



May 27, 2021

Ms. Kimbra McCarthy, City Manager
City of Mountain View
500 Castro Street
Mountain View, CA 94041

Subject: Proposal for Temporary Bus-Only Lanes on Charleston Road (Project)

Dear Ms. McCarthy:

On behalf of the Mountain View Transportation Management Association (MTMA), I am writing to request that the City of Mountain View consider the installation of temporary bus-only lanes along Charleston Road between Salado Drive and Shoreline Boulevard before the majority of workers return to North Bayshore.

During the post-pandemic return-to-office period, it will be important for both employers and the City of Mountain View to do all that is possible to encourage commuters to get back on mass transportation and avoid creating unnecessary traffic by driving alone. We believe that the best time to implement this project is during the work-from-home period, which lends some urgency to this request.

These proposed temporary bus-only lanes will improve mass transit operations along Charleston Road and encourage North Bayshore commuters to use VTA, MVgo, and employer-provided transit to commute to Mountain View by making mass transit more competitive than driving alone. Over the past year, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) approved the installation of "temporary emergency transit lanes" along eight corridors within the City and County of San Francisco. According to the SFMTA, "If just a fraction of the people riding transit before the crisis begin driving alone, traffic congestion will be so severe that it could paralyze the city's economic recovery." For Mountain View, we see this as a way to prioritize transit and reduce traffic congestion, aiding the City's post-pandemic recovery, with an opportunity to pilot a key element from the North Bayshore Precise Plan with temporary bus-only lanes for Charleston Road.

We expect that the City staff will want to monitor the performance of the proposed temporary bus-only lanes and report back to the City Council after the summer break and beyond. We understand that it would be the City of Mountain View's decision to modify, extend, or end the project.

We understand the urgency in encouraging transit and active transportation use as people return to offices in North Bayshore.

Sincerely,


Thomas F. Harrington (May 27, 2021 16:01 PDT)

Tom Harrington
Chair of the Board

Cc: Ms. Dawn Cameron, Public Works Director, City of Mountain View