

Support for Milpitas PRT

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Dear Mayor Tran, Vice Mayor Dominguez, and Councilmembers:

As a candidate for the State Assembly, I am obliged to think big about our future and the systems that we all rely upon. As any commuter knows, our transportation system is inadequate for our existing population. As a product of the Milpitas community, I also see it as a threat to our socioeconomic future - locally and statewide. We need to do transportation differently.

Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) is a promising technology for Milpitas to take the lead on. I encourage you to pursue and hold a hearing on this topic.

By deploying a PRT system, we can learn whether the technology lives up to its promise — or not. We can learn how much it costs to build and operate. We can learn how much people actually use PRT, and how that usage affects other transit systems. These questions must be answered to enable replication of the technology elsewhere. PRT could be a major part of our electrification of transportation, a necessary response to our Climate Crisis.

Milpitas is well positioned at this time to experiment with PRT. In addition to severely congested roadways around the Great Mall area and BART transit hub, you have an advocate who has promoted the vision of an elevated, automated, electric-powered transit system. That years-long public outreach will ease public acceptance of this new transit infrastructure. And because LoopWorks plans to pay for capital and operating costs, the City has no financial risk.

This much is clear: the old way of doing things is broken. We need to be bold to try new solutions and I believe the Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) project proposed for the Transit Area will be a convenient transit option for residents, workers and visitors.

I urge you to hold a hearing on the project and agree to the MOU. <http://sunnyhillsneighborhood.org/mou-milpitas.pdf>

Best,
Alex Lee

State Assembly District 25 Candidate

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