

John Gioia (say "Joy-a")
District One
Board of Supervisors

Contra Costa County

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Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Programming and Allocations Committee
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105



Dear Committee Members:

The proposed Heritage Point Integrated Connectivity Project includes construction of 42 affordable housing units within a mixed use development, construction of pedestrian infrastructure to widen sidewalks and improve accessibility, and other related amenities and infrastructure. The goal of the project is to reduce GHG emissions and benefit a highly disadvantaged community. If it receives the cap and trade funding under the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program, it will have sufficient funding to go forward and be built.

The sustainable transportation infrastructure element will reduce vehicle miles traveled, and therefore reduce GHG emissions by increasing active transportation and transit usage. The project accomplishes this by removing obstacles in order to improve connectivity and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.

This project is located in North Richmond, which is also designated as a "Disadvantaged Community" under the Cal Enviro Screen tool developed by Cal EPA. Prioritizing this project among Bay Area projects increases the likelihood that this project will compete favorably statewide against the many projects seeking funding from around California.

Affordable infill housing and a grocery store are sorely needed and will reduce vehicle miles traveled and reduce GHG emissions due to the compact, active transportation focus of the area. The project is ready to move forward. The site is directly across the street from several important community centers: 1) the Heritage Senior Apartments, another successful partnership of the County's former Redevelopment Agency, Eden Housing and CHDC, 2) the County's Center for Health, and 3) a County family social services facility.

This project is receiving substantial public investment -- the Contra Costa housing successor has invested \$620,700 in predevelopment assistance for this project and the County Board of Supervisors allocated \$1.4 million from the County's Livable Communities Trust. Receiving the Cap and Trade funding under this proposal will allow this project to go forward and be built. The project is fully entitled, which included a General Plan amendment to more than triple the density of the site. The construction drawings are complete and ready to be submitted for building permits. The financing package is the final step needed to begin construction of the project.

Thank you for your support in prioritizing this important community and regional project.

Very Truly Yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Gioia".

John Gioia
Supervisor, District One

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EAST RICHMOND HEIGHTS ♦ EL CERRITO ♦ EL SOBRANTE ♦ KENSINGTON ♦ MONTALVIN MANOR
NORTH RICHMOND ♦ PINOLE ♦ RICHMOND ♦ ROLLINGWOOD ♦ SAN PABLO ♦ TARA HILLS