



October 7, 2024

RE: Endorsement of 4590 Patrick Henry Drive

To Whom It May Concern:



For over 60 years, Greenbelt Alliance has helped create cities and neighborhoods that make the Bay Area a better place to live—healthy places where people can walk and bike; communities with parks, shops, transportation options; homes that are affordable and resilient to the impacts of climate change. Greenbelt Alliance’s Climate SMART—Sustainable, Mixed, Affordable, Resilient, Transit-Oriented—Development Endorsement Program provides support for projects that advance the right kind of development in the right places. By promoting climate-smart development we can create thriving, resilient neighborhoods with ready access to transit and housing choices for all of the Bay Area’s people.

**After careful review, Greenbelt Alliance is pleased to endorse the proposed 4590 Patrick Henry Drive project.**

More housing is critically needed in Santa Clara, and the 284 units, 42 of them deeply affordable, provided by 4590 Patrick Henry Drive as part of the East Tasman Plan represent a significant step in the right direction. Further, not only will the project address the urgent need for more housing, but it also contributes significantly to the revitalization of the area.

We are particularly impressed by the project’s commitment to sustainability and community amenities. The inclusion of a public park will provide much-needed green space for residents and visitors, fostering a sense of community and improving overall well-being. The project’s provision of more than 300 bicycle parking spaces and the construction of a new protected bike lane along the frontage road will promote active transportation, making it easier and safer for residents to choose biking over driving. These features not only support a healthy lifestyle but also contribute to reducing the city’s carbon footprint.

The project's 100% electric design is another significant highlight. By eliminating reliance on fossil fuels for energy, the development will help mitigate climate change and set a precedent for future projects. This all-electric approach is in line with the growing movement towards renewable energy and reflects a forward-thinking approach to urban development.

## Transit Access for Sustainable Development

In addition to adding greatly needed affordable housing to Santa Clara County, 4590 Patrick Henry Drive will align with Greenbelt Alliance's climate SMART—Sustainable, Mixed, Affordable, Resilient, Transit-Oriented—development criteria in several ways. Its strategic location, less than half a mile from the VTA light rail and within half a mile of five VTA bus lines, ensures excellent connectivity and encourages the use of public transportation. This proximity to transit options will help reduce car dependency, thereby lowering greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion.

According to [GreenTRIP](#)—a free online tool created by Transform that models traffic and greenhouse gas impacts of residential projects in California— the 4590 Patrick Henry Drive development will result in:

- 1,963 fewer miles driven every day compared to the Santa Clara County average.
- 21% fewer GHG impacts every day compared to the Santa Clara County average.
- 5% less parking use every day compared to the Santa Clara County average.
- Parking when compared to existing city requirements:
  - Saving \$15,040,000 in parking construction cost if built with 0.34 instead of the municipal requirements.
  - Saving 5,112 sq.ft. in fewer parking spaces

Greenbelt Alliance believes 4590 Patrick Henry Drive will play a pivotal role in reimagining a more resilient and inclusive Santa Clara for all residents to enjoy, and we are proud to give this project our endorsement! We hope its approval will inspire cities around the Bay Area to redouble their efforts to grow in more sustainable ways.

Sincerely,



Jordan Grimes  
Resilience Manager  
Greenbelt Alliance