



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT
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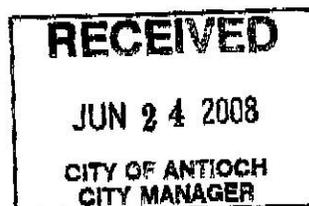
June 20, 2008

Gail Murray
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 VICE-PRESIDENT

Dorothy W. Dugger
 GENERAL MANAGER

Victor Carniglia
 City of Antioch
 Community Development Department
 P.O. Box 5007
 Antioch, CA 94531-5007



Dear Mr. Carniglia: *Vito*

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On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART), we are pleased to have the opportunity to comment on scope of the proposed Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Hillcrest Station Area Specific Plan, the Notice of Preparation ("NOP") for which was issued May 22, 2008. We have reviewed the NOP and BART respectfully submits the following comments:

Comment 1

The NOP states that "[t]he final eBART station location has not been defined. Three station locations are being evaluated by BART and through this Specific Plan process." The EIR should clarify that the Median Station is BART's proposed project, and the only station location that is currently funded. The Northside West and Northside East Stations are options to the Proposed Project.

Comment 2

BART supports the City's position that the eBART Project presents the City with an excellent opportunity to promote Transit Oriented Development in Antioch. BART is very supportive of new development projects within the District and adjacent to BART stations. The Transit Oriented Development Policy adopted by the BART Board of Directors on July 14, 2005 identifies "promoting high quality, more intensive development on and near BART-owned property... (to) increase ridership" as a vision for BART. To this end, BART recommends that the proposed Specific Plan give the City maximum flexibility to develop TOD in the area of the proposed Median Station, as well as the optional Northside West and Northside East Station locations, and the EIR should analyze the impacts of such a flexible zoning approach.

Comment 3

As the City is aware, several parking issues for this new terminus station will need to be resolved. It is the expectation of the eBART project that the City will provide the parking for the Hillcrest Station site. The Hillcrest Avenue Specific Plan should reflect this understanding, as should the proposed EIR. BART looks forward to working with the City to determine the best possible solution for all parties.

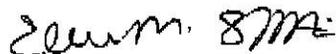
Comment 4

BART looks forward to continuing our work with the City of Antioch on this new and exciting opportunity. We know the potential this has for the residents of East Contra Costa County. The eBART Project, integrated with the State Route 4 Highway Widening Project, will bring much needed commute options to this corridor.

We look forward to continuing our work with the City of Antioch on this important project. If you have any questions, please contact Walter Gonzales, Senior Planner at (510) 287-4840 or by e-mail at wgonzal@bart.gov.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide input on this project

Sincerely,



Ellen M. Smith
eBART Project Manager
BART, LKS-16
300 Lakeside Drive, 16th Floor

cc: Guy Bjerke, Director, Economic Development, City of Antioch
Jim Jakel, City Manager, City of Antioch
Leslie Gould, Principal, Dyett & Bhatia