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7/25/07

To: Larry Lind, City of Los Altos

From: George Hudson, Matt Lasky, Alta Planning+Design, Inc.

Re: Los Altos, Stevens Creek Trail (SCT)  
City of Mountain View and Sunnyvale Meeting Summary

This memo summarizes the key discussion items from a meeting held with the Cities of Sunnyvale and Mountain View regarding the SCT feasibility study currently underway in the City of Los Altos. Attendees included: Larry Lind, City of Los Altos, Anne Marie Callan, City of Mountain View, Jack Witthans, City of Sunnyvale, Curt Riffle, SCT Task Force, Randy Rhody, Los Altos BPAC, Kevin Jackson, Sunnyvale Bike/Ped Commission, Gail Seeds, Gail Seeds Consulting, and George Hudson with Alta Planning+Design. The City of Cupertino was unavailable to attend the meeting and will need to be rescheduled.

Mountain View is developing two segments of the SCT north of Mountain View High School. Phase I includes development between Yuba Drive and El Camino. Phase II includes development of the trail between El Camino to Sleeper Avenue. The trail will cross SR85 and link to Dale Avenue to the east of SR85. The segment between Dale Avenue and Mountain View High School is a long term project and not anticipated to be complete before 2010. (There is no set schedule for completion of this segment). This segment is complex and will require Caltrans cooperation. Anne Marie indicated there is an on street route connection from Sleeper to the High School and will get back to Alta with the route. She will also get back to us regarding the configuration of the bridge landing at Mountain View High School.

Based on routes suggested by the public, a segment of trail is proposed to parallel Stevens Creek in Sunnyvale on the east side of SR85 and connect at Fremont. This could provide a convenient connection to Los Altos. It was acknowledged that if this route were to be pursued, it must be lead by Sunnyvale and Mountain View and would require the SCT Task Force to obtain a policy change approval from Los Altos City Council and would also require support from Mountain View and Sunnyvale. Los Altos City Council has directed that the SCT will not be placed on the creek, however, this northern segment is in Sunnyvale, not Los Altos. Anne Marie stated that it would be difficult for Mountain View to support funding of this alignment since it is not in their City limits and would not serve many of their residents. Jack stated that Sunnyvale is supportive of the trail, but looks at the street system as the primary means of making connections to the SCT in Los Altos. It was agreed to not take this option off the map but to consider it further through the evaluation process.

Sunnyvale has plans of connecting to the future SCT at the Mountain View High School access over pass of SR 85 via Remington Drive. There has been some history of opposition to the trail in Sunnyvale. Jack indicated it is Sunnyvale's preference to create class two facilities on collectors and arterials with signage at appropriate locations indicating connectivity to the SCT. However, in trying to accommodate class II facilities, on street parking impacts may make some routes politically infeasible. Curt stated that Los Altos needs more than class II facilities since pedestrian use must also be considered.

On street parking was discussed in the vicinity of Mountain View High School. Bryant and Truman are both identified as potential routes for the trail and on street parking hinders the ability to accommodate a bicycle use on these streets. Anne Marie will investigate the current parking policy on these streets and get back to Alta.

A trailhead is planned at Dale/Heather Stone in Mountain View. A neighborhood access point is planned at Sleeper Avenue. Mountain View is supportive of creating additional access points in the northern segments of the trail in Los Altos. Suggestion was made to discuss usage of parking at Mountain View High School for trail users.

Sunnyvale is completing a pedestrian plan. The plan is focused on sidewalk deficiencies and is scheduled to be complete in December of this year. There is a Safe Routes to School component of the study and the city has secured a Safe Routes to School grant. The grant dollars will be used to improve signal timing around schools.

Anne Marie will get back to Alta regarding any planned projects that might influence the trail alignments in Los Altos.

Homestead in Sunnyvale allows on street parking in the evening and week-ends. This limits the shoulder available for bicycle use. Suggestion was made to limit on street parking on Homestead to facilitate bicycle use.

Cupertino is managing the Mary Avenue Bridge project. The project received unacceptable construction bids and has been delayed. Cupertino may be looking at trail connections from the SCT to the Mary Avenue Bridge. This needs to be discussed with Cupertino.

Suggestion was made to show city limits of adjacent cities on the potential trail alignment maps.

Suggestion was made to investigate spur trail connections in Los Altos that allow for view points of Stevens Creek. This might occur along utility corridors.

Both Mountain View and Sunnyvale want to be kept up to date on the project status. Larry Lind will distribute work products as appropriate.

End of Summary