

From: [Han, James](#)
To: [Zenk, Jessica](#); [Keyon, David](#); [Hill, Shannon](#)
Cc: [Downtown West Project](#); [sanjoseplan@google.com](mailto:san joseplan@google.com)
Subject: FW: VTA Comment Letter for Downtown West in Planning Commission Meeting April 28, 2021
Date: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 3:05:58 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[VTA Comment Letter San Jose Planning Commission Downtown West 04282021.pdf](#)

James Han
Planner | Planning Division | PBCE
City of San José | 200 East Santa Clara Street
Email: james.han@sanjoseca.gov | Phone: (408)-535-7843
For More Information Please Visit: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/planning>

San José City Hall is closed in response to COVID-19.
I am working remotely in accord with governor's and City's direction.
I will monitor email during this time.

From: Torney, Lola <Lola.Torney@vta.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 3:42 PM
To: Tu, John <john.tu@sanjoseca.gov>; Han, James <James.Han@sanjoseca.gov>;
PlanningSupportStaff <PlanningSupportStaff@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>;
Planning Commission 1 <PlanningCom1@sanjoseca.gov>; Planning Commission 2
<PlanningCom2@sanjoseca.gov>; Planning Commission 3 <PlanningCom3@sanjoseca.gov>; Planning
Commission 4 <PlanningCom4@sanjoseca.gov>; Planning Commission 5
<PlanningCom5@sanjoseca.gov>; Planning Commission 6 <PlanningCom6@sanjoseca.gov>; Planning
Commission 6 <PlanningCom6@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: plan.review <plan.review@vta.org>; Dagang, Deborah <Deborah.Dagang@vta.org>
Subject: VTA Comment Letter for Downtown West in Planning Commission Meeting April 28, 2021

[External Email]

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,
Attached is the VTA support letter for the Downtown West project on behalf of Deborah Dagang,
Chief Planning and Programming Officer for VTA. Please let us know if you have any questions.
Thank you!

~Lola Torney

Lola Torney | She/Her
Transportation Planner III
Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

3331 North First Street, Building B
San José, CA 95134-1927
Phone **408-321-5830**



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April 27, 2021

City of San José Planning Commission
200 E. Santa Clara St., 3rd Floor
San José, CA 95113

Attn: John Tu, James Han, and Planning Commission Members

By Email: john.tu@sanjoseca.gov, james.han@sanjoseca.gov, city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov,
Planningcom1@sanjoseca.gov, Planningcom2@sanjoseca.gov, Planningcom3@sanjoseca.gov,
Planningcom4@sanjoseca.gov, Planningcom5@sanjoseca.gov, Planningcom6@sanjoseca.gov,
Planningcom7@sanjoseca.gov, and planningsupportstaff@sanjoseca.gov

Dear Chair Caballero, Vice Chair Bonilla, and Commissioners Case, Garcia, Lardinois, Oliverio,
and Torrens,

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) would like to show our continued support for the Downtown West project proposed by Google, Inc. VTA is excited about the opportunity that this project represents for San José and the growth for transit ridership it will bring to the Diridon area from new Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) service, new High-Speed Rail (HSR) service, and additional Caltrain, Altamont Corridor Express (ACE), and Capitol Corridor service coming to Diridon Station. Combined with light rail and the multiple bus routes already provided, Diridon Station will support more high-capacity transit connections than any other place west of the Mississippi River. It is the goal of all our agencies to develop a world-class center of transit and public life that provides smooth connections between modes and integration with the surrounding neighborhoods and destinations. We are pleased to see Google work with all public agency partners to support that vision.

We are supportive of the overall efforts of Downtown West to promote non-vehicle transit modes, including bicycles and pedestrians, within the station area as primary access modes to transit. The pedestrian-friendly design, lower parking requirements suitable for a downtown development, and robust transportation demand management (TDM) programs will go a long way toward meeting the City's ambitious climate goals. VTA looks forward to remaining involved in the considerations and decisions being made for non-vehicle modes to provide the greatest benefit to the traveling public within the Diridon Station area.

VTA also applauds the City, Google, and the many community members who engaged in the multi-year community engagement process to reach a community benefits package that addresses shared priorities for affordable housing, anti-displacement provisions, education, job training, and employment opportunities, among other key benefits. VTA continues to be a willing partner and collaborative problem solver to promote equitable and thriving transit-oriented communities and increased connectivity and access for all community members.

If you have any questions, please contact our planning lead for this effort, Lola Torney at 408-321-5830/
lola.torney@vta.org, or me at 408-321-7093/deborah.dagang@vta.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Deborah Dagang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Deborah" and last name "Dagang" clearly distinguishable.

Deborah Dagang
Chief Planning & Programming Officer

SJ1728