September 9, 2021

City of Millbrae Planning Commission
Via email to: planning@ci.millbrae.ca.us
Darcy Smith, Community Development Director
dsmith@ci.millbrae.ca.us
Roscoe Mata, Planning Manager
rmata@ci.millbrae.ca.us
Sam Fielding, Senior Planner, Planning Division
sfielding@ci.millbrae.ca.us

Subject: Active Transportation Plan

Dear Ms. Smith, Mr. Mata and Mr. Fielding,

The Sustainable Land Use Committee of the Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter (SLU) advocates on land use issues in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. We've been following the City's evolution of Millbrae's Active Transportation Plan (ACT) and have the following observations:

1. Generally the proposed Plan seems to do well in addressing multi-model interconnectedness, safety and convenience including bike and pedestrian improvements citywide.

2. We especially support the concept of including wider sidewalks and protected bike lanes along El Camino Real (ECR) and prefer the alternative that reduces the traffic lanes on ECR to two narrower lanes each way to slow traffic and reduce intersection widths along that artery.

3. We are concerned that the ACT does not specifically include Sustainable Green Streets (a safe, slow, connected green network, for encouraging pedestrian and bicycle
use), and green stormwater infrastructure in the ACT. While we acknowledge all cities now are required to have a "Green Infrastructure Plan", for stormwater, we are concerned that the separation of these respective Plans may lead the city to do piecemeal street improvements without integrating the improvements (which often fall under separate City Departments) into one comprehensive Plan.

4. To that end, we have developed a set of Sustainable Green Streets Guidelines


which we think might be helpful in your thinking about upgrading the streets in Millbrae. We recognize that some of our Guidelines are already included in the ACT including connecting schools, parks, etc. and we commend you for it, but there are definitely green elements missing from the ACT as currently defined. Please consider including Sustainable Green Street planning into the ACT.

Respectfully Yours,

Gita Dev, FAIA, Co-Chair
Sustainable Land Use Committee
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter

Cc: James Eggers, Executive Director, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
    Gladwyn d'Souza, Conservation Chair, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter