

San Rafael Chamber

August 16, 2012

Mayor Gary Phillips and City Council
City of San Rafael
1400 Fifth Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94915

Re: SMART Station Area Development

Dear Mayor Phillips and Council Members:

On behalf of the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors we are writing to request your consideration of our local economic impacts when reviewing the upcoming SMART station area development recommendations from the Advisory Committee. The San Rafael Chamber applauds efforts of the city appointed advisory committee for their extensive work and outreach in the community.

Without question the SMART train is coming to Marin County in the near future. We urge the City of San Rafael to do all that you can to make the project a long term economic success. The San Rafael Chamber believes it is in our community's best interest to have a successful program. This success will encourage regional transportation agencies add their financial support of SMART in the future.

Maximizing public transit will benefit our community, employers and our area workforce. Adding density and flexibility around the planning of the areas surrounding the SMART stations will increase the likelihood of long-term success for SMART.

In conclusion, the San Rafael Chamber believes it is important to remember the needs of our area employers and workforce as our community looks to make SMART a success San Rafael and all of Marin County. The San Rafael Chamber currently represents more than 575 businesses with over 12,000 employees.

Sincerely,



Rick Wells
President and CEO

cc: Chamber Board of Directors
City Manager and City Staff