## Promoting trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all

To: Mr. Steve Beroldo

**BART Bike Program Manager** 

SUBJECT: Comments on draft BART Bike Plan

May 17, 2012

Dear Mr. Beroldo:

**Save Our Trails: Connecting Santa Clara County Communities** is a California Not-for-Profit Corporation whose mission is "*To promote trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all people.*"

We have reviewed the draft document "BART Bicycle Plan: Modeling Access to Transit". As an organization based in Santa Clara County, an area that will soon begin to be served by BART, we believe we have a unique perspective that is probably not shared by much of the public who may comment on your Plan. We would like to raise two issues with you from this South-Bay perspective that we believe merit your consideration.

First, the Bicycle Plan makes no mention of providing a bike path along the route of newly constructed tracks. There is such a bicycle path under the raised BART structure between El Cerrito del Norte and North Berkeley stations. This off-street bike path goes through a very urban neighborhood. It is a substantial benefit to cyclists and pedestrians, and it certainly helps BART attain their goal of substituting cycling for driving to the BART stations along that section of the route. The Plan should state that BART will build a similar bicycle path under any raised BART structures wherever there is new construction.

Secondly, the Plan should state that new BART construction should never cut off an existing bike way (whether a bike path, bike lane, or bike route), and that streets that have bike lanes on them or are designated bike routes should not be made narrower when they cross over or under the BART tracks.)

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours, Martin Delson

Secretary, SAVE OUR TRAILS Web: www.saveourtrails-scc.org