Steve, Therese, Ann Francis, Doug, James C
for response

1524 Channing Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94303-2801
March 15, 2005

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MTC

Joint Policy Committee
Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth St., P.O. Box 2050
Oakland, CA 94607-4756

Dear Committee Members,

My husband, Kirk Essenmacher, and I support the establishment of vibrant business and housing zones next to transit stops. We urge you to include these six points when you finalize the RETP this year.

- The amount of housing required in transit zones should be high enough to absorb at least half the new housing expected in the Bay Area.
- Development of office space within the zones should not be substituted for housing development.
- The policy should include mechanisms that promote affordable housing in the transit zones.
- Big box developments, like Costco and Walmart, should not be allowed in the transit zones.
- Cities should be required to conduct studies that look at minimizing parking in the transit zones.
- Cities should be required to develop bicycle and pedestrian plans for safe routes around the transit zones.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Essenmacher

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