

# BAY AREA COMMUTE UPDATE WEBINAR RECORDING (SILICON VALLEY REAL ESTATE BREAKFAST)

WEBINAR RECORDING

## Bay Area Commute Update

FROM OCTOBER 5, 2021

HOGE • FENTON

Since businesses began reopening last June, some employees have returned to the office while many continue to work remotely. Many employees made temporary or even permanent choices to move even farther away from their offices.

The combination of companies' new hybrid working models, increased solo driving, and transit cuts resulting from continued low ridership, resulted in unanticipated traffic patterns and congestion – in some cases, worse than before the pandemic.

This discussion features the Mayor of Mountain View, Ellen Kamei, SPUR Chief Policy Officer, Nick Josefowitz, BART Director, Debora Allen, and Hoge Fenton Special Counsel, Hon. Catharine Baker. They share their unique perspectives dealing with and planning for these changes and give us an update on:

- The current state of traffic and commuting in the greater Bay Area
  - The City of Mountain View's increased growth and presence of companies
  - The impact of hybrid working models on the commercial real estate market
  - The impact of hybrid working models on local planning, including residential real estate
  - The current state of workers' transportation choices
  - How we need to rethink our public transportation strategy
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## Our Notable Speakers



**Ellen Kamei** is the Mayor of the City of Mountain View and serves as an Area Manager in External and Legislative Affairs for AT&T, Inc. As a multi-lingual and multi-ethnic third-generation Mountain View resident, Ellen is passionate about creating positive social impact in communities and facilitating civic engagement. Her professional experience includes over a decade in public service at the city, county, state, and federal government levels. Ellen is responsible for the planning, coordination, and implementation of critical AT&T legislative, regulatory, and community objectives in the Northern California Bay Area.



**Nick Josefowitz** is currently the Chief Policy Officer at SPUR. Nick manages SPUR's policy team, responsible for developing and advancing powerful policy ideas across sustainability, resilience, housing, and transportation across the Bay Area. Previously, Nick founded and ran a solar energy development company and served as a BART director, where he led efforts to pass and issue a \$3.5 billion infrastructure bond, transition BART to 100% renewable power and pass state legislation to enable new housing at BART stations. He is currently a commissioner for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.



**Catharine Baker** will be moderating our program. She is a former California State Assemblymember who represented the 16th Assembly District from 2014 through 2018. Catharine is a Commissioner with the California Fair Political Practices Commission, which administers and enforces California's landmark government ethics laws. She is Special Counsel at Hoge Fenton, where she advises businesses and non-profits and practices election law. During her legislative tenure, Catharine was an independent, bipartisan voice in the Legislature, fostering breakthroughs in significant legislation, particularly on transportation, the environment, and government accountability.

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## Related Attorneys

- Honorable Catharine B. Baker