# SAMTRANS

# CORRESPONDENCE

as of 11-30-2020



November 30, 2020

### (By Email Delivery)

Chairperson Karyl Matsumoto Vice Chairperson Peter Ratto Board Member Ron Collins Board Member Marina Fraser Board Member Carole Groom Board Member Rose Guilbault Board Member David Pine Board Member Josh Powell Board Member Charles Stone San Mateo County Transit District 1250 San Carlos Avenue San Carlos, CA 94070-1306

Re: Resolution of Necessity Hearing, December 2, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.
Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project
Property Owner: Healthpeak Properties, Inc.
Property: 201-225 Gateway Blvd., So. San Francisco, CA (APN 015-024-240)
Project Parcel Nos: JPB-SM2-0312-2A, -2B, -2C, and -2D

Dear Chairperson Matsumoto, Vice Chairperson Ratto, and Members of the Board:

We submit this letter regarding the above-referenced Resolution of Necessity hearing concerning the condemnation of Healthpeak Properties, Inc.'s "Gateway" property for the Peninsula Corridor Electrification project. In anticipation of your hearing for the Resolution of Necessity on November 4, 2020, we submitted written objections in our letter to you, with Exhibits, dated October 31, 2020. The project as planned specified that the power lines for the electrification project would be underground to our Gateway property, but brought above ground at the southeastern corner of our property and then strung overhead across the southerly end of our property with the support of tall stanchions. This plan does not satisfy the requirements for the Resolution of Necessity that the project must serve the greatest public good with the least private injury, for the reasons described and explained in our October 31, 2020 letter, which we attach to this letter and incorporate herein.

Prior to your meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Resolution of Necessity hearing was postponed to provide an opportunity to reexamine the previously investigated underground alternatives for the power lines across the Gateway property and to

consider the possibility of additional factors that might enhance the feasibility of those alternatives. A concerted and cooperative effort ensued among the representatives of Caltrain and Healthpeak, with multiple meetings among the respective engineers, project managers, attorneys and us, and a creative and constructive exchange of ideas and technical considerations about putting the power lines underground across the Gateway property. Although an alternative was not finalized—primarily as a result of time limitations—we strongly believe an underground option is attainable in the wake of these positive discussions this past month. In that regard, we are advised that irrespective of the outcome of the Resolution of Necessity hearing on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Caltrain team is committed to its continued cooperation to accomplish an underground alternative.

First and foremost, we greatly appreciate that the hearing on November 3<sup>rd</sup> was postponed to provide the opportunity for the dialogue about the underground alternatives that ensued. And we equally appreciate the cooperation and efforts of the engineers, project managers, and consultants in pursuing the underground alternatives during this past month. Thank you.

The parties explored two alternative underground options that have evolved as follows:

- The power lines would be run underground across the length of the Gateway property, and brought above-ground onto stanchions at the far westerly end of the Gateway property. From there the power lines would be run across the Caltrain railroad tracks to the Caltrain power station (identified as "TPS #1".) We refer to this alternative as the "Hybrid Option" in this letter.
- 2. The power lines would be run underground across the Gateway property and continue under the Caltrain railroad tracks, using "jack and bore" technology, to TPS #1.

Following our internal deliberations, we have concluded that the Hybrid Option in principle is acceptable to Healthpeak. As the property owner, we commit to provide our support to accomplish this result. In that regard, the power stanchions at the westernmost end of the Gateway property, with the power lines otherwise underground across the Gateway property but overhead across the Caltrain railroad tracks, is acceptable to Healthpeak.

We are advised that the Hybrid Option is technically feasible and is the preferred solution within the Caltrain team, because it avoids the technical difficulties and risks of running the power lines under the railroad tracks. We suggest—and we believe the

Caltrain team concurs—that our efforts should now focus on the Hybrid Option, fleshing out the technical requirements and business arrangements among the respective stakeholders.

We expect and hope that the discussions with the Caltrain team will continue in earnest to achieve the Hybrid Option. In that regard, the Caltrain team and we have a shared desire to have more time for those discussions. We are advised that the discussions can and will continue unimpeded even if you decide that the procedural imperatives of the project require the formal adoption of the Resolution of Necessity at your December 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing. To allow those continued discussions, we suggest and request that if you adopt the Resolution of Necessity, you simultaneously direct your Staff to continue the current efforts to negotiate terms to achieve an underground alternative for the power lines across the Gateway property, and to postpone commencement of the eminent domain lawsuit for a reasonable amount of time to give the parties sufficient opportunity to accomplish, if possible, the underground alternative. We believe Staff will readily comply with those directives so our discussions can proceed unabated. While we oppose the Resolution of Necessity for the proposed overhead power lines across the Gateway propert, we would support this strategy to facilitate and encourage the further discussions despite the Resolution of Necessity.

As I wrote in my October 31<sup>st</sup> letter, Healthpeak will be a willing partner in a solution that accomplishes the result of keeping the power lines underground across the Gateway Property, a textbook "win-win-win" outcome that serves the best interests of the condemning agency, the public, local government, and the property owner. Thanks to the exemplary cooperation between the public agencies and Healthpeak, while we continue to reserve our objections to the project as currently planned, we anticipate the underground result will be accomplished even though you might be compelled by procedural considerations to approve the Resolution of Necessity on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Thank you for your ongoing consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

Scott Bohn Senior Vice President Healthpeak Properties, Inc. (formerly HCP, Inc.) 950 Tower Lane Suite 1650 Foster City, CA 94404 sbohn@healthpeak.com | 650-875-1007

### **ATTACHMENT** TO LETTER TO SAMTRANS BOARD OF DIRECTORS DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2020

Re: Resolution of Necessity Hearing, 12-2-2020 Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project Property Owner: Healthpeak Properties, Inc. Property: 201-225 Gateway Blvd., South San Francisco, CA

### Attachments:

- Letter to SamTrans Board of Directors dated October 31, 2020
- Exhibit 1: Radius Design Report
- Exhibit 2: Hathaway Dinwiddie Report



October 31, 2020

### (By Email Delivery)

Chairperson Karyl Matsumoto Vice Chairperson Peter Ratto Board Member Ron Collins Board Member Marina Fraser Board Member Carole Groom Board Member Rose Guilbault Board Member David Pine Board Member Josh Powell Board Member Charles Stone San Mateo County Transit District 1250 San Carlos Avenue San Carlos, CA 94070-1306

Re: Resolution of Necessity Hearing, November 4, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.
Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project
Property Owner: Healthpeak Properties, Inc.
Property: 201-225 Gateway Blvd., So. San Francisco, CA (APN 015-024-240)
Project Parcel Nos: JPB-SM2-0312-2A, -2B, -2C, and -2D

Dear Chairperson Matsumoto, Vice Chairperson Ratto, and Members of the Board:

We write to urge you to disapprove the Resolution of Necessity for the abovereferenced Project as currently designed. The current plans specify that the electrical lines for the Electrification Project will be underground to our property, but brought above ground within our property and then strung across our property with the support of tall stanchions. As the condemning agency, the San Mateo County Transit District SamTrans ("SamTrans") may not exercise its power of eminent domain unless the project serves "the greatest public good" with "the least private injury." The proposed project at our property, with stanchions and overhead lines marring our property and the surrounding community, serves neither mandate. The deficiencies are rectified, however, by simply continuing the electrical lines underground across our property. For reasons we explain below, that solution is cost-effective and uncomplicated. We strongly advocate that the project is redesigned with our cooperation to continue the electrical lines underground across our property, as the solution that serves the greatest public good with the least private injury.

We submit the following Exhibits in support of this letter:

**Exhibit One:** Letter from Radius Design with exhibits, substantiating the detriment to the Gateway Property that will result from the overhead electrical lines and power poles, and the cost-effectiveness of running the lines underground instead.

**Exhibit Two:** Letter from Hathaway Dinwiddle with exhibit, substantiating the feasibility of running the electrical wires underground across the Gateway Property.

#### **Background:**

I am Senior Vice President of Healthpeak Properties, Inc. ("Healthpeak".) Healthpeak Life Science Properties, Inc. is Healthpeak's life science affiliate. Healthpeak owns and manages the life sciences facilities at its "Gateway" property located at 201 and 225 Gateway Boulevard in South San Francisco, CA. In this letter, I will refer to that property as the "Gateway Property." Healthpeak owns the Gateway Property through the single-asset entity called "Britannia Gateway II Limited Partnership."

Healthpeak (including its predecessor in name only, HCP, Inc.) has owned the Gateway Property since 1996. The Gateway Property is improved with high-end, state-of-the-art life science facilities. At Healthpeak's direction, the Gateway Property recently was thoroughly renovated, including a makeover of the exteriors, to bring an aesthetically pleasing update to the neighborhood that was completed in 2019 at a total cost of approximately \$30 million. Healthpeak is an excellent neighbor, a stalwart caretaker of the property, an exemplary corporate citizen, and a significant contributor to the local and state tax bases.

These condemnation proceedings concern the "take" of easements in the Gateway Property, consisting of easements across the Gateway Property for above ground electrical wires and power poles, underground communication wires and cables, underground power lines, access across the Gateway Property, and a receiving pit within the Gateway Property. Under the current plan, the power lines will originate at the PG&E Station that is southerly of the Gateway Property. From that Station, the power lines will run underground northerly along Gateway Boulevard to the Gateway Property and then westerly under the Gateway Property to a point on the Gateway Property approximately a hundred feet from its southeastern corner. At that point on the Gateway Property, the power lines would be brought above ground in the receiving pit and strung across the Gateway Property over the rest of its southerly end, a distance of

approximately 625 feet. Tall stanchions on the Gateway Property will support the overhead lines. The proposed easements include an easement for the overhead power lines, but also easements for underground power and communication lines.

# The Proposed Project Does Not Serve the Greatest Public Good with the Least Private Injury:

The overhead electrical lines and power poles are antithetical to the public good and will result in inordinate private injury, problems that are easily solved if the electrical lines are simply kept underground across the length of the Gateway Property. Again, Healthpeak will be a willing partner in that solution.

The reasons the project as currently planned does not serve the greatest public good with the least private injury include:

**The Private Injury Is Unnecessarily Excessive:** The Gateway Property is located in the Oyster Point section of South San Francisco along San Francisco Bay. The area in general and the Gateway Property in particular are models of urban redevelopment, creating a jewel along the Bay. In partnership with the City of South San Francisco, former railroad and industrial property has been redeveloped with gleaming, innovative new buildings that house high-tech facilities, a source of civic pride that brings high-paying jobs to the region and bolsters the tax base. This redevelopment has included a concerted effort in accordance with the City of South San Francisco's General Plan to eliminate the blight of the former railroad and industrial uses, which has included the concerted effort to underground all utilities. The proposed project at the Gateway Property would reverse that trend, creating a new blight with the proposed tall power stanchions and overhead wires. The attached Exhibit 1 letter from Radius Design substantiates these concerns. This excessive private injury is easily rectified by putting the wires underground at the Gateway Property.

Overhead Electrical Lines Would Be a Potential Health Hazard and Would Risk Jeopardizing the Life Science Work at the Gateway Property, Including the Current Work on Developing a COVID Vaccine: Electromagnetic radiation from overhead transmission wires is a potential health hazard. But here there is an even more urgent reason to keep the electrical wires underground. The electromagnetic radiation from nearby overhead wires may imperil the sensitive and important life science work that is ongoing at the Gateway Property, including a tenant's COVID-19 vaccine development currently underway. There is no conceivable public good in that result. The attached Exhibit 1 letter from Radius Design substantiates these concerns.

The Planned Overhead Wires Violate South San Francisco's Prohibitions Against Them: There are no overhead power lines at the Gateway Property, for important reasons. Among those reasons, Healthpeak is a responsible corporate citizen that cares about its properties and the communities they serve. Healthpeak wants all utilities underground at its properties to enhance and protect the community at large as well as the well-being and important work of its tenants. Additionally, South San Francisco's Municipal Code mandates the underground installation of utilities. (See, e.g., sections 13.16.020 and 13.16.030.) Regardless of whether Caltrain will be entitled to install the stanchions and string the wires above ground pursuant to the condemnation, the City and the public certainly won't be happy about that outcome, particularly after their concerted efforts to bury existing overhead utilities in this redeveloped area. As good neighbors, it behooves the Agency and Caltrain to do everything possible to avoid the new blight in the community that otherwise will result from the proposed stanchions and overhead power lines.

Having Run the Power Lines Underground from the PG&E Station to the Gateway Property, the Lines Can and Should Simply Remain Underground Where They Traverse the Gateway Property: While we don't question that the Agency is wellintentioned, we do question the decision to bring the electrical lines aboveground within the Gateway Property and run them over the rest of the Gateway Property after they have been underground from the PG&E Station. From an engineering standpoint, it's straightforward and cost-effective to simply continue the wires underground across the Gateway Property. The attached Exhibit 2 letter from Hathaway Dinwiddle substantiates the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of this solution. The attached Exhibit 1 letter from Radius Design also substantiates the cost-effectiveness. Our engineers— BkF Engineers—have confirmed that the underground lines across the Gateway Property will not conflict with existing utilities.

When All Costs of the Condemnation Are Accurately Factored, a Cost-Benefit Analysis Dictates Underground Wires: We know that the amount of the Agency's just compensation offer will not be considered at the Resolution of Necessity hearing on November 4<sup>th</sup>, and we reserve our objections to the amount for an appropriate later time. But the Agency's just compensation appraisal is germane to the greatest public good/least private injury calculus because it does not accurately reflect the real costs of the project as planned. The Agency's just compensation appraisal, in the amount \$1.634 million, is flawed. The square foot valuation of \$100 is substantially low and the failure to include severance damages is wrong. Healthpeak has retained Yvonne Broszus and Neil Lefmann of Valbridge Property Advisors, who will substantiate these

deficiencies. The Agency also faces litigation expenses if a mutually acceptable solution is not accomplished. Whatever cost-benefit analysis the Agency used in deciding to string power lines aboveground across the Gateway Property apparently did not take account of the true costs. When those true costs are factored, the resulting calculus favors putting the power wires underground, which commensurately will reduce the just compensation, eliminate severance damages, and avoid litigation costs. Hathaway Dinwiddle (Exhibit 2) reports that the differential to put the electrical lines underground is \$1.17 million. In the overall context of the project, the real costs, and Healthpeak's willingness to cooperate in a solution that undergrounds the electrical lines, this differential renders the underground lines a cost-effective solution that serves the greatest public good with the least private injury.

The Proposed Condemnation Anticipates Underground Power and Communication Lines Across the Entire Length of the Gateway Property, and the Power Lines for the Electrification Project Should Be Installed Accordingly: The proposed condemnation of Healthpeak's property include easements across the entire length of the Gateway Property for underground power and communication lines, anticipating the installation of underground lines now or in the future. It makes no sense to install overhead power lines across the same area where there will be underground lines. All utilities, including the power lines for the Electrification Project, should be underground. The attached Exhibit 2 letter from Hathaway Dinwiddle substantiates the feasibility of this solution.

As I wrote above, Healthpeak will be a willing partner in a solution that accomplishes the result of keeping the power lines underground across the length of the Gateway Property, a textbook "win-win-win" outcome that serves the best interests of the condemning agency, the public, local government, and the property owner. We urge you to disapprove the current Resolution of Necessity to require a revision of the subject plans that will keep the electrical lines underground across our property.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

Scott Bohn Senior Vice President Healthpeak Properties, Inc. (formerly HCP, Inc.) 950 Tower Lane Suite 1650 Foster City, CA 94404 sbohn@healthpeak.com | 650-875-1007 (o)

## **EXHIBIT 1** Radius Design Report



SAMTRANS SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT 1250 San Carlos Ave. – P.O. Box 3006 San Carlos, CA 94070-1306 (650)508-6200

Re: 201 GATEWAY BLVD., South San Francisco, CA 94080 (APN 015-024-240)

Radius Design is a utility design firm having 20+ years of experience in PGE electric and gas engineering. We design PGE systems in-house with a team of 8 certified PGE designers.

We have reviewed SAMTRANS proposal to serve the JPB Property with a PGE 115KV transmission service. - See exhibit 1 below. Our concerns are as follows:

- New overhead 115KV service will be detrimental to the site for a variety of reasons
  - Underground to overhead transition poles located at the Southwest corner of the property are costly, unsightly, and further devalue the property, while additionally limiting future development of the property.
  - Electromagnetic Radiation [EMF] effects from overhead conductors may affect COVID-19 vaccine development currently underway by a tenant of the affected property.
- We believe the cost to transition the incoming underground from the PGE substation to overhead for roughly 900' offsets any cost savings afforded by overhead construction.
- The owner of our site, Healthpeak, is willing to discuss an easement encroaching the parking lot, if required.

We can agree to discuss an underground extension, including directional boring under existing railroad tracks, as indicated in exhibit 2 below. We are confident an underground 115KV extension can be a successful resolution for all parties.

Sincerely,

SCOTT HARDESTER

Founder Radius Design

1460 Maria Lane #420, Walnut Creek, CA



### Exhibit 1 - Design Proposed by SAMTRANS:









## **EXHIBIT 2** Hathaway Dinwiddie Report

October 29, 2020 Project Management Advisors, Inc. 1 Tower Place, Suite 200 South San Francisco, CA 94080

Attn: Tri Vu

Project: Healthpeak 225/201 Gateway Caltrain Study

Please see attached summary of items we have considered and costs. The additional cost to underground the 115kV service line with the fiber optic trench is **+\$1,170,000** as is summarized by the following:

#### Tubular steel pole installation:

The overhead poles and related foundation work will cost approximately \$880,000 and assumes (6) galvanized tubular steel poles at 86' tall with large concrete foundations supported on micropiles. Erecting the overhead poles also requires a mobile crane rental. If the 115kV line is run underground instead, this scope of work is deducted from the project cost.

