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*Executive Director*

**TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL**

November 20, 2017

Mayor Sam Liccardo and Members of the City Council  
City of San Jose  
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Carrasco, and Councilmembers Arenas, Davis, Diep, Jimenez, Jones, Khamis, Nguyen, Peralez and Rocha:

**Re: Item 4.2—Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan  
Annual Performance Review**

On behalf of our members, we write today to encourage the City Council to strengthen San Jose's General Plan to include policies and actions that result in the development of needed housing in this time of housing crisis. In order to meet the Mayor's goal to add 25,000 new homes (40% of which are affordable) over the next five years, intentional proactive City actions are required.

The Council has the opportunity when it considers the Annual Performance Review to take such proactive action. We urge you to request that staff return during the next opportunity for text amendments that would:

1. **Transit-Oriented Development**-- Allow sites adjacent to VTA and BART stations to move forward now regardless of Horizon. These sites present incredible opportunities to provide transit oriented development that will help reduce transportation congestion. Currently, with the exception of the Berryessa BART Urban Village, these sites are in Horizon 2 of the Urban Village Plan.
2. **Remnant Employment Parcels**—As requested in an April 10, 2015 memo from Mayor Liccardo and Councilmembers Jones and Carrasco, evaluate lands that are not economically viable for commercial use and present potential development opportunities. While the memo mentioned only commercially-zoned parcels, there are some industrially zoned parcels that are not viable, including the small VTA-owned parcel located adjacent to the Almaden Light Rail station.
3. **Discretionary Alternate Use Policy**-- Amend the 1.5 acre rule to require that any eligible site have a residential General Plan Land Use/Transportation Diagram designation on at least one side.

Honorable Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council  
Re: November 28, 2017 City Council Agenda Item 4.2 – General Plan 2040 Annual Performance Review  
November 20, 2017  
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It is understood that these and other priorities require adequate Planning Department staffing, we ask that the City prioritize funding in the upcoming budget to add these needed positions.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments and look forward to working with the City as it moves forward to meet the affordable housing needs of San Jose residents.

Sincerely,



Leslye Corsiglia  
Executive Director