

City Council

3300 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 5006, Fremont, CA 94537-5006

510 284-4090 *broadcast line* | [www.fremont.gov](http://www.fremont.gov)

January 27, 2012

David J. Kappos  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property &  
Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Mail Stop Office of Under Secretary and Director  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: Docket Number PTO-C-2011-0066

Dear Mr. Kappos:

I am writing to express my strong support for locating a future USPTO Satellite Office in California's Silicon Valley. As you know, Silicon Valley is arguably the most innovative region in the world. Its ideal setting in the beautiful Bay Area, combined with its expansive ecosystem of top-ranked universities, law firms, venture capital firms, and financial institutions, has made Silicon Valley the world's high-tech capital and leading hub for businesses specializing in Information Products & Services, Life Sciences, Business Infrastructure, Technical Manufacturing, and Clean Technology.

The result of all of this economic activity and innovation is that Silicon Valley accounts for more than 12% of all patents originated in the United States (while California accounts for over 25%). A USPTO Satellite Office in Silicon Valley would create enormous efficiencies for the patent process. Aside from proximity to three international airports, ports, universities, National Laboratories, and the Pacific Rim, a Satellite Office here would have access to talent unparalleled by any other region-talent that overlaps with the very sectors filing patent applications.

Fremont is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in the Bay Area and the 15<sup>th</sup> largest in the state. Home to a vast industrial area in Silicon Valley, Fremont is known as an advanced manufacturing capital and is poised to become