

Date: October 26, 2006Committee Meeting Date: November 8, 2006Board Meeting Date: N/A**BOARD MEMORANDUM**ACTION X DISCUSSION INFO

TO: Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
 Board of Directors

THROUGH: Michael T. Burns *Michael T. Burns*
 General Manager

FROM: Carolyn M. Gonot *Carolyn M. Gonot*
 Chief Development Officer

SUBJECT: Bicycle Plan Update Part 2 - Capital Project Needs: Cross County Bicycle Corridors

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the revised cross county bicycle corridors for the 2006/07 Countywide Bicycle Plan.

BACKGROUND:

The Countywide Bicycle Plan, adopted by the VTA Board of Directors in October 2000, is a comprehensive document that serves as a foundation for bicycle planning and program development.

VTA staff is currently undertaking an update to the Countywide Bicycle Plan. An update to the 2000 Countywide Bicycle Plan will include administrative and technical changes resulting from the VTA Board actions, incorporate implemented projects, and reflect new needs and priorities of Member Agencies since many of them have prepared or updated their bicycle plans in the past five years. Chapters such as bicycle parking, bicycle promotion and bicycle education in the 2000 Bicycle Plan are also outdated. The plan must also be updated to meet the requirements of several state and regional funding agencies, since local agencies occasionally use the Countywide Bicycle Plan as the adopted plan to apply for state's Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA), Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) or Transportation Development Act Article 3 (TDA Article 3) funds. All of these considerations underscore the need to update the current Countywide Bike Plan.

The Countywide Bicycle Plan is being updated with the help of the Bicycle Plan Update Working Group (BPUWG), which consists of four Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) members, two TAC members, a representative of the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) and one member of the public representing utility cyclists.

At the October BPAC meeting, VTA staff presented draft Part 1 of the Bicycle Plan Update containing background data, the policy framework, and existing conditions in Santa Clara County for discussion.

DISCUSSION:

Part 2 of the Bicycle Plan Update addresses capital projects. The first category of bikeway capital projects is the Cross-County Bicycle Corridors. Two other categories of capital projects are Safe Routes to Transit (SR2T) and Across Barrier Connections (ABCs) which will be discussed at a future BPAC meeting.

The purpose of the Cross-County Bicycle Corridors network is to provide connections between local jurisdictions as well as adjacent counties and to serve the major trip-attractors in the County. They eventually will be part of a signed countywide bicycle network. Projects located on these corridors also received extra points in the evaluation criteria for the Bicycle Expenditure Plan (BEP) projects, and may receive priority for future (yet-to-be-determined) funding sources.

The 2000 Countywide Bicycle Plan identified 16 Cross-County Bicycle Corridors. Over the past six years, various agencies and bicyclists have expressed a desire for more corridors to fully cover the County. Each jurisdiction in the County was asked to nominate additional routes for the cross county bicycle corridor system and /or if they wanted to realign an existing corridor onto different streets. As a result, several additions are being presented for the CCBC.

The existing corridors and proposed additions are presented in Attachment A.

The major additions to the Cross County Bicycle Corridors are as follows:

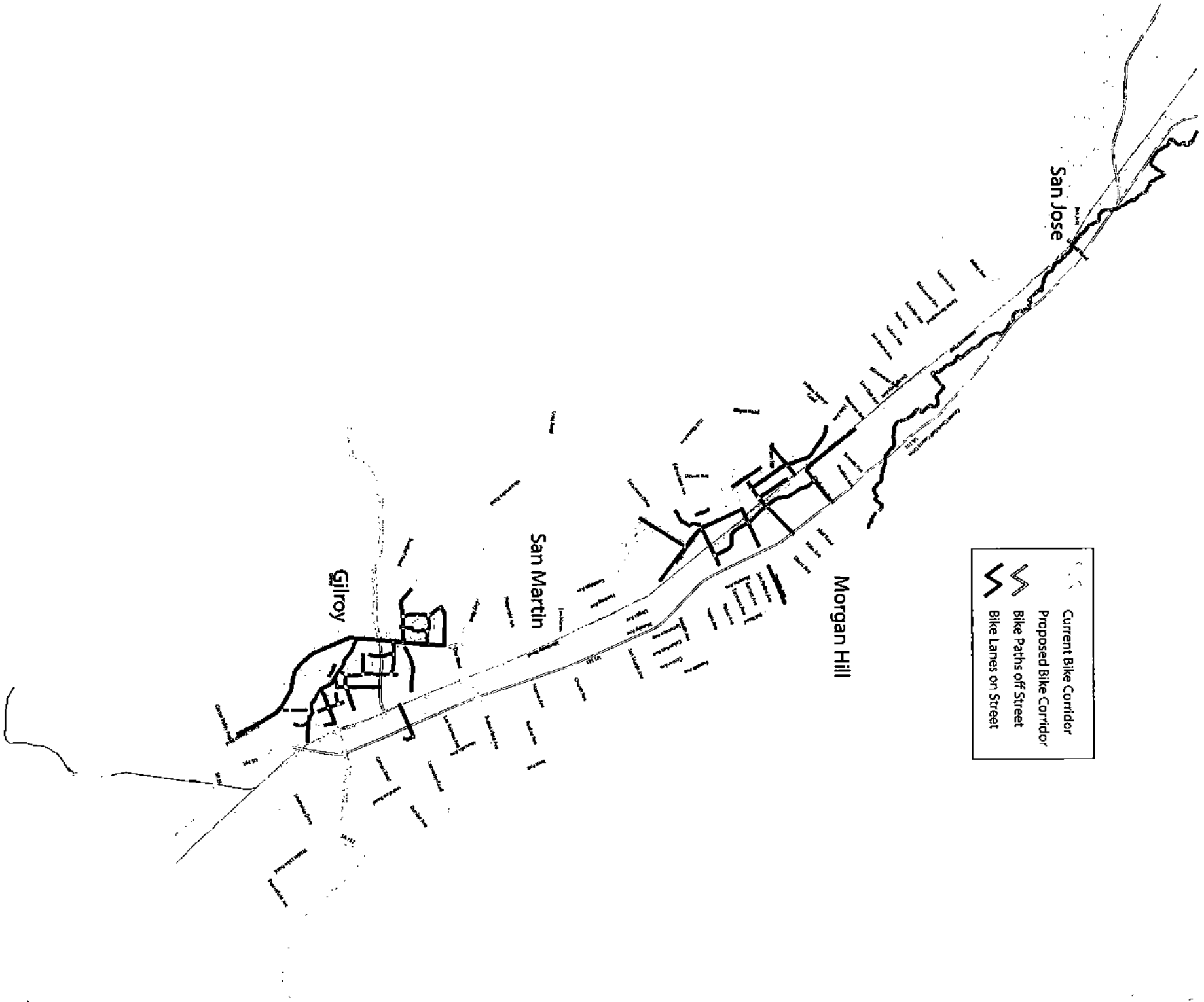
1. Some expressways and some segments of expressways are part of the 2000 Cross-County Bicycle Corridors. It is proposed that all expressways be considered as Cross-County Bicycle Corridors;
2. Addition of El Camino Real throughout the County and coordination with the Grand Boulevard study;
3. Addition of Monterey Road onto US 101 to connect to San Benito County;
4. Addition of State Route 152 from the east county line to the west county line with a slight deviation within the City of Gilroy;
5. Addition of an "East of US 101" north-south route through Gilroy and Morgan Hill;
6. Extension of Santa Teresa corridor onto State Route 25 to the east county line;
7. Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino; and
8. A connection of San Tomas Expressway/Winchester to Almaden Expressway

As the bicycle plan update continues, there may be additional revisions to the Cross County Bicycle Corridor alignments. If so, these will be brought to the Committee at that time.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

Prepared by: Michelle DeRobertis, Senior Transportation Planner
Reviewed by: Chris Augenstein, Transportation Planning Manager



San Jose

Morgan Hill

San Martin

Gilroy

- Current Bike Corridor
- Proposed Bike Corridor
- Bike Paths off Street
- Bike Lanes on Street