Save Our Trails!

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

Mr. John Baty City of San Jose, Department of Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement 200 East Santa Clara Street; Tower, 3rd Floor San José, CA 95113-1905

Sent via email c/o John.Baty@Sanjoseca.gov

April 28, 2013

SUBJECT: Opening up the Tunnel under CA-85 to promote trail access and connectivity

Dear Mr. Baty:

The Planning Department is considering a proposed General Plan Amendment and Planned Development Rezoning with respect to the **iStar – Great Oaks Mixed Use project**.

I am writing to you on behalf of Save Our Trails – Connecting Santa Clara County Communities. **Save Our Trails** is a California Not-for-Profit Corporation who mission is *"To promote trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all."*

In support of our mission, and because of our passionate interest in extending the network of trails in the City of San José, we would like to bring your attention to a wonderful opportunity that this project provides to extend the city's trail network, and to make a unique connection between neighborhoods that are now separated by CA-85.

Now there is an unused tunnel under Highway 85, between Myuki Dr. and Endicott Blvd. This tunnel was closed at the time that IBM sold their property south of CA-85. Save Our Trails strongly advocates that this tunnel be re-opened so the public will be able to walk or bicycle from south of CA-85 to the proposed new site. If the tunnel were opened, it would provide an off-street connection for the residences south of CA-85 to the business park on the north, and in turn, it would enable access for employees in the industrial areas north of CA-85 to the Santa Teresa light rail station as well as to recreational opportunities at Albertson Parkway, Santa Teresa Park, and the future Coyote Alamitos Canal Trail.

We therefore request that the tunnel be put back into the General Plan at the same time as the General Plan is amended to rezone the new site.

Sincerely,

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Martin Delson Secretary, Save Our Trails Web: www.saveourtrails-scc.org