



SPUR

San Francisco | San Jose | Oakland

January 26, 2018

San Jose Mayor and City Council
San Jose City Hall
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Station Area Advisory Group Membership (SAAG) (Item 3.6)

Dear Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Station Area Advisory Group (SAAG), a core component of the community engagement process for the development of the Diridon Station Area and potential arrival of a Google office development. **We strongly support the staff-recommended design of the SAAG as well as the membership priorities of both geographic and content area representation.**

Over the next decade, close to \$10 billion of transportation investments will transform Diridon Station into one of the first high-speed rail stations in the country and the busiest transportation hub west of the Mississippi. SPUR's goal is for Diridon to become a great urban train station—a gateway to the Silicon Valley and a link between northern and southern California.

SPUR has been a leading voice regionally on transit and locally through our multi-year “Next Stop: Diridon” project, which has included hosting a design charrette for agency leaders in partnership with the German Marshall Fund; publishing guiding principles for Diridon’s transit service, governance, and development; organizing a study tour to high-speed rail stations in The Netherlands and France for elected officials, agency leaders and developers; and, informing and engaging the community through publications, an exhibition and over a dozen programs focused on station and station area development.

The development of seamless multimodal transit will be a catalyst for growth putting jobs, cultural uses, housing, parks and public space in one of the most accessible and sustainable locations in the region. However, the physical infrastructure is dwarfed by the importance of sustaining our diverse and creative community and creating an environment that is inclusive and welcoming to all. As such, community input and transparent leadership throughout the planning phases of this project will be critical to the successful growth of central San Jose.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Station Area Advisory Group design and membership. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at 408-638-0083 or talvarado@spur.org with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Teresa Alvarado". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Teresa Alvarado
San Jose Director