#### Fiber optic trench vs joint trench:

The Caltrain documents depict trenchwork through the Heathpeak property to run underground fiber optic cable that transitions to horizontal directional boring at the west side and continues under the rail tracks. We have assumed this trench will be 4' to 5' deep, with (2) 4" conduits and (3) #5 vaults, and will require temporary shoring for the portion of the trench that runs adjacent to the East Grand embankment. If the 115kV transmission line instead runs underground in a joint trench with the fiber optic work, then we assume the trench will be 14' deep and require (6) additional conduits for the transmission lines, (2) high voltage transmission vaults, shoring on both trench faces, and significantly more excavation and off haul. This would add \$2,050,000 of scope beyond the fiber-only trench. This would be offset by the \$880,000 of savings above.

Please note, this cost variance reflects only the scope that the general contractor and our subs would perform. The PG&E fees + cost to install cables have not been considered. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Thanks,

Peggy Allen Preconstruction Engineer 275 Battery St. Suite 300 San Francisco, CA 94111 Phone: 415.403.3715 E-mail: allenp@hdcco.com Hathaway Dinwiddie

	QTY	U		\$/U	TOTAL	
pole + foundations install	6	EA	\$	146,667	\$ 880,000	
excavation						
micropiles - (1) per pole						
concrete + rebar foundation						
anchor bolts						
base plate + leveling nuts						
86' galvanized steel pole						
mobile crane rental						
mobile crane operator						
spoils handling + offhaul						
fiber optic trench + boring	800	LF	\$	2,375	\$ 1,900,000	joint trench + boring
5' deep fiber optic trench - 600'						14' deep joint trer
fiber optic conduit - (2) 4" PVC						fiber optic condui
install vaults - (3) #5 vaults						install vaults - (3)
fiber optic horizontal directional bore - 200'						fiber optic horizor
shoring against embankment side						electrcial conduit
backfill						install vaults - (2)
spoils handling + offhaul						electrical horizont
						dewatering
						spoils handling + c
site finishes	8,800	SF	\$	43.18	\$ 380,000	site finishes
demo landscape / parking lot finishes						demo landscape /
tree removal						tree removal
potholing for existing utilities						potholing for exist
parking light relocation + rewiring						parking light reloc
storm drain + underground utility work						storm drain + und
replace landscape /parking lot finishes						replace landscape
GRs/GCs	6	MO	\$	113,333	\$ 680,000	GRs/GCs
non-crane hoisting						non-crane hoistin
parking						parking
traffic control						traffic control
GCs - 6 months staffing						GCs - 6 months st
GRs - 6 months site services						GRs - 6 months sit
			Optio	n 1 Total:	\$ 3,840,000	

Variance Summary	(	Option 1	(	Option 2	Variance
pole + foundations install	\$	880,000			\$ (880,000)
underground trench + boring	\$	1,900,000	\$	3,950,000	\$ 2,050,000
site finishes	\$	380,000	\$	380,000	\$ -
GRs/GCs	\$	680,000	\$	680,000	\$ -
		\$ 1,170,000			

Option 2 - Underground Electric + Fiber Optic						
	QTY	U	\$/U	TOTAL		
joint trench + boring 14' deep joint trench - 600' fiber optic conduit - (2) 4'' PVC install vaults - (3) #5 vaults	800	LF	\$ 4,938	\$ 3,950,000		
fiber optic horizontal directional bore - 200' electrcial conduit - (6) 6" PVC conduits install vaults - (2)high volt transmission vaults electrical horizontal directional bore - 200' dewatering spoils handling + offhaul						
site finishes demo landscape / parking lot finishes tree removal potholing for existing utilities parking light relocation + rewiring storm drain + underground utility work replace landscape /parking lot finishes	8,800	SF	\$ 43.18	\$ 380,000		
GRs/GCs non-crane hoisting parking traffic control GCs - 6 months staffing GRs - 6 months site services	6	МО	\$ 113,333	\$ 680,000		
		Op	otion 2 Total:	\$ 5,010,000		