TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING AND COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

DATE: MAY 19, 2008

CMR: 248:08

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR REFERRAL OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ISSUES TO POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council refer the matter of regional transportation issues to the Policy and Services Committee for review and discussion.

DISCUSSION

There are a number of regional transportation initiatives, projects and studies underway that are of interest to both the Council and the community and have implications for Palo Alto and the mid-peninsula. Council members also sit on policy advisory boards and committees for some of these transportation studies. These issues include the following as well as others:

- 2020 Peninsula Gateway Corridor Study
- Highway 101 Auxiliary Lanes/101 High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project
- Highway 101 Ramp Metering Project
- Dumbarton Rail & HOV Buses
- Santa Clara County Comprehensive Expressway Study Update
- VTA Valley Transportation Plan (VTP) 2035
- Caltrain and California High Speed Rail (HSR)
- Palo Alto Intermodal Transit Center
- VTA Governance

In order to provide Council with an opportunity to have a more comprehensive discussion of and provide some policy direction on these issues, staff recommends that this matter be referred to the Policy and Services Committee. Some of the issues are ones for which there is existing Council policy direction, others are new issues that need to be followed and monitored, and others are issues that may be appropriate to refer to the Planning and Transportation Commission for further analysis and recommendation.
Staff intends to present an overview and status of these projects at the June 3rd Policy and Services Committee meeting. Based on the Policy and Services Committee direction, staff will develop a comprehensive program consisting of monitoring issues, preparing more detailed reports for policy development on individual items, or forwarding issues to the Planning and Transportation Commission or Council as appropriate. A report on the committee discussion and recommendations will be forwarded to the full Council for consideration.

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Planning and Transportation Commission