





# City of San José 2021 General Plan Amendments



**Long-Range Transportation Analysis** 

Prepared for:

City of San José

Ä

August 27, 2021









# Hexagon Transportation Consultants, Inc.

Hexagon Office: 8070 Santa Teresa Boulevard, Suite 230

Gilroy, CA 95020

Hexagon Job Number: 21RD07

Phone: 408.846.7410

Client Name: City of San José



www.heytrans.com



# **Table of Contents**

1.	Intro	duction	1				
2.		eral Plan Amendment Site Descriptions					
3.	Analysis Methodology and Impact Criteria						
4.		ulative General Plan Long-Range Analysis					
6.		clusions					
List	of T	ables					
Table Amen		Site-Specific Long-Range Transportation Analysis Screening Criteria for Land Use	4				
Table		Existing General Plan and Proposed GPA Land Uses	7				
Table	3	Changes in Households, Jobs, and Peak-Hour Trips Due to Proposed GPAs					
Table		MOE Significance Thresholds					
Table	5	Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Service Population					
Table	6	Journey-to-Work Mode Share					
Table	7	AM Peak-Hour Vehicle Speeds (mph) for San José Transit Priority Corridors	26				
List	of F	igures					
Figure	e 1	Proposed GPA Site Locations					
Figure	e 2	Location of GPA Site 1: GP19-010/C19-041 (120 Granite Rock Way)					
Figure		Location of GPA Site 2: GP21-003/C21-007 (3354 Keaton Loop)					
Figure	e 4	Location of GPA Site 3: GP21-004/C21-009 (7246 Sharon Drive #J)	13				
Figure		Location of GPA Site 4: GP21-006 (1271 &1279 Julian Street)					
Figure		Location of GPA Site 5: GP21-007 (2905 Senter Road)					
Figure		Location of GPA Site 6: GP21-008 (1654 Burdette Drive)					
Figure	e 8	Location of GPA Site 7: GP21-009/C21-008 (1500 Berger Drive)	17				



# 1. Introduction

This report presents the results of the long-range transportation impact analysis completed for the proposed City of San José 2021 General Plan Amendments (project). The project consists of amending the current adopted land use designations of the Envision San José 2040 General Plan (GP) for seven sites within the City of San José. The purpose of the General Plan Amendments (GPAs) transportation analysis (TA) is to assess the long-range impacts of the amendments on the citywide transportation system. The potential transportation impacts of the project were evaluated in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the City of San José for GPA TA.

The GPA TA provides an evaluation of the changed circumstances of future conditions in the currently adopted Envision San José 2040 General Plan due to the proposed 2021 General Plan amendments. The adopted GP identifies long-range planned land uses and transportation system within the City projected to the Year 2040, and serves as the baseline for the evaluation of transportation impacts of the GPAs. The results of the analysis for the proposed land use adjustments are compared to the results of the adopted GP to determine if the proposed 2021 General Plan amendments would result in any new or substantially more severe transportation impacts than those impacts that were already analyzed for the adopted GP.

After General Plan amendments to the Land Use/Transportation Diagram become effective, which is generally 30 days after Council approval, these General Plan amendments are incorporated into the updated General Plan Land Use/Transportation Diagram. This process may occur up to four times a year under State law. Therefore, the current General Plan includes all amendments that are currently effective as of the end of Year 2020.

The Envision San José 2040 General Plan Land Use/Transportation Diagram designates the type, intensity, and general distribution of planned land uses within San José. Because the 2021 General Plan amendments propose changes to sites' land use designations, this TA evaluates the incremental changes from uses and intensities allowed under the sites' current land use designations to the uses and intensities proposed under the proposed General Plan land use designations for each site. The baseline of the current land use designation is used (as opposed to the existing physical condition) because the General Plan EIR and subsequent reviews have already evaluated the potential transportation CEQA impacts of building out the adopted General Plan using an existing condition baseline in 2015. The existing condition baseline was reviewed, analyzed, and updated again as part of this study, and it was determined based on substantial evidence that the proposed 2021 General Plan amendments would not result in any new or substantially more severe transportation impacts than those impacts that were already analyzed for the General Plan.

Further, the Build-out of the General Plan and related environmental analysis under CEQA assumes development overall in the City will occur at the middle range of the General Plan land use designations or be consistent with surrounding development intensities. The reason why the middle or typical range



is used as opposed to the maximum intensities potentially allowed under various General Plan land use designations is because building out under the maximum intensities for all General Plan land designation would exceed the total planned growth capacity allocated in the General Plan, and this maximum amount of build-out does not represent typical development patterns or the average amount of development built on each site. General Plan land use designations allow a wide range of development intensities and types of land uses to accommodate growth; however, development projects are not typically proposed at the maximum densities due to existing development patterns, site and parking constraints, Federal Aviation Administration regulations, maximum allowable height provisions and other development regulations in the San José Municipal Code in Title 20 (Zoning), market conditions, and other factors.

For example, several General Plan land use designations include a maximum intensity for each use allowed under a land use designation and also allow a mix of land uses. On a site where development is mixed-use, or there is a height limit, or there is a minimum required setback, achieving the maximum allowable intensities for each land use in the development is often physically infeasible. To evaluate the incremental changes of the proposed General Plan land use amendments, average residential and commercial densities for development under these land use designations and in the planning areas of the proposed General Plan amendments for San José are assumed for the current and proposed land use designations on each site. Individual development projects would be required to complete a near-term transportation analysis in conjunction with any future development permit applications.

#### **Proposed 2021 GPA Site Descriptions**

The project consists of amending the current adopted land use designations of the Envision San José 2040 General Plan (GP) for seven sites within the City of San José (see Figure 1). The GPA sites, described in detail in the following chapter, include the following:

Site 1 – GP19-010/C19-041 (120 Granite Rock Way)

Site 2 – GP21-003/C21-007 (3354 Keaton Loop)

Site 3 – GP21-004/C21-009 (7246 Sharon Drive #J)

Site 4 – GP21-006 (1271 &1279 Julian Street)

Site 5 – GP21-007 (2905 Senter Road)

Site 6 – GP21-008 (1654 Burdette Drive)

Site 7 – GP21-009/C21-008 (1500 Berger Drive)

The Airport/Guadalupe Gardens GPA is not part of the proposed 2021 GPA sites, however, it is included in the cumulative GPA analysis for this project because it is not yet approved and its status will be decided by Council at a later date. Each of the proposed land use amendments and resulting changes in households and employment for each of the proposed GPA sites are described in detail within the following chapters.

# **GPA Analysis Exemption**

The City of San José Travel Demand Forecasting (TDF) model, which is described in detail in Chapter 3, was developed to help the City project peak-hour transportation impacts attributable to proposed amendments to the City's General Plan. The model is used to estimate the net change in peak-hour trips that are attributable to a proposed amendment. The City has established peak-hour trip thresholds for GP land use amendments that require a site-specific GPA analysis. It is presumed that amendments that result in trips less than the trip thresholds would not create significant long-term impacts by themselves. The City's trip thresholds for requiring a site-specific GPA transportation analysis are presented in the City of San José *Transportation Analysis Handbook*, April 2018 and are shown in Table 1 below.



