

AGENDA

Stevens Creek Trail Joint Cities Working Team (JCWT)

September 29, 2016

1:30 PM

City of Sunnyvale

City Hall

West Conference Room

456 W. Olive Avenue

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

CALL TO ORDER

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Brief overview of discussion at August 9, 2016 meeting
2. Continue discussion of steps moving forward and conclusion of the Joint Cities Coordinated Stevens Creek Trail Feasibility Study
 - a. Status of JCWT
 - b. Future agency roles
3. Review final draft of letter to Caltrans (Attached)

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT



September __, 2016

Bijan Sartipi, District Director
California Department of Transportation
District 4
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

SUBJECT: Support of the Joint Cities Working Team Recommendation on the Stevens Creek Trail

Dear Mr. Sartipi,

The cities of Cupertino, Los Altos, Mountain View, and Sunnyvale, would like to express their support of the Joint Cities Working Team (JCWT) recommendations to bridge the existing gap on the Stevens Creek Trail. It has been an ongoing effort of the four cities to bridge the gap between Mountain View and Cupertino in order to improve regional connectivity and subsequently provide alternative transportation opportunities, improve environmental conditions and air quality, enhance natural resources, and promote a healthier region. The JCWT recommendations provide a platform for trail alignment and policy decisions and the four cities would like to proceed onto the next steps in creating a regional connection.

A coordinated trail planning effort between the four cities was started in 2009 with the appointment of a Stevens Creek Trail Coordination Committee (i.e. the JCWT) consisting of one elected official and one staff member from each of the four jurisdictions. This group worked to develop the scope of the feasibility study, prepare the funding plan, and selected a consultant to prepare a feasibility study to evaluate potential routes to bridge the gap in trail segments that currently exist between Mountain View and Cupertino; the Joint Cities Coordinated Stevens Creek Trail Feasibility Study was completed September 2015.

Upon identifying feasible routes and conducting a robust public outreach process, the JCWT presented their recommendations to each of the four city councils ("Joint Cities Working Team Recommendation to the Councils") which includes alignment preferences as well as policy recommendations,

such as protect and improve habitat, preserve public land, and continue collaboration with regional partners for extension of the Stevens Creek Trail. A copy of the "Joint Cities Working Team Recommendation to the Councils" is enclosed for your reference.

As of June 2016 all four cities support the concepts presented in the JCWT recommendation and now we ask that Caltrans support the future efforts of the four cities to move forward with the recommended alignments and policies approved by the four cities. These recommendations include, but are not limited to:

- An off-street trail through existing open space areas along Stevens Creek between the existing trail terminus at Dale Avenue/Heatherstone Way to Fremont Avenue. This trail may include structures adjacent to SR 85 and connections on either side of the SR 85 ramps at Fremont Avenue in Sunnyvale.
- A possible off-street trail near SR 85 along Bernardo Avenue with potential ramp or signal modifications at the Homestead Road and Fremont Avenue off-ramps; recommendation of this alignment is subject to a detailed parking and traffic study and approval by the Sunnyvale City Council.
- Widening of the Homestead Road bridge at SR 85 or construction of a new separate bicycle and pedestrian bridge parallel to Homestead Road.
- Maintain public lands near Stevens Creek to protect habitat and preserve future trail opportunities.
- Improve habitat values in and around Stevens Creek with all future trail projects.

Furthermore, the four cities would like for bicycle and pedestrian access to be improved should the I-280/SR 85 interchange be modified. The cities would also support bicycle and pedestrian improvements to Foothill Expressway/Boulevard and through the interchange area if modifications to the I-280/Foothill interchange were ever considered.

In an effort to achieve the cities' goal to improve regional bicycle and pedestrian connections, we urge you to support the JCWT's recommendations through the future master planning and implementation efforts of all four cities. Furthermore, we also ask that you consider these recommended improvements in future Caltrans projects and discourage any modifications that would later inhibit the improvements recommended by the JCWT.

Each City will contact your Agency as they seek funding and initiate the design and construction process for improvements within their corresponding jurisdictions. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to future collaboration with Caltrans. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a meeting, please feel free to contact the project manager for the Stevens Creek Trail Feasibility Study:

City of Sunnyvale, Kent Steffens, Assistant City Manager, 408-730-7441

Sincerely,

Barry Chang, Mayor
City of Cupertino

Jeannie Bruins, Mayor
City of Los Altos

Pat Showalter, Mayor
City of Mountain View

Glenn Hendricks, Mayor
City of Sunnyvale

Enclosed: Joint Cities Working Team Recommendation to the Councils
 Joint Cities Coordinated Stevens Creek Trail Feasibility Study

DRAFT