

From: [Navdeep Dhaliwal](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Item 11. on City Council April 22nd agenda - Quarry Rd. Letter of Support Caltrain
Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 11:05:18 AM
Attachments: [04222024_Caltrain Quarry Road Connection LOS PA CC Final.pdf](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from dhaliwaln@caltrain.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Good morning,

Attached, please see Caltrain's letter of support for the Quarry Rd. project.

Thank you

Navi Dhaliwal, MPPA
Government & Community Affairs Officer
1250 San Carlos Ave San Carlos, CA 94070
Cell Phone: 650.730.6077
www.caltrain.com



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April 22, 2024

Palo Alto City Council
City Hall
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Dear Mayor Stone, Vice Mayor Lauing and City Council Members,

On behalf of Caltrain, I'd like to express our support for the resolution to un-dedicate a passive section of El Camino Park to enable significant transit and safety improvements via a new linkage between the Palo Alto Transit Center and El Camino Real along Quarry Road.

The future Quarry Road Connection Project will help reduce congestion within University Circle and along University Avenue. In addition, the project will enhance bicycle and pedestrian paths at the intersection of Quarry Road and El Camino which will improve safety and access to our trains.

Caltrain provides rail service from San Francisco to San Jose and Morgan Hill/ Gilroy. Serving the region since 1863, Caltrain is the oldest continually operating rail system west of the Mississippi. Beginning this fall, Caltrain will launch electrified service, which will reduce diesel emissions and add more service to more stations while advancing the agency's equity goals. The Palo Alto Transit Center is a vital hub as the second most utilized station on the Caltrain corridor with nearly 64,000 rides taken during March 2024.

Caltrain appreciates that the future Quarry Road Connection Project will allow buses and shuttles to exit on to El Camino Real faster. This will reduce bus transit times by an estimated 5-8 minutes per trip and ensure passengers can access our trains efficiently and reach work, home, school or wherever their final destination may be.

We look forward to working with the City of Palo Alto, Stanford, and partner transit agencies as conceptual plans for the Quarry Road Connection Project are further developed. Getting voter approval to repurpose this section of minimally-used parkland to enhance multi-model transit access is an important first step in this process. I respectfully ask you to support adding the proposed parkland changes to the November 2024 ballot. Please feel free to contact Navi Dhaliwal, Government and Community Affairs Officer (650-730-6077, Dhaliwaln@Caltain.com) with any questions.

PENINSULA CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS BOARD
1250 San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070 (650) 508-6200

Sincerely,

Casey Fromson

Casey Fromson (Apr 22, 2024 10:44 PDT)

Casey Fromson

Caltrain Chief of Staff

Cc: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors
Michelle Bouchard, Caltrain Executive Director

PENINSULA CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS BOARD

1250 San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070 (650) 508-6200

From: [Daniel Howard](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Support for Palo Alto Quarry Road Transit Connection
Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 10:46:36 AM

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Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Danny Howard. I commute to Palo Alto via Caltrain. I serve on the Sunnyvale Planning Commission, and I am speaking only for myself.

I would like to voice support for the **Palo Alto Quarry Road Transit Connection**. Palo Alto Station is a wonderful transit hub, and speeding up the bus access will only gain more passengers and help take some cars off the road. *This project kills congestion.* As someone who occasionally walks down University Avenue onto the Stanford campus, I like the idea of having fewer buses crossing my path. VTA and SamTrans drivers are courteous and safety-minded, but the walk would be a little more pleasant and low-stress with fewer large vehicles crossing through.

Thank you for considering the Palo Alto Quarry Road Transit Connection. I hope you can get it approved and built.

Thank you for hearing me!

-danny

--

<http://dannyman.toldme.com>

From: [Kim, Jason](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Written comment in support of Item #11 - 4/22 Council meeting
Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 8:20:10 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Palo Alto City Council 04.19.24.pdf](#)

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Hello,

On behalf of VTA, Attached is a letter in support of item #11 for the 4/20 council meeting.

Jason Kim

Senior Transit Planner

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
3331 North First Street, Building B
San Jose, CA 95134-1927
Phone [408-321-7512](tel:408-321-7512)





April 19, 2024

Palo Alto City Council
City Hall
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Dear Palo Alto City Council Members,

On behalf of Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), I'd like to express our support for the resolution to un-dedicate a passive section of El Camino Park to enable significant transit and safety improvements via a new linkage between the Palo Alto Transit Center and El Camino Real along Quarry Road.

The Palo Alto Transit Center is a vital hub for VTA's transit operations. The Center is the western anchor for bus route 22 and express route 522, two of VTA's most productive transit routes. The project would improve overall operations at the transit center and would enable VTA to serve the city of Palo Alto more efficiently.

