


Wildlife Connectivity and Permeability Improvements for North Coyote Valley

The 126 acres bounded by Bailey Avenue and Santa Teresa Boulevard is currently zoned Industrial Park, under the 2040 General Plan. This letter describes the context in which future development under that zoning would not impact wildlife corridors or permeability features as defined by the Coyote Valley Linkage Assessment Final Report.

Several important studies have been prepared regarding Wildlife connectivity that identify locations and routes that wildlife use, and improvements needed to enhance wildlife crossings (“Permeability Improvements”). Most prominently, the **“Coyote Valley Linkage Assessment Study Final Report”** prepared jointly by the California Department of Fish and Game, the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority and the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District dated March 1, 2016, outlines migration routes and Permeability Improvements, among other things, in a highly detailed fashion.

Within that document are an assortment of aerials that describe, in a clear visual context, where the routes exist, all based on detailed field assessment using automated cameras and other collection data. As noted on the aerials, (which are attach as exhibits A and B), and upon which we have added the location of the subject 126 acres, wildlife corridors as defined by the report **DO NOT CROSS ANY OF THE 126 ACRES** and the suggested Permeability Improvements are designated well to the west, north and east of the property. As has been suggested elsewhere in submissions to the Task Force, modern development and architectural designs can help to promote safe passage of wildlife and indeed, mitigate and help prevent hazardous interactions between wildlife and human based impediments.

The facts presented further suggest that these 126 acres should be available for development in the context of both supporting viable wildlife corridors and the development and enhancement of “Permeability Features” to enhance movement of transiting wildlife. Based on these facts, we believe that it is in all parties’ interest that the 126 acres remain zoned Industrial Park in the 2040 General Plan.



Tom Foster

Exhibit A

Cross Valley Floor Bobcat Pathway: Midsection-North Section.



Figure 5: Cross Valley Floor Bobcat Pathway: Midsection-North Section.

Each month throughout the study period, several bobcats were recorded traveling at various camera stations in Fisher Creek. For example, in the month of September, there were several detections of different bobcat individuals at each camera station along Fisher Creek from the midsection of Coyote Valley to the North Section (Figures 6,7,8, & 9).