Figure 1
Proposed GPA Site Locations

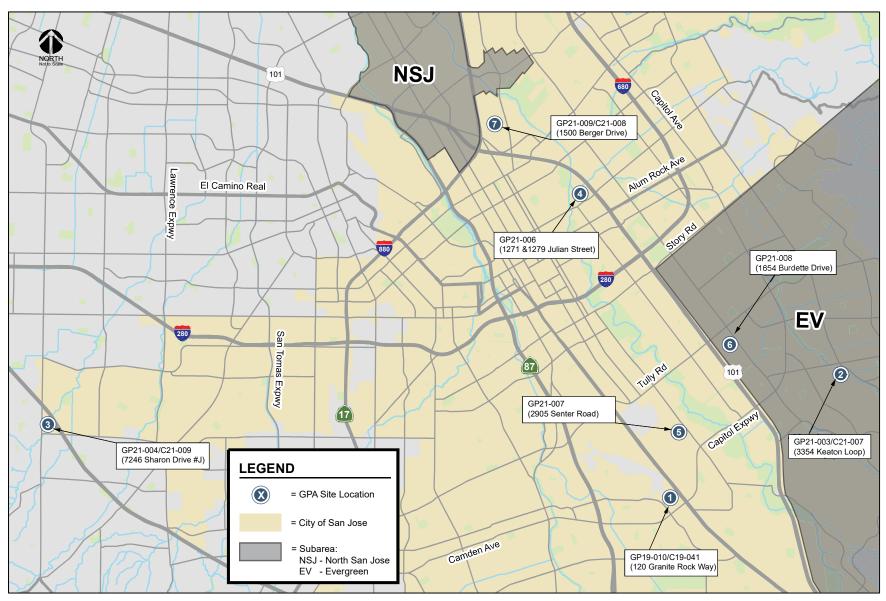




Table 1
Site-Specific Long-Range Transportation Analysis Screening Criteria for Land Use Amendments

	Maximum Allowable PM Peak Hour Vehicle-Trips							
Location of Amendment	Expansion of Residential Use <sup>1</sup>	Conversion from Residential to Non-Residential Use <sup>2</sup>	Conversion from Non-Residential to Residential Use <sup>2</sup>	Expansion of Non-Residential Use <sup>1</sup>				
North San Jose	1,000	0	500	50				
Evergreen	15	600	0	300				
South San Jose	50	600	0	300				
Remainder of City	250	250	250	250				

#### Notes:

Source: City of San Jose Transportation Analysis Handbook, April 2018.

With the exception of GPA sites located within the identified North San José, Evergreen, and South San José special subareas, a proposed land use amendment that would result in an increase of more than 250 PM peak-hour trips to be generated by the subject site would be required to prepare a site-specific GPA transportation analysis.

Two of the seven subject GPA sites (#2 – GP21-003/C21-007 and #6 – GP21-008) are located inside the special Evergreen subarea. Site #2 proposes a conversion from residential to non-residential land uses and is subject to the 600 PM peak-hour trip threshold. Site #6 proposes an expansion of non-residential uses and is subject to the 300 PM peak-hour trip threshold. However, neither of these two proposed land use amendments would result in a net increase of more than the identified thresholds and therefore would not require a site-specific GPA transportation analysis.

The remaining five GPA sites are located outside the special subareas and are subject to the 250 PM peak-hour trip threshold. The proposed land use amendments at the remaining five sites would not result in a net increase of more than 250 PM peak-hour trips and therefore would not require a site-specific GPA transportation analysis.

Table 3 in the next chapter shows the net increase in trips due to the proposed land use amendments.

# **Scope of Study**

The purpose of the GPAs TA is to assess the long-range impacts of the proposed amendments on the citywide transportation system. This study includes an evaluation of the cumulative impacts of all seven GPA sites with the proposed land use amendments. Individual development projects also will be required to complete a near-term transportation analysis in conjunction with any future development permit applications consistent with the Envision San José 2040 GP. The potential transportation impacts of the project were evaluated in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the City of San José for GPA transportation analysis.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The screening criteria for a proposed expansion of the same land use are measured in net new PM peak hour vehicle trips.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The screening criteria for a proposed land use conversion are measured in total PM peak hour vehicle-trips generated by the proposed use.

The project consists of land use changes to the current adopted GP land uses. The project does not propose any changes to the citywide transportation system. The GPA long-range analysis focuses on the potential changes on the citywide transportation system in the horizon year of the GP (2040) when the GP capacities for housing and jobs are fully developed. The analysis includes evaluation of the effects on vehicle miles traveled, mode-share of travel, impacts to travel speeds on transit priority corridors, and impacts to pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities. Impacts are evaluated based on the same Measures of Effectiveness (MOEs) and significance criteria utilized in the Envision San José 2040 GP TIA. Traffic conditions were evaluated for the following traffic scenarios using the City's TDF model:

- Projected Year 2015 Conditions: The Projected Year 2015 Conditions represent a projection
  of transportation conditions in 2015 using the City's GP TDF model. The roadway network also
  reflects the Year 2015 roadway network and transportation system.
- Current 2040 General Plan Conditions: Future traffic due to the current GP land uses (i.e., including the adopted GP Four-Year Review Land Use adjustments and adopted 2020 GP Amendments) is added to regional growth that can be reasonably expected to occur by 2040. Current 2040 GP conditions include the current roadway network as well as all transportation system improvements as identified in the current GP.
- Cumulative 2040 General Plan Amendment Conditions: Current 2040 GP conditions with the proposed land use amendments at all seven proposed GPA sites. Transportation conditions for the Cumulative 2040 GPA conditions were evaluated relative to the currently adopted 2040 GP Conditions to determine any long-range transportation impacts.

#### **Report Organization**

The remainder of this report is divided into the following chapters; Chapter 2 presents a detailed description of each of the proposed GPA sites included in the analysis. Chapter 3 describes analysis methodology, including the City's TDF model, and the MOEs and significance thresholds used in the analysis. Chapter 4 presents the results of the cumulative analysis based on the TDF modeling and citywide MOEs for the proposed GPAs. Chapter 5 presents the conclusions of the long-range cumulative GPA analysis.



# 2.

# **General Plan Amendment Site Descriptions**

The proposed project consists of amending land uses currently adopted in the Envision San José 2040 General Plan on seven sites. The amendment sites are described in more detail below along with peak-hour trip generation estimates for each of the proposed GPA sites.

#### **Envision San José 2040 General Plan**

The City of San José *Envision San José 2040 General Plan* was adopted in 2011 and was based on planned land uses within the City projected to the Year 2035. Subsequent reviews in 2010, 2011, 2016, and 2020 resulted in the currently adopted General Plan, which includes the base year of 2015 and horizon year of the planned land uses to the Year 2040. Thus, the adopted General Plan TA provides a comprehensive evaluation of the effects of planned land use as identified in the current GP on the citywide transportation system and is used as the baseline from which impacts due to land use amendments such as the proposed project are evaluated.

Land use data consisting of households and employment growth for each of the proposed GPA sites as reflected in the adopted GP and the proposed land use amendments were prepared by the Department of Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement and provided to Hexagon for use in this analysis.

#### **Amendment Sites**

The project includes seven proposed GPA sites: GP19-010/C19-041, GP21-003/C21-007, GP21-004/C21-009, GP21-006, GP21-007, GP21-008, and GP21-009/C21-008. Two of the proposed GPAs (GP19-010/C19-041 and GP21-009/C21-008) would not result in changes to the number of households and jobs on each site when compared to those adopted per the Envision San José 2040 GP for each site. However, the proposed GPAs will not change the total number of jobs and households citywide. The TDF model is used to rebalance the number of jobs and households citywide to maintain the General Plan Goal of 751,650 jobs and 429,350 households.

Table 2 summarizes the land uses and density for each proposed site under the current 2040 GP and the proposed GPAs. Table 3 summarizes the changes in households and jobs for each site and the resulting increases in peak-hour trips. The peak-hour trips for each site were estimated using the City of San José's TDF model. The TDF modeling is described in Chapter 3.



Table 2
Existing General Plan and Proposed GPA Land Uses

		<u></u>			2040 General Pl	an (Baseline)	Proposed General Plan Amendment			
Site Number	Project Name	Location	APN	Size (acres)	Land Use	Density	Land Use	Density		
1	GP19-010/C19-041 (120 Granite Rock Way)	120 Granite Rock Way	462-17-024	22.18	Light Industrial	FAR up to 1.5	Heavy Industrial	FAR up to 1.5		
2	GP21-003/C21-007 (3354 Keaton Loop)	3354 Keaton Loop	659-05-021, 659-05-039	0.66	Residential Neighborhood	8 DU/AC; FAR up to 0.7	Neighborhood Community/Commercial	FAR up to 3.5		
3	GP21-004/C21-009 (7246 Sharon Drive #J)	7246 Sharon Drive	372-21-003	0.60	Neighborhood Community/Commercial	FAR up to 3.5	Mixed-Use Neighborhood	up to 30 DU/AC; FAR 0.25 to 2.0		
4	GP21-006 (1271 &1279 Julian Street)	1271 & 1279 Julian Street	249-66-010	0.97	Mixed-Use Neighborhood	up to 30 DU/AC; FAR 0.25 to 2.0	Urban Residential	30-95 DU/AC; FAR 1.0 to 4.0		
5	GP21-007 (2905 Senter Road)	2905 Senter Road	497-27-110, 497-27-111	1.09	Neighborhood Community/Commercial	FAR up to 3.5	Mixed-Use Commercial	up to 50 DU/AC; FAR 0.5 to 4.5 for Residential/Commercial; Mixed-Use Commercial FAR 0.25 to 4.5		
6	GP21-008 (1654 Burdette Drive)	1654 Burdette Drive	670-02-024	2.00	Neighborhood Community/Commercial	FAR up to 3.5	Mixed-Use Commercial	up to 50 DU/AC; FAR 0.5 to 4.5 for Residential/Commercial; Mixed-Use Commercial FAR 0.25 to 4.5		
7	GP21-009/C21-008 (1500 Berger Drive)	1500 Berger Drive	237-04-024	0.68	Heavy Industrial	FAR up to 1.5	Light Industrial	FAR up to 1.5		
	Notes: FAR = floor-to-area ratio; DU = dwelling units; AC = acre; APN = assessor's parcel number Source: City of San Jose Planning Department (July and August 2021).									



Table 3 Changes in Households, Jobs, and Peak-Hour Trips Due to Proposed GPAs

Site		2040 General Plan (Baseline) <sup>1</sup>		Proposed GPAs <sup>2</sup>		Net Land Use Change		Net Peak-Hour Trip Change	
Number	Site Name	тотнн	TEMP	ТОТНН	TEMP	ТОТНН	TEMP	AM	PM
1	GP19-010/C19-041 (120 Granite Rock Way)	14	906	14	906	0	0	0	0
2	GP21-003/C21-007 (3354 Keaton Loop)	1,405	393	1,405	427	0	34	24	36
3	GP21-004/C21-009 (7246 Sharon Drive #J)	363	524	372	524	9	0	5	5
4	GP21-006 (1271 &1279 Julian Street)	652	550	698	550	46	0	24	29
5	GP21-007 (2905 Senter Road)	1,363	1,122	1,390	1,146	27	24	19	30
6	GP21-008 (1654 Burdette Drive)	1,643	1,400	1,693	1,443	50	43	56	77
7	GP21-009/C21-008 (1500 Berger Drive)	743	1,358	743	1,358	0	0	0	0

Notes: TOTHH = total number of households; TEMP = total number of jobs.

The buildout of the 2040 GP represents baseline conditions.

Source: City of San Jose Planning Department, July and August 2021.

City of San Jose Travel Forecasting Model runs completed August 2020 by Hexagon Transportation Consultants, Inc.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Total number of households and jobs under the adopted Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan (GP).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Total number of households and jobs as proposed by the GP Amendments.

Proposed land use changes for each of the GPA sites are described below.

- Site 1 GP19-010/C19-041 (120 Granite Rock Way): The 22.18-acre site is located generally bounded by Hillsdale Avenue to the north, Monterey Road to the east, Granite Rock Way to the south, and Hillcap Avenue to the west. Figure 2 shows the location of the site. The adopted GP land use designation for the site is *Light Industrial*, and the proposed amendment involves changing the adopted land use to *Heavy Industrial*. The proposed amendment would not result in a change of households and jobs on the site. Based on the TDF modeling results, the proposed amendment would not result in a net increase of peak-hour trips generated by GP19-010/C19-041, and a site-specific GPA TA is not required.
- Site 2 GP21-003/C21-007 (3354 Keaton Loop): The 0.66-acre site is located on the southwest corner of the San Felipe Road/Keeton Loop intersection. Figure 3 shows the location of the site. The adopted GP land use designation for the site is *Residential Neighborhood*, and the proposed amendment involves changing the adopted land use to *Neighborhood Community/Commercial*. The proposed amendment would result in 34 additional jobs on the site. Based on the TDF modeling results, the proposed amendment would not result in a substantial net increase of peak-hour trips generated by GP21-003/C21-007, and a site-specific GPA TA is not required.
- Site 3 GP21-004/C21-009 (7246 Sharon Drive #J): The 0.6-acre site is located along Sharon Drive, just east of De Anza Boulevard. Figure 4 shows the location of the site. The adopted GP land use designation for the site is *Neighborhood Community/Commercial*, and the proposed amendment involves changing the adopted land use to *Mixed Use Neighborhood*. The proposed amendment would result in 9 additional households on the site. Based on the TDF modeling results, the proposed amendment would not result in a substantial net increase of peak-hour trips generated by GP21-004/C21-009, and a site-specific GPA TA is not required.
- Site 4 GP21-006 (1271 &1279 Julian Street): The 0.97-acre site is located along the north side of Julian Street, between Permata Court and Wooster Avenue. Figure 5 shows the location of the site. The adopted GP land use designation for the site is *Mixed Use Neighborhood*, and the proposed amendment involves changing the adopted land use to *Urban Residential*. The proposed amendment would result in 46 additional households on the site. Based on the TDF modeling results, the proposed amendment would not result in a substantial net increase of peak-hour trips generated by GP21-006, and a site-specific GPA TA is not required.
- Site 5 GP21-007 (2905 Senter Road): The 1.09-acre site is located on the southwest corner of the Senter Road/Lewis Road intersection. Figure 6 shows the location of the site. The adopted GP land use designation for the site is *Neighborhood Community/Commercial*, and the proposed amendment involves changing the adopted land use to *Mixed-Use Commercial*. The proposed amendment would result in 27 additional households and 24 additional jobs on the site. Based on the TDF modeling results, the proposed amendment would not result in a substantial net increase of peak-hour trips generated by GP21-007, and a site-specific GPA TA is not required.
- Site 6 GP21-008 (1654 Burdette Drive): The 2.00-acre site is located along the south side of Burdette Drive, between Alvin Avenue and King Road. Figure 7 shows the location of the site. The adopted GP land use designation for the site is Neighborhood Community/Commercial, and the proposed amendment involves changing the adopted land use to Mixed-Use Commercial. The proposed amendment would result in 50 additional households and 43 additional jobs on the site. Based on the TDF modeling results, the proposed amendment would not result in a substantial net increase of peak-hour trips generated by GP21-008, and a site-specific GPA TA is not required.



• Site 7 – GP21-009/C21-008 (1500 Berger Drive): The 0.68-acre site is located along Berger Drive, north of Gish Road. Figure 8 shows the location of the site. The adopted GP land use designation for the site is *Heavy Industrial*, and the proposed amendment involves changing the adopted land use to *Light Industrial*. The proposed amendment would not result in a change of households and jobs on the site. Based on the TDF modeling results, the proposed amendment would not result in a net increase of peak-hour trips generated by GP21-009/C21-008, and a site-specific GPA TA is not required.



Figure 2 Location of GPA Site 1: GP19-010/C19-041 (120 Granite Rock Way)

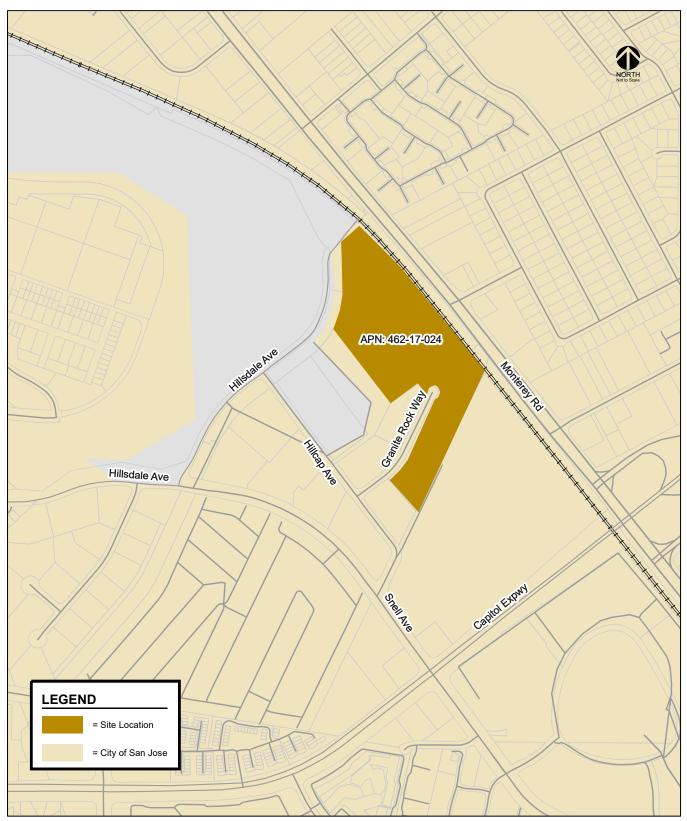




Figure 3 Location of GPA Site 2: GP21-003/C21-007 (3354 Keaton Loop)

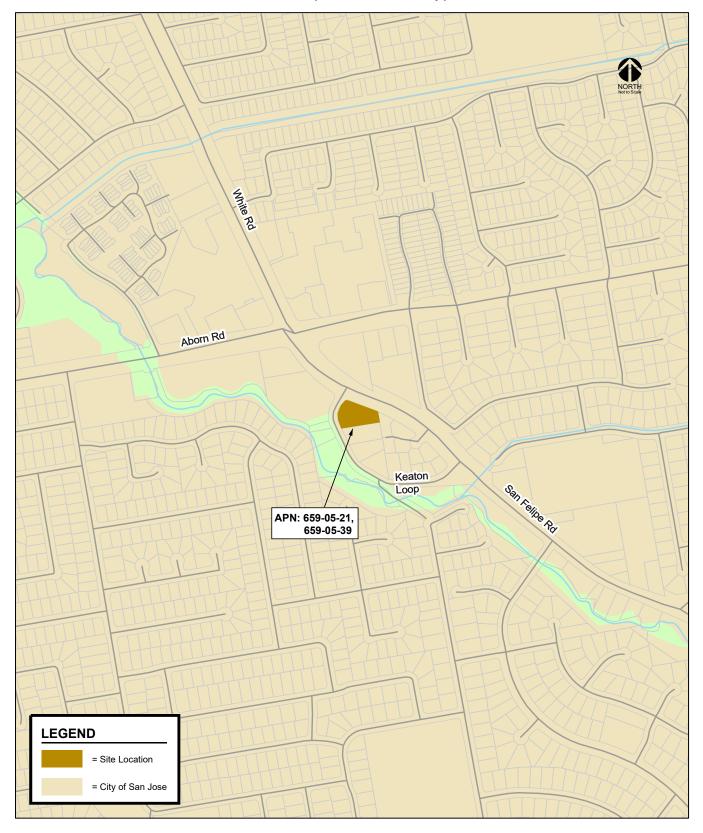




Figure 4 Location of GPA Site 3: GP21-004/C21-009 (7246 Sharon Drive #J)

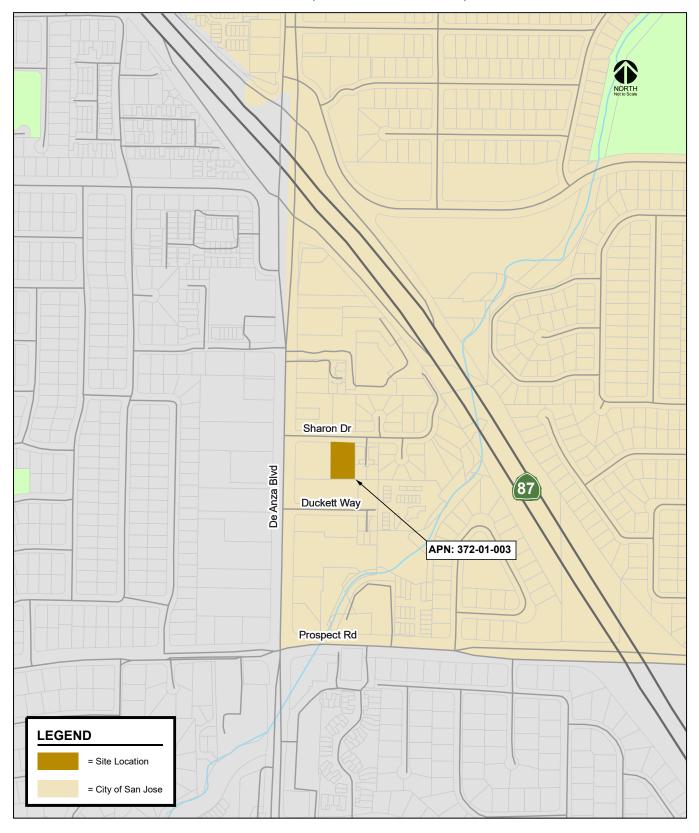




Figure 5 Location of GPA Site 4: GP21-006 (1271 &1279 Julian Street)

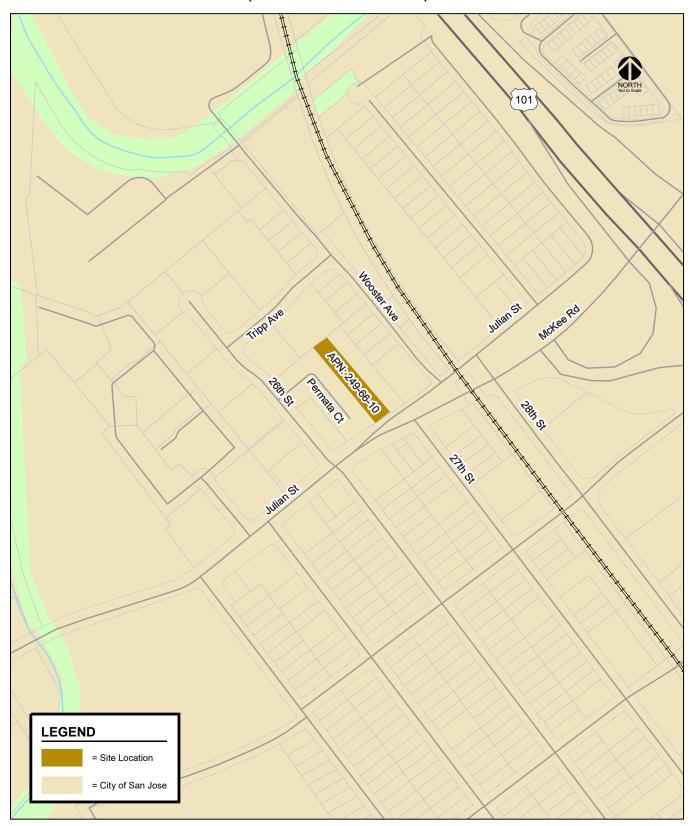




Figure 6 Location of GPA Site 5: GP21-007 (2905 Senter Road)