The future Quarry Road Connection Project will allow our buses and shuttles to exit on to El Camino Real faster, reducing bus transit times by an estimated 5-8 minutes per trip. It will also help reduce congestion within University Circle and along University Avenue. In addition, the project will enhance bicycle and pedestrian paths at the intersection of Quarry Road and El Camino, which will improve safety.

We look forward to working with the City of Palo Alto, Stanford, and partner transit agencies as conceptual plans for the Quarry Road Connection Project are further developed. Getting voter approval to repurpose this section of minimally used parkland to enhance multi-model transit access is an important first step in this process. I respectfully ask you to add the proposed parkland changes to the November 2024 ballot.

With regards,


Carolyn M. Gonot
General Manager/CEO

From: [Kim, Jason](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Written comment in support of Item #11 - 4/22 Council meeting
Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 8:20:10 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Palo Alto City Council 04.19.24.pdf](#)

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Hello,

On behalf of VTA, Attached is a letter in support of item #11 for the 4/20 council meeting.

Jason Kim

Senior Transit Planner

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
3331 North First Street, Building B
San Jose, CA 95134-1927
Phone [408-321-7512](tel:408-321-7512)



From: [Victoria S. Ramirez](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: SHC Letter of Support Item 11 - Quarry Road (4/22/24)
Date: Sunday, April 21, 2024 11:29:25 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[2024 04 19 Letter of Support - Quarry Rd PA - SHC.pdf](#)

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Dear Honorable Mayor and members of the City Council,

Attached you will find a letter of support from Stanford Health Care for Item 11 on the April 22 Council Meeting Agenda –the resolution to undedicate a passive section of El Camino Park to enable significant transit and safety improvements via a new linkage between the Palo Alto Transit Center and El Camino Real along Quarry Road.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

VICTORIA S. RAMIREZ, MPA

she/her/hers

Director of State and Local Government Affairs

Stanford Health Care

Office of Government Affairs – Stanford University
1840 Embarcadero Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303
cell: 650-374-8729
vsrmirez@stanford.edu
[Office of Government Affairs](#)



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April 19, 2024

Palo Alto City Council
City Hall
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Dear Palo Alto City Council Members,

On behalf of Stanford Health Care, we'd like to express our support for the resolution to undedicate a passive section of El Camino Park to enable significant transit and safety improvements via a new linkage between the Palo Alto Transit Center and El Camino Real along Quarry Road.

The Palo Alto Transit Center is a vital hub for public transit, bike and pedestrian commuters. Stanford Medicine in partnership with Stanford University, operates shuttles from the Palo Alto Transit Center to the Stanford Medicine Palo Alto Hospital to create a last-mile connection for staff that use Caltrain, VTA, and SamTrans transit services. Between Stanford University and Stanford Medicine, a total of 370 bus trips are made between the transit center and Stanford Medicine campus.

The future Quarry Road Connection Project will allow our buses and shuttles to exit on to El Camino Real faster, reducing bus transit times by an estimated 5-8 minutes per trip. It will also help reduce congestion within University Circle and along University Avenue. In addition, the project will enhance bicycle and pedestrian paths at the intersection of Quarry Road and El Camino which will improve safety and access to our hospital and other medical facilities.

We look forward to working with the City of Palo Alto, Stanford University, and partner transit agencies as conceptual plans for the Quarry Road Connection Project are further developed. Getting voter approval to repurpose this section of minimally used parkland to enhance multi-model transit access is an important first step in this process. We respectfully ask you to add the proposed parkland changes to the November 2024 ballot.

Sincerely,

Rediet Tesfaye, CPP, MUP
Director – Transportation Services
Stanford Health Care

Victoria Ramirez
Director of State and Local Government Affairs
Stanford Health Care

From: [Alice Smith](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Cc: [Dave Price](#); letters@padailypost.com
Subject: Extending Quarry Road
Date: Sunday, April 21, 2024 4:11:28 PM

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I recommend trading an equal amount of Graceland from Stanford in exchange for the new road. We can't afford to lose Parkland. It's not something you can rejuvenate. Stanford has plenty of land. If they want this then I strongly urge you to bargain don't give it away.

Alice Schaffer Smith
850 Webster Street
Palo Alto 94301
6502832822 (do not publish my #)

Update the Voting Rights Act : [Click this LINK for telephone/addresses](#) to write or call your US Senators and Congressperson - Ask them to **pass the **John R Lewis Advancement Act now!****

From: [Charlsie Chang](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Cc: [Jessica Epstein](#)
Subject: RE: Quarry Road Transit Connection Project
Date: Friday, April 19, 2024 5:05:38 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-45xdikxs](#)
[04-19-24 SamTrans LOS Quarry Road Transit Connection Project.pdf](#)

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Dear Mayor Stone, Vice Mayor Lauing, and Councilmembers Burt, Kou, Lythcott-Haims, Tanaka, and Veenker,

Please find attached a letter of support from SamTrans for the Quarry Road Transit Connection Project which will be discussed at the upcoming special city council meeting on Monday, April 22.

