

TA

CORRESPONDENCE

as of 2-5-2020

From: [Fromson, Casey](#)
To: [Seamans, Dora](#)
Cc: [Chan, April](#); [Low, Lori](#); [Hurley, Joseph](#)
Subject: TA Letter
Date: Monday, February 03, 2020 3:54:58 PM
Attachments: [SMCTA response to City of SM on Parking Track_final ltrhd signed.pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)

Hi Dora,

Could you send the below note and attached letter to the TA Board?

Thank you,

Casey

Dear Directors,

We wanted to apprise you of a recent request the City of San Mateo made of the TA regarding additional funds for the design and construction of an alternative location for a replacement parking track related to the 25th Avenue Grade Separation Project. As you know, demand for grade separation project funding in San Mateo County outweighs the available resources and staff recommended against funding this discretionary change in scope. Please see the attached response letter.

If you have any questions about this issue, don't hesitate to contact Casey Fromson at fromsonc@samtrans.com or 650.508.6493.

Additional Background:

Parking tracks, located throughout the Caltrain corridor, are necessary for the proper functioning of the railroad. They are temporary storage spaces that allow for efficient work windows, and the San Mateo parking track was used by Caltrain for over 25 years until the grade separation project necessitated its removal. The replacement parking track was included in the original funding agreements, and the location has already been environmentally approved.

The San Mateo replacement parking track will be the only electrified parking track in the area and will primarily be used if a train breaks down. The anticipated use of it for temporary storage is maybe once a month and no loading with large equipment would occur because of the new overhead contact system (no heavy truck traffic). More information is available at www.caltrain.com/SParkingTrack.

Caltrain has been working closely with the City of San Mateo and the community for the past six months. See attached letter for additional information about the coordination and outreach that has taken place.

Casey Fromson, Director Gov. & Community Affairs

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San Mateo County Transit District





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Drew Corbett
City Manager
City of San Mateo
330 West 20th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403

February 3, 2020

Dear Mr. Corbett,

Thank you for your letter dated January 28, 2020, in which you requested the San Mateo County Transportation Authority Program (TA) consider funding the design and construction of an alternative location for the parking track related to the 25th Avenue Grade Separation Project. We appreciate the extensive coordination the City and Caltrain have done on this topic and understand the sensitivity with the community.

As you may know, demand for grade separation project funding in San Mateo County outweighs the available resources.

- The TA adopted policy has already committed to programming the remaining Measure A funds in the Grade Separation category for the following pipeline projects on a first come first served basis that are currently in the pre-construction phases: Broadway in Burlingame, Ravenswood in Menlo Park, Scott/Linden in San Bruno and South San Francisco. There is also a commitment in the Measure A Grade Separation category of up to \$5M for planning other grade separation projects in San Mateo County.
- The current amount of TA funding available for grade separation projects in Measure A is \$230M, and for Measure W \$70M (per the newest Strategic Plan). The collective need for funding in San Mateo County for these projects greatly exceed the funding available.
- There are over 20 at-grade crossings still to be considered in San Mateo County, and Measure W funds will not be available immediately. Future calls for projects with Measure W funds are anticipated to occur after Caltrain completes a study that will help prioritize Caltrain grade separation projects.

As you may be aware, the TA agreement (amendment 2) with the JPB and City caps the TA contribution to the current project at \$65.3M and the request for a new parking track location appears to be a discretionary request. The TA's funding commitment under the existing agreement does not establish a right for the Sponsor to receive additional funding from the TA.

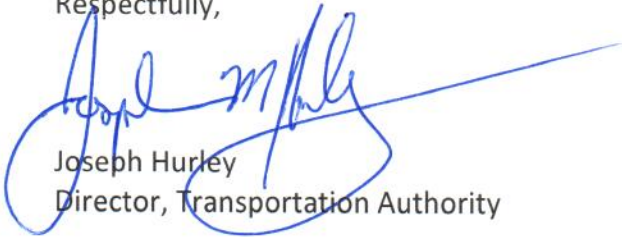
SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

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It is our understanding that there are parking tracks throughout the corridor in residential areas and Caltrain has not received any complaints from residents located by those parking tracks. Based on information presented to the San Mateo City Council, the proposed San Mateo replacement parking track will be rarely used (1-2 times a month) and enhancements to the location are being proposed as part of the project.

Given the reasons above, we will not recommend using highly sought after and very limited resources for the alternative parking track locations.

Respectfully,



Joseph Hurley
Director, Transportation Authority

CC: San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors
Jim Hartnett, Executive Director
April Chan, Chief Officer, Planning, Grants & TA