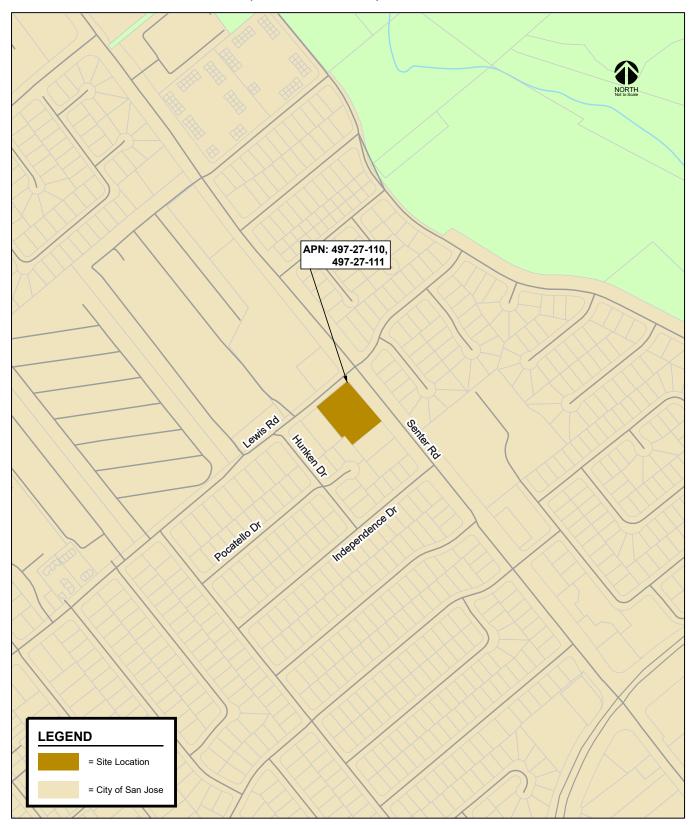




Figure 7 Location of GPA Site 6: GP21-008 (1654 Burdette Drive)

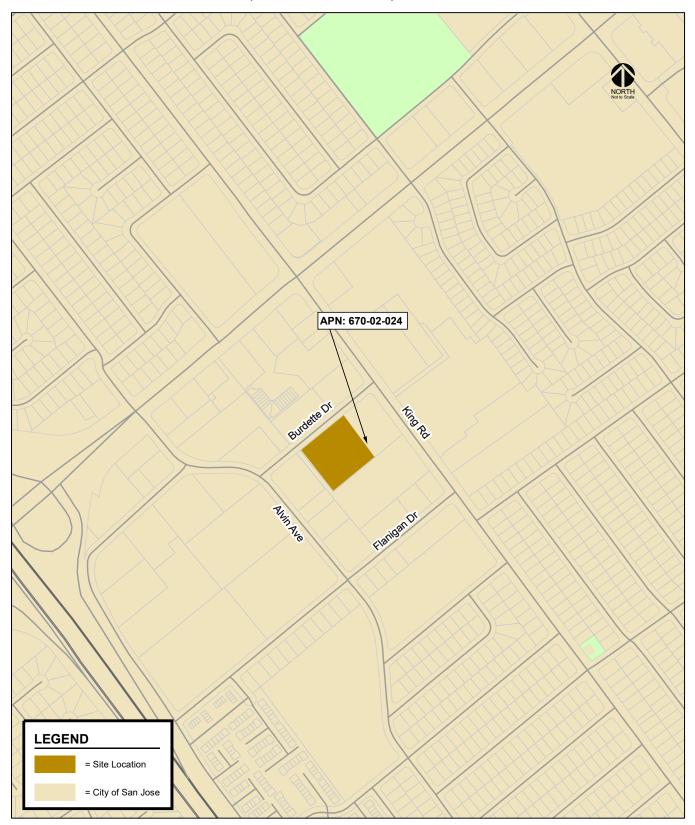
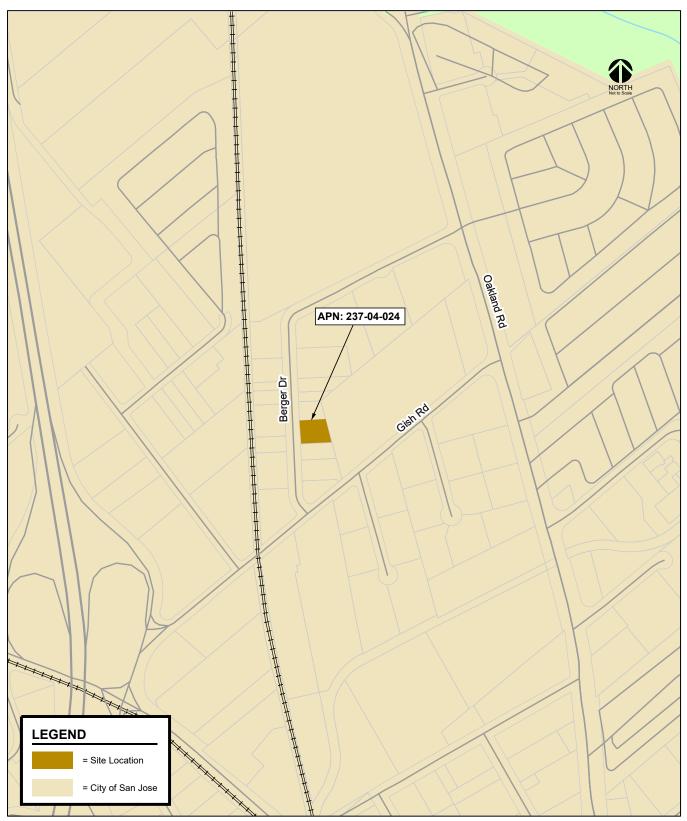




Figure 8 Location of GPA Site 7: GP21-009/C21-008 (1500 Berger Drive)





# 3. Analysis Methodology and Impact Criteria

This chapter describes the travel demand forecasting modeling methodology used for the analysis and the methods used to determine the traffic conditions for the study scenarios described in the previous chapter. It includes descriptions of the measures of effectiveness (MOE) and the applicable impact criteria for GP transportation analysis.

# **Travel Demand Forecasting Model**

The citywide travel demand forecasting (TDF) model was prepared as part of the Envision San José 2040 GP. The TDF model was developed to provide improved citywide travel demand forecasting as part of continued planning efforts to address transportation infrastructure needs and to assist in the update of the City's GP. The model was developed from the VTA's countywide travel demand model, based on Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC's) BAYCAST trip-based regional model. The VTA model contains all cities and counties within the model's extents roughly bounded by southern Monterey County, eastern San Joaquin County, northern Sonoma County, and the Pacific Ocean. The San José model is a sub-area model of the VTA model – it maintains the general inputs (roadway network, land use, trip generation rates, etc.), structure, and process as the VTA model, but with refinement within the City of San José. This allows regional travel patterns and behavior to be accounted for in the focused area of San José, which will become more important with the recent legislative requirements associated with greenhouse gas quantification and impacts.

The VTA and San José models both include four elements traditionally associated with models of this kind. These elements include trip generation, trip distribution, mode choice, and traffic assignment.

- Trip Generation. Trip generation involves estimating the number of trips that would occur with
  the proposed GP land uses. The City's TDF model includes trip generation formulas based on
  the MTC regional travel demand model. Trip generation is estimated based on the type and
  amount of specific land uses within each traffic analysis zone (TAZ). The TDF model produces
  trip estimates in person trips (as opposed to vehicle trips, which are typically used in near-term
  transportation analyses).
- **Trip Distribution.** Trip distribution involves distributing the trips to various internal destinations and external gateways. The model pairs trip origins and trip destinations (starting and ending points) for each person trip based on the type of trip (e.g., home-to-work, home-to-school, etc.) and the distance a person is willing to travel for that purpose. The distance a person is willing to travel is determined by a gravity model, which is analogous to Newton's law of gravity. In a gravity model, estimates are made about how many trips occur between two locations where



the interaction between those two locations diminishes with increasing distance, time, and cost between them.

- **Mode Choice.** Mode choice, as assigned by the model, determines which mode of transport a person will choose for each trip, based on the availability of a vehicle, the trip distance, and the trip purpose.
- **Traffic Assignment.** Traffic assignment involves determining which route to take to travel between the trip origin and destination. The model assigns the trips to the roadway network to minimize travel time between the start and endpoints.

Subsequent trip distribution, assignment, and mode choice iterations are completed by the model to account for roadway congestion. These iterations continue under equilibrium traffic conditions until the optimal trip assignment is reached.

