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Tamien station parking structure

Dear [tamien.parking@vta.org](mailto:tamien.parking@vta.org),

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tamien Station Parking Structure Project.

As a long-time Caltrain user, I am a strong supporter of this long-overdue project. I would appreciate if the following questions could be answered in the IS/MND:

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1) The Project Description states that “*the parking structure would provide approximately 700 to 900 parking spaces*”. This number seems inadequate, considering that the parking structure would displace:

262 Standard

21 Airport Parking (7 days)

16 Motorcycle

8 Handicap

2 Handicap (Van Accessible)

3 Passenger Pick-up/Drop-off

**312 TOTAL +**

275 Caltrain spaces: <http://www.caltrain.com/stations/tamienstation.html>

200 additional Caltrain riders currently parked on dirt off Lick Avenue

300 Additional Caltrain riders after electrification

**1,187 GRAND TOTAL**

**Q1: Please clarify where the additional 300-500 spaces will be located**

2) “*The location of the parking structure would require the existing bus transit loop to be relocated to the south side of the proposed parking structure*”. This is the current location for the 21 spaces dedicated to 7-day airport parking (<http://www.vta.org/getting-around/park-and-ride-lots-tamien-light-railcaltrain-station>).

**Q2: Where are the 21 spaces dedicated to 7-day airport parking being relocated to?**

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1) “*During the first phase, bus operations may be relocated to the Caltrain parking lot, east of SR-87, until the bus transit loop is reconstructed*”.

**Q3: Please clarify if this will entail relocating the 275 cars currently parked in the Caltrain parking lot and, if so, to which location?**

2) *“During construction, parking would be limited to a small portion of the northern lot located north of the SR-87 southbound off-ramp; therefore, VTA would redirect riders to the Curtner parking lot, located south of the Project site, or other locations.”*

It is unclear how VTA staff propose to park 312 cars on a small portion of the 45-space overflow lot or how these 300 cars are supposed to be heading for the Curtner parking lot (474 spaces: <http://www.vta.org/getting-around/park-and-ride-lots-curtner-light-rail-station>), given that there are no SB87 ramps connecting Alma to Curtner.

**Q4. Please consider providing temporary parking space on the VTA parcel west of Lick Avenue @ Humboldt Street during construction or provide a complete traffic analysis of car movements between Tamien and the Curtner parking lot, including air quality impacts caused by 300 cars x2.3 miles x2 times a day =1,380 additional VMT/day.**

**Q5. Many Tamien parking lot users currently do not use transit. Please ensure that access to the new parking structure will be controlled via Clipper from day one.**

Thank you in advance and I look forward to your responses in due course.

Sincerely,

Roland Lebrun