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
Charlsie

Charlsie Chang (she/her)
Government & Community Affairs Officer
1250 San Carlos Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070
Office: (650) 551-6172 Cell: (650) 647-3494
Websites: [SamTrans](#) | [TA](#)





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GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

April 19, 2024

Palo Alto City Council
City Hall
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

RE: Quarry Road Transit Connection Project

Dear Mayor Stone and Palo Alto City Councilmembers,

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans), I am writing to express my strong support for improvements at a section of El Camino Park to enable significant transit and safety improvements via a new linkage between the Palo Alto Transit Center and El Camino Real along Quarry Road. We'd note that the Palo Alto Transit Center is a vital hub for SamTrans's transit operations and is served by five of SamTrans's routes: 280, 281, 296 Owl, 397, and ECR. For March 2024, these routes had a monthly total ridership of 32,324.

With more direct routing to El Camino Real and Quarry Road, the future Quarry Road Connection Project would allow time savings on SamTrans Routes 281 and ECR per trip, which in turn would create a much better experience for the transit riders. The project would also enhance bicycle and pedestrian paths at the intersection of Quarry Road and El Camino which will improve safety and access to our buses.

SamTrans operates fixed bus routes, Ride Plus microtransit service, and RediWheels for people with mobility challenges throughout San Mateo County and into parts of San Francisco and Palo Alto. SamTrans has a high need, transit dependent customer base where 90% of riders are low income, 64% extremely low income, and nearly 75% do not have access to a car.

We look forward to working with the City of Palo Alto, Stanford, and partner transit agencies as conceptual plans for the Quarry Road Connection Project are further developed and respectfully ask you to add the proposed parkland changes to the November 2024 ballot to enable the project discussed above.

Please contact Government and Community Affairs Director Jessica Epstein at epsteinj@samtrans.com if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "April Chan".

April Chan
General Manager/CEO

cc: San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors

SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT
1250 San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070 (650) 508-6200

From: [Michelle Go](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Palo Alto City Council Agenda - April 22 - Quarry Road
Date: Friday, April 19, 2024 2:17:21 PM
Attachments: [MTC QuarryRoad Letter signed.pdf](#)

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Palo Alto City Council Members:

Please see attached letter of support from MTC for the April 22nd meeting, agenda item 11 on Quarry Road.

Thanks,

Michelle Go, AICP (she/her)
Principal Transportation Planner
mgo@bayareametro.gov
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
O: (415) 778-6649



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105
415.778.6700
www.mtc.ca.gov

April 19, 2024

Palo Alto City Council
City Hall
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

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Association of Bay Area Governments

Hillary Ronen
City and County of San Francisco

Libby Schaaf
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and Urban Development

James P. Spring
Solano County and Cities

Sbeng Thao
Oakland Mayor's Appointee

Andrew B. Fremier
Executive Director

Alix Bockelman
Chief Deputy Executive Director

Brad Paul
Deputy Executive Director,
Local Government Services

Dear Palo Alto City Council Members:

On behalf of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), I would like to express our support for the resolution to undedicate a passive section of El Camino Park to enable significant transit and safety improvements via a new linkage between the Palo Alto Transit Center and El Camino Real along Quarry Road.

Through the work of our Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force, MTC is supportive of efforts to improve transit speed and reliability and multimodal access to restore and grow transit ridership in the region. The Palo Alto Transit Center is a vital regional hub for cross bay multimodal transit operations, with service provided by SamTrans, AC Transit (Dumbarton Express), VTA, Caltrain, and commuter shuttle operators like Stanford's Marguerite shuttles, linking the counties of Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, and Alameda. The Quarry Road Connection Project's estimated 5-8 minutes travel time savings and reduced congestion in University Circle is significant for the roughly 600 buses using the transit center daily.

Additionally, the project would complement MTC's Dumbarton Forward projects in development to improve transit reliability and bicycle access in the Dumbarton Bridge corridor. These include a part-time bus-only lane on Bayfront Expressway and other bicycle access improvements in Menlo Park and Redwood City. Combined with the Quarry Road Connection Project, these projects will improve the attractiveness of alternatives to driving alone in the area.

Note that while we are supportive of collaborating with the City of Palo Alto and Stanford in identifying potential funding opportunities, this letter of support does not commit MTC to approve applications for funding for the project.

We look forward to working with the City of Palo Alto, Stanford, and partner transit agencies as conceptual plans for the Quarry Road Connection Project are further developed. Getting voter approval to repurpose this section of minimally used parkland to enhance multimodal transit access is an important first step in this process. I respectfully ask you to add the proposed parkland changes to the November 2024 ballot.

Sincerely,

Alix A. Bockelman
Chief Deputy Executive Director

AB:MG