#### **Transportation Network and Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs)**

The fundamental structure of the model includes a computer-readable representation of the roadway system (highway network) that defines roadway segments (links) identified by endpoints (nodes). Each roadway link is further represented by key characteristics (link attributes) that describe the length, travel speeds, and vehicular capacity of the roadway segment. Small geographic areas (TAZs) are used to quantify the planned land use activity throughout the City's planning area. The boundaries of these small geographic areas are typically defined by the modeled roadway system, as well as natural and man-made barriers that have an effect on traffic access to the modeled network. Transit systems are represented in the model by transit networks that are also identifiable by links and nodes. Unlike the roadway network, the key link attributes of a transit link are operating speed and headways – elapsed time between successive transit services. Transit stops and "dwelling times" (the time allowed for passengers embarking and disembarking transit vehicles) are described as transit node attributes. Transit networks are further grouped by type of transit (rail versus bus) and operator (VTA bus versus AC Transit bus). Transit accessibility for each TAZ is evaluated by proximity to transit stops or stations, and the connectivity of transit lines to destinations.

The socio-economic data for each TAZ in the model includes information about the number of households (stratified by household income and structure type), population, average income, population age distribution, and employment (stratified by groupings of Standard Industrial Codes). The worker per household ratios and auto ownership within a TAZ are calculated based on these factors and the types and densities of residences. The model projects trip generation rates and the traffic attributable to residents and resident workers, categorized by trip purposes, using set trip generation formulas that are based on the MTC regional travel demand model. The land use data and roadway network used for the GP base year reflect land use development and roadway projects completed as of approximately mid-2015.

#### **Traffic Assignment**

Travel times within and between TAZs (intra-zonal, inter-zonal and terminal times) are developed from the network being modeled. Travel times within zones (intra-zonal travel times) are derived for each zone based on half its average travel time to the nearest three adjacent zones. Time to walk to and from the trip maker's car (terminal times) are also added. The projected daily trips are distributed using a standard gravity model and friction factors calibrated for the modeling region, which presently consists of 13 counties.



The City of San José TDF model can estimate up to 7 modes of transportation:

- auto drive alone
- auto carpool with two persons
- auto carpool with three+ persons
- rail transit
- bus transit
- bicycle
- walk

Before the traffic is assigned to the roadway networks, time-of-day factors and directionality factors are applied to automobile trips occurring during:

- AM peak hour
- AM 4-hour peak
- PM peak hour
- PM 4-hour peak
- mid-day 6-hour
- mid-night 10-hour periods

The assignment of the trip tables to the roadway network uses a route selection procedure based on minimum travel time paths (as opposed to minimum travel distance paths) between TAZs and is done using a capacity-constrained user equilibrium-seeking process. This capacity-constrained traffic assignment process enables the model to reflect the diversion of traffic around congested areas of the overall street system. High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on freeways, expressways, and on-ramps are specifically dealt with in the model network, with access restricted to auto-shared-ride mode trips only, similar to real-world operations of roadway facilities with HOV lanes.

#### **Transit Mode Share**

Transit use is modeled for peak and non-peak periods based on computed transit levels of services (speeds and wait times). Based on the conditions that influence transit speeds and wait times (such as traffic congestion), transit use numbers are modified to reflect the likelihood of transit use, based on the constraints to the system. This feedback loop is a modern enhancement in the model to address the dynamics of transit ridership related to the expansion or contraction of roadway capacities.

In addition to providing projected peak hour and peak period volumes and ratios comparing projected traffic volume to available roadway capacity (V/C ratios) on each roadway segment, the model provides information on vehicle miles and vehicle hours of travel by facility type (freeway, expressways, arterial streets, etc.). These informational reports can be used to compare projected conditions under the adopted GP with the impacts of proposed land use amendments. The City's TDF model is intended for use as a "macro analysis tool" to project probable future conditions. Therefore, the TDF model is best used when comparing alternative future scenarios and is not designed to answer "microanalysis level" operational questions typically address in detailed project-specific TAs.

# **General Plan Transportation Network**

The GP TDF model includes all major transportation infrastructure identified in the Envision San José 2040 *Land Use/Transportation Diagram*, including planned infrastructure that is not yet built and/or funded.



#### **Measures of Effectiveness**

This analysis addresses the long-range impacts of the proposed GP land use adjustments on the citywide transportation system by applying measures of effectiveness (MOEs) developed for the Envision San José 2040 GP. The results of the analysis for the proposed land use adjustments are compared to the current GP to determine if the proposed adjustments would result in any new or substantially more severe transportation impacts. The long-range analysis includes analysis of the following MOEs:

- Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per Service Population. VMT per service population is a measure of the daily vehicle miles traveled divided by the number of residents and employees within the City of San José. VMT per service population (residents + employees) is used for the analysis as opposed to VMT per capita (residents only), since per service population more accurately captures the effects of land use on VMT. The City not only has residents that travel to and from jobs but also attracts regional employees. VMT is calculated based on the number of vehicles multiplied by the distance traveled by each vehicle in miles.
- **Journey-to-Work Mode Share (Drive Alone %).** Mode share is the distribution of all daily work trips by travel mode, including the following categories: drive alone, carpool with two persons, carpool with three persons or more, transit (rail and bus), bike, and walk trips.
- Average Travel Speeds within the City's Transit Priority Corridors. Average travel speed for all vehicles (transit and non-transit vehicles) in the City's 14 transit corridors is calculated for the AM peak hour based on the segment distance dividing the vehicle travel time. A transit corridor is a segment of roadway identified as a Grand Boulevard in the Envision San José 2040 GP Land Use/Transportation Diagram. Grand Boulevards serve as major transportation corridors and, in most cases, are primary routes for Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) light-rail transit (LRT), bus rapid transit (BRT), local buses, and other public transit vehicles. Although transit services are found on other street types throughout the City, transit has the utmost priority on Grand Boulevards.

# **Significance Impact Criteria**

The City of San José adopted policies and goals in Envision San José 2040 to reduce the drive-alone mode share to no more than 40 percent of all daily commute trips and to reduce the VMT per service population by 40 percent from existing (year 2015) conditions. To meet these goals by the GP horizon year and to satisfy CEQA requirements, the City developed a set of MOEs and associated significance thresholds to evaluate long-range transportation impacts resulting from land use adjustments. Table 4 summarizes the significance thresholds associated with vehicular modes of transportation as defined in the City of San José *Transportation Analysis Handbook* (Thresholds of Significance for General Plan Amendments, Table 11) for the evaluation of long-range transportation impacts resulting from proposed land use adjustments and used in this analysis.

In addition to the MOEs described above, the effects of the proposed land use adjustments on transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities were evaluated. A significant long-range transportation impact would occur if the adjustments would:

- Disrupt existing, or interfere with, planned transit services or facilities;
- Disrupt existing, or interfere with, planned bicycle facilities;
- Conflict or create inconsistencies with adopted bicycle plans, guidelines, policies, or standards;
- Not provide secure and safe bicycle parking in adequate proportion to anticipated demand;



Table 4 MOE Significance Thresholds

MOE	Citywide Threshold					
VMT/Service Population	Any increase over current 2040 General Plan conditions					
Mode Share (Drive Alone %)	Any increase in journey-to-work drive alone mode share over current 2040 General Plan conditions					
Transit Corridor Travel Speeds	Decrease in average travel speed on a transit corridor below current 2040 General Plan conditions in the AM peak one-hour period when:  1. The average speed drops below 15 mph or decreases by 25% or more, or  2. The average speed drops by one mph or more for a transit corridor with average speed below 15 mph under current 2040 General Plan conditions.					
Source: City of San Jose Transportation Analysis Handbook, April 2018.						

- Disrupt existing, or interfere with, planned pedestrian facilities;
- Not provide accessible pedestrian facilities that meet current ADA best practices; or
- Create inconsistencies with adopted pedestrian plans, guidelines, policies, or standards.



# 4.

# **Cumulative General Plan Long-Range Analysis**

The long-range cumulative transportation impacts resulting from the proposed 2021 GPAs were determined based on the MOEs significance thresholds for vehicle modes of travel and the impact criteria for transit, bicycle, and pedestrian described in Chapter 3. The results of the GPA long-range analysis are described below.

#### **Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Service Population**

The San José GP TDF model was used to project daily vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per service population, where service population is defined as the number of residents plus the number of employees citywide. This approach focuses on the VMT generated by the new population and employment growth. VMT is calculated as the number of vehicle trips multiplied by the length of the trips in miles.

Since the City of San José not only has residents that travel to and from jobs within the City but also attracts regional employees, the daily VMT includes some trips traveling outside of the City limits but with origins or destinations within San José. For this reason, the following trip types were included in the VMT calculation:

- Internal-Internal All daily trips are made entirely within the San José City limits.
- One-half of Internal-External One-half of the daily trips with an origin located within the San José City limits and a destination located outside of San José.
- One-half of External-Internal One-half of the daily trips with an origin located outside the San José City limits and a destination located within San José.

Trips that travel through San José to and from other locations (External-External) are not included in the calculation of VMT. As defined in the City of San José *Transportation Analysis Handbook* (Thresholds of Significance for General Plan Amendments, Table 11), any increase in VMT per service population over the current GP conditions due to the proposed land use amendments is considered a significant impact.



As shown in Table 5, the citywide daily VMT would decrease slightly but the VMT per service population would remain unchanged due to the proposed land use amendments when compared to the current GP. The reduction in citywide daily VMT is due to (1) the total number of jobs and households would not change citywide as a result of the GPAs (only shifting of households and jobs would occur) and (2) the addition of households to areas with more jobs and transit options. Therefore, cumulatively, the proposed 2021 GPAs would result in a *less than significant* impact on citywide daily VMT per service population.

<u>Findings:</u> Compared to the current GP, the proposed land use adjustments would not result in an increase in citywide VMT per service population. Therefore, cumulatively, the proposed 2021 GPAs would result in a *less than significant* impact on citywide daily VMT per service population. It is important to note that the VMT per service population is based on raw model output and does not reflect the implementation of adopted GP policies and goals that would further reduce VMT by increased use of non-auto modes of travel.

Table 5
Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Service Population

	Base Year (2015)	2040 General Plan (Baseline)	2040 General Plan Plus Cumulative GPAs
Citywide Daily VMT	17,505,088	27,984,522	27,978,033
Citywide Service Population	1,392,946	2,054,758	2,054,758
- Total Households	319,870	429,350	429,350
- Total Residents	1,016,043	1,303,108	1,303,108
- Total Jobs	376,903	751,650	751,650
Daily VMT Per Service Population	12.57	13.62	13.62
Increase in VMT/Service Population over General Plan Conditions			0.00
Significant Impact?			No
Notes:			

#### Notes:

2040 General Plan (Baseline) = Buildout conditions of the adopted Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan (GP). GPA = General Plan Amendment

Service Population = Residents + Jobs

Source: City of San Jose Travel Forecasting Model runs completed August 2021

by Hexagon Transportation Consultants, Inc.

# **Journey-to-Work Mode Share**

The San José GP TDF model was used to calculate citywide journey-to-work mode share percentages. Journey-to-work mode share is the distribution of all daily work trips by travel mode, including drive alone, carpool with two persons, carpool with three persons or more, transit (rail and bus), bike, and walk trips. Although work trips may occur at any time of the day, most of the work trips occur during typical peak commute periods (6:00 – 10:00 AM and 3:00 – 7:00 PM). As defined in the City of San José *Transportation Analysis Handbook* (Thresholds of Significance for General Plan Amendments, Table 11), any increase in the journey-to-work drive alone mode share percentage over the current GP conditions due to the proposed land use amendments is considered a significant impact.



Table 6 summarizes the citywide journey-to-work mode share analysis results. When compared to the current Envision San José 2040 GP, the number of journey-to-work drive alone trips would decrease slightly as a result of the proposed GPAs. Therefore, cumulatively, the proposed 2021 GPAs would result in a *less than significant* impact on citywide journey-to-work drive alone mode share.

<u>Findings:</u> The proposed land use adjustments will not result in an increase in drive-alone percentage when compared to the current GP conditions. Therefore, cumulatively, the proposed 2021 GPAs would result in a *less than significant* impact on citywide journey-to-work mode share.

Table 6
Journey-to-Work Mode Share

		Base Year (2015)		eral Plan line)	2040 General Plan Plus Cumulative GPAs			
Mode	Trips	%	Trips	%	Trips	%		
Drive Alone	753,264	79.69%	1,089,830	71.55%	1,089,733	71.54%		
Carpool 2	85,496	9.04%	137,919	9.05%	138,013	9.06%		
Carpool 3+	28,526	3.02%	54,929	3.61%	54,941	3.61%		
Transit	48,181	5.10%	184,648	12.12%	184,594	12.12%		
Bicycle	14,120	1.49%	26,394	1.73%	26,385	1.73%		
Walk	15,666	1.66%	29,514	1.94%	29,515	1.94%		
Increase in Drive Alone Percentage over General Plan Conditions								
Significant Impact?								

#### Notes:

2040 General Plan (Baseline) = Buildout conditions of the adopted Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan (GP). GPA = General Plan Amendment

Source: City of San Jose Travel Forecasting Model runs completed August 2021 by Hexagon Transportation Consultants, Inc.

# **Average Vehicle Speeds in Transit Priority Corridors**

The San José GP TDF model was used to calculate the average vehicle travel speeds during the AM peak hour for the City's 14 transit corridors that were evaluated in the Envision San José 2040 GP TIA. A transit corridor is a segment of roadway identified as a Grand Boulevard in the Envision San José 2040 GP Land Use/Transportation Diagram. Grand Boulevards serve as major transportation corridors and, in most cases, are primary routes for VTA's LRT, BRT, local buses, and other public transit vehicles. The travel speeds are calculated by dividing the segment distance by the vehicle travel time. As defined in the City of San José *Transportation Analysis Handbook* (Thresholds of Significance for General Plan Amendments, Table 11), land use amendments that result in a decrease in average travel speed on a transit corridor in the AM peak one-hour period when the average speed drops below 15 miles per hour (mph) or decreases by 25 percent (%) or more, or the average speed drops by one mph or more for a transit corridor with an average speed below 15 mph when compared to the current GP conditions is considered a significant impact.

Table 7 presents the average vehicle speeds on the City's 14 transit priority corridors (i.e., Grand Boulevard segments) during the AM peak hour of traffic. When compared to travel speeds under current GP conditions, the change in traffic resulting from the proposed land use amendments would have minimal effect on the travel speeds in the transit corridors. The TDF model estimates decreases in travel speed of 0.3 mph or less (or a change of 2.1% or less) on three corridors due to the proposed



GPAs. Travel speeds on the remaining corridors would improve slightly or remain unchanged when compared to the current GP. Therefore, cumulatively, the proposed 2021 GPAs would result in a less than significant impact on the AM peak-hour average vehicle speeds on the transit priority corridors.

Findings: The proposed land use adjustments would not result in a decrease in travel speeds greater than one mph or 25 percent on any of the 14 transit priority corridors when compared to current GP conditions. Therefore, cumulatively, the proposed 2021 GPAs would result in a less than significant impact on the AM peak-hour average vehicle speeds on the transit priority corridors.

Table 7 AM Peak-Hour Vehicle Speeds (mph) for San José Transit Priority Corridors

	Base Year 2040 General (2015) Plan (Baseline)		2040 General Plan Plus Cumulative GPAs				
Transit Priority Corridor	Speed (mph)	Speed (mph)	Speed (mph)	% Change (GPplusCumGPAs - GP) GP	Change (GPplusCumGPAs - GP)		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Street from San Carlos Street to St. James Street	16.6	15.1	15.3	1.3%	0.2		
Alum Rock Avenue from Capitol Avenue to US 101	21.3	16.6	16.7	0.6%	0.1		
Camden Avenue from SR 17 to Meridian Avenue	23.1	16.5	16.5	0.0%	0.0		
Capitol Avenue from South Milpitas Boulevard to Capitol Expressway	27.1	22.6	22.7	0.4%	0.1		
Capitol Expressway from Capitol Avenue to Meridian Avenue	33.0	26.6	26.6	0.0%	0.0		
East Santa Clara Street from US 101 to Delmas Avenue	20.4	15.8	15.8	0.0%	0.0		
Meridian Avenue from Park Avenue to Blossom Hill Road	24.9	20.0	20.0	0.0%	0.0		
Monterey Road from Keyes Street to Metcalf Road	27.4	19.3	19.4	0.5%	0.1		
North 1 <sup>st</sup> Street from SR 237 to Keyes Street	21.3	13.8	13.7	-0.7%	-0.1		
San Carlos Street from Bascom Avenue to SR 87	24.8	19.9	19.9	0.0%	0.0		
Stevens Creek Boulevard from Bascom Avenue to Tantau Avenue	24.3	18.9	18.9	0.0%	0.0		
Tasman Drive from Lick Mill Boulevard to McCarthy Boulevard	22.7	14.0	13.7	-2.1%	-0.3		
The Alameda from Alameda Way to Delmas Avenue	20.5	14.0	14.0	0.0%	0.0		
West San Carlos Street from SR 87 to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street	20.0	18.8	18.7	-0.5%	-0.1		

2040 General Plan (Baseline) = Buildout conditions of the adopted Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan (GP).

GPA = G indicates significant impacts.

Source: City of San Jose Travel Forecasting Model runs completed August 2021 by Hexagon Transportation Consultants, Inc.

# Impacts on Transit, Bicycle, and Pedestrian Circulation

#### Transit Services or Facilities

Planned transit services and facilities include additional rail service via the future Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) extension, light rail transit (LRT) extensions, new bus rapid transit (BRT) services, and the proposed California High-Speed Rail (HSR) project. The proposed GPAs land use adjustments would not result in a change to the existing and planned roadway network that would result in an adverse effect on existing or planned transit facilities. Therefore, the proposed 2021 GPA's land use



adjustments would not substantially disrupt existing or interfere with planned transit services or facilities.

#### **Bicycle Facilities**

The adopted Envision San José 2040 GP supports the goals outlined in the City's Better Bike Plan 2025 and contains policies to encourage bicycle trips (Policies TR-1.1, TR-1.2, TR-1.4 through TR-1.9, TR 2.1 through TR 2.11, TR-7.1, TN-1.1 through TN-1.5, TN-2.1 through TN-2.7, and TN-3.1 through 3.6; Implementing Actions TR-1.12 through TR-1.15, TR-2.12 through TR-2.21, TR-7.2, TR-7.3, TN-1.6, TN-2.8 through 2.10, and TN-3.7; Performance Measures TN-2.11, TN-2.12). The proposed GPA land use adjustments would not result in a change to the existing and planned roadway network that would affect existing or planned bicycle facilities. Therefore, the proposed 2021 GPA land use adjustments would not substantially disrupt existing or interfere with planned bicycle facilities; conflict or create inconsistencies with adopted bicycle plans, guidelines, policies, or standards; and provide insecure and unsafe bicycle parking in adequate proportion to anticipated demand.

#### **Pedestrian Facilities**

The adopted Envision San José 2040 GP contains goals and policies (Policies TR-1.1, TR-1.2, TR-1.4 through TR-1.9, TR-2.1 through TR-2.11, TR-7.1, TN-1.1 through TN-1.5, TN-2.1 through TN-2.7, and TN-3.1 through 3.6; Implementing Actions TR-1.12 through TR-1.15, TR-2.12 through TR-2.21, TR-7.2, TR-7.3, TN-1.6, TN-2.8 through 2.10, and TN-3.7; Performance Measures TN-2.11, TN-2.12) to improve the pedestrian walking environment, increase pedestrian safety, and create a land use context to support non-motorized travel. The proposed GPAs land use adjustments would not result in a change to the existing and planned roadway network that would affect existing or planned pedestrian facilities. Therefore, the proposed 2021 GPAs land use adjustments would not substantially disrupt existing or interfere with planned pedestrian facilities; create inconsistencies with adopted pedestrian plans, guidelines, policies, or standards; and provide accessible pedestrian facilities that would not meet current ADA best practices.



# 6. Conclusions

This report presents the results of the long-range transportation impact analysis for the proposed City of San José 2021 General Plan Amendments (project). The project consists of amending the current adopted land use designations of the Envision San José 2040 GP for seven sites within the City of San José. The purpose of the GPAs TA is to assess the long-range impacts of the amendments on the citywide transportation system. The analysis includes evaluation of changes to vehicle miles traveled, changes to the journey-to-work mode share, impacts to travel speeds on transit priority corridors, and impacts to pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities. Impacts were evaluated based on the same measures of effectiveness (MOEs) and significance criteria utilized in the Envision San José 2040 GPA TIA.

This study includes an evaluation of the cumulative impacts of all seven GPA sites. Individual development projects also will be required to complete a near-term transportation analysis in conjunction with any future development permit applications consistent with the Envision San José 2040 GP once a development application is submitted to the City.

# **Cumulative GPA Long-Range Transportation Impacts**

#### **Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Service Population**

When compared to the current GP, the proposed land use adjustments would not result in an increase in citywide VMT per service population. Therefore, cumulatively, the 2021 GPAs would result in a less than significant impact on citywide daily VMT per service population. It is important to note that the VMT per service population is based on raw model output and does not reflect the implementation of adopted GP policies and goals that would further reduce VMT by increased use of non-auto modes of travel.

### Journey-to-Work Mode Share

The proposed land use adjustments will not result in an increase in drive-alone trips when compared to the current GP conditions. Therefore, cumulatively, the 2021 GPAs would result in a *less than significant* impact on citywide journey-to-work mode share.

### Average Vehicle Speeds in Transit Priority Corridors

The proposed land use adjustments will not result in a decrease in travel speeds of greater than one mph or 25 percent on any of the 14 transit priority corridors when compared to current GP conditions.



Therefore, cumulatively, the 2021 GPAs would result in a *less than significant* impact on the AM peak-hour average vehicle speeds on the transit priority corridors.

#### Impacts on Transit, Bicycle, and Pedestrian Circulation

#### **Transit Services or Facilities**

The proposed GPAs land use adjustments would not result in a change to the existing and planned roadway network that would have an adverse effect on existing or planned transit facilities. Therefore, the proposed 2021 GPAs land use adjustments would not substantially disrupt existing or interfere with planned transit services or facilities.

#### **Bicycle Facilities**

The proposed GPAs land use adjustments would not result in a change to the existing and planned roadway network that would affect existing or planned bicycle facilities. Therefore, the proposed 2021 GPA land use adjustments would not substantially disrupt existing or interfere with planned bicycle facilities; conflict or create inconsistencies with adopted bicycle plans, guidelines, policies, or standards; and provide insecure and unsafe bicycle parking in adequate proportion to anticipated demand.

#### **Pedestrian Facilities**

The proposed GPAs land use adjustments would not result in a change to the existing and planned roadway network that would affect existing or planned pedestrian facilities. Therefore, the proposed 2021 GPA land use adjustments would not substantially disrupt existing or interfere with planned pedestrian facilities; create inconsistencies with adopted pedestrian plans, guidelines, policies, or standards; and provide accessible pedestrian facilities that would not meet current ADA best practices.

# **Consistency with General Plan Polices**

The City of San José's Transportation Policies contained in the General Plan are intended to do the following:

- 1. Establish circulation policies that increase bicycle, pedestrian, and transit travel, while reducing motor vehicle trips, to increase the City's share of travel by alternative transportation modes; and
- 2. Promote San José as a walking- and bicycling-first city by providing and prioritizing funding for projects that enhance and improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Implementation of the General Plan Transportation Policies can help to promote a multi-modal transportation system and stimulate the use of transit, bicycle, and walk as practical modes of transportation in the City, which ultimately will improve operating speeds in the City's 14 transit priority corridors. An enhanced multi-modal transportation system can reduce reliance on the automobile and decreasing the amount of vehicle travel, specifically journey-to-work drive-alone trips.

Based on the result of the analysis, the 2021 GPAs are consistent with the City of San José GP transportation policies, as they are projected to increase transit travel, while slightly reducing motor vehicle (drive alone) trips and slightly improving operating speeds along some of the City's 14 transit priority corridors when compared to the current GP conditions.

