



Metropolitan Transit District
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April 20, 2010

Ms. Valerie Olson
Chair
Goleta Valley Planning Advisory Committee
Office of Long Range Planning
30 E Figueroa St, 2nd Floor
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Goleta Valley Community Plan

Dear Ms. Olson:

The Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) supports Option 2 and Option 3 of "#19 Options for Eastern Edge" as presented by County staff in the February 27 presentation of the Goleta Valley Community Plan. These options would allow residential only (Option 2) or mixed-use (Option 3) development of the MTD property fronting on Calle Real in the Goleta Valley Planning Area.

As you know, MTD's property was zoned residential when purchased by MTD. In 1993, much of the property was temporarily rezoned A-1 (agriculture) as part of the 1993 Goleta Community Plan. This temporary zoning was intended to apply for a maximum period of 10 years.

The MTD property is a major infill property on a transit route, and is near employment centers. Responsible development of this site will assist the County in meeting its obligations under SB 375, which will require the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) to prepare a "Sustainable Communities Strategy" that demonstrates how development and transportation policies will work together to reduce the amount of vehicle miles traveled and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

As a special district with powers outlined in the California Public Utilities Code (Sections 95000 *et. seq.*, "The Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District Act of 1965"), MTD is obligated to use its resources to carry out our mandated duty to provide public transit service. This property is a valuable asset of MTD and must be utilized to its highest value to enhance public transit service.

Sincerely,

Sherrie Fisher
General Manager

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APR 28 2010

S.B. COUNTY
LONG RANGE PLANNING

cc: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
Santa Barbara County Planning Commission
Derek Johnson, Director, Santa Barbara County Office of Long Range Planning