleasant Hills Golf Course is less than half of a mile away. These three large properties present major place-making opportunities within the Evergreen Development Policy area. Within the next decade, they will be linked to the rest of the County and the greater Bay Area by mass transit with the completion of the Eastridge Transit Station connection to BART.

However, taking advantage of these opportunities to enhance the Eastside requires the City to apply the same VMT protections to the Evergreen Development Policy areas as it does to the rest of the City.

The County's year-long community outreach for the Reid-Hillview Vision Plan included focus groups, two large community workshops, and more than a dozen neighborhood presentations. When the 91-page Vision Plan was presented to the Board of Supervisors this Tuesday, we received more than 100 letters in support of master-planning a future post-aviation Reid-Hillview. We received formal support from the Mayfair Neighborhood Association, Mayfair NAC, Arbuckle Neighborhood Association, Capitol/Goss-Capitol Park Neighborhood Association, Plata Arroyo Neighborhood, Eastgate NAC, and Tropicana-Lanai Neighborhood Association. One support letter was signed by 43 community leaders.

The community has spoken in favor of needed jobs, housing, and recreation. Transitioning the Evergreen Development Policy area to VMT protections will allow the community's aspiration for the area to be realized. That is why I advocate for the staff recommendation on the Evergreen Development Policy area.

Be well.

Cindy Chavez, Supervisor, District 2

County Board of Supervisors