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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Access Remains at Stevens Creek Trail In Mountain View During Highway Construction

San Jose, Calif. — While keeping public safety first, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) contractors will head back to Stevens Creek Trail in Mountain View this summer. As they did last year, contractors will maintain pedestrian and bicycle access by building a protective cover over the trail for the safety of the public. For environmental reasons, work in the creek is limited to the summer season. The protective cover is scheduled to remain over the Stevens Creek Trail through late October 2004 during construction work to widen the U.S. 101 bridge over Stevens Creek.

Construction activities within the creek include partial demolition, debris removal, pile driving and construction of the bridge foundation. The protective cover will be on both sides of the U.S. 101 under crossing allowing pedestrians and bicyclists to walk through the construction zone. Construction of the protective cover will occur at night when the trail is normally closed to public use, from Friday, June 18 to Thursday, June 24, 2004 between the hours of 9 p.m. and 5 a.m.

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An extensive signage program will be implemented to inform trail users how to access the trail safely. A “switchback” will be at each end of the protective cover and bicyclists must dismount and walk their bikes through the area. Lighting will be installed throughout to increase visibility. Earplugs will be available for all who wish to use them during noisy construction activities along the trail.

VTA, the contractor and the City of Mountain View continue to work together to ensure the project is constructed safely and with as little disruption to the community as possible. Construction updates will be provided on an on-going basis to help keep the community, including those accessing the Stevens Creek Trail, informed of construction activity and trail access.

1996 Measure B Transportation Improvement Program

VTA is the implementing agency for the 1996 Measure B Transportation Improvement Program. This program is made possible by Santa Clara County voters, who in 1996 approved a half-cent sales tax measure to fund a specific package of countywide transportation improvement projects. The sales tax is under the management of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and continues over a nine-year time frame.

About VTA

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is an independent special district responsible for bus, light rail and paratransit operations; congestion management; specific highway improvement projects; and countywide transportation planning. As such, VTA is both an accessible transit provider and multi-modal transportation planning organization involved with transit, highways and roadways, bikeways and pedestrian facilities.

For more information about VTA services, call VTA Customer Service at (408) 321-2300, (408) 321-2330 (TDD only). Or, log on to www.vta.org.

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