



February 26, 2019

Honorable Santa Clara County Supervisors,

Please consider the following requests as you review the Stanford GUP Final EIR and Development Agreement. Currently, Henry M. Gunn High School (Gunn HS) in Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD) enrolls about 2,000 students. Forty-six percent<sup>1</sup> of these students ride bicycles to school. We estimate that more than half of Gunn's students use foot-powered transportation for their school daily commutes.

Approximately 190 of Stanford-affiliated students who currently attend Gunn HS live in the Stanford area which can be considered "west of Page Mill." As Stanford's growth plans will likely increase PAUSD student enrollment, this is a good time to improve transportation facilities that serve students who walk and bike from this area. Stanford-affiliated residents will attend Gunn HS and other nearby PAUSD schools that are served by these bike connections. We support the proposal to improve connections to Gunn HS via the Bol Park Path, Hanover Street and Page Mill included in the EIR. In addition to funding for this project, we understand that the City has requested an easement to enable these improvements. We hope that easement will be granted.

Further, Bol Park path lighting and other safety and capacity improvements will make this well-used facility safer and more inviting. The Hanover and Page Mill connector improvements will encourage more parents to allow students to use these auto-impacted facilities. We thank Stanford for including these off-site improvements in their project plans. They will create a safer and more comfortable bicycle-pedestrian route from Stanford to school. To ensure that this can happen, we hope the city's easement request will be granted.

Gunn PTSA endorses the (seven) requests made by the Palo Alto Council of PTAs Traffic Safety Committee.<sup>2</sup> In addition, we add the following that are specific to our school site (italicized).

- **Make contributions to Transit and Transportation Infrastructure:** *Specifically, in support of the Charleston–Arastradero Plan to improve bike facilities and road operations along this route, we ask you to please analyze Project impacts on this school commute corridor in order to identify an appropriate fair share contribution toward grade separation.*
- **Upgrade Analysis and Commute Trip Methodology:** Please require Stanford to make needed adjustments in order to fully capture traffic impacts that occur throughout the day, including morning *and afternoon school commute times* and reverse commutes.

Thank you for considering our requests.

Sincerely,

Sigrid Pinsky

Henry M. Gunn High School PTSA President on behalf of the Gunn High School PTSA Executive Board

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<sup>1</sup> City of Palo Alto, Safe Routes to School data

[https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/pln/transit/safe\\_routes\\_to\\_school/data.asp](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/pln/transit/safe_routes_to_school/data.asp)

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Palo Alto Council of PTAs Traffic Safety Committee to Santa Clara County Supervisors, dated January 15, 2019.

[https://ptac.paloaltopta.org/wp-content/uploads/GUP\\_SRTS\\_2019\\_Signed\\_Letter.pdf](https://ptac.paloaltopta.org/wp-content/uploads/GUP_SRTS_2019_Signed_Letter.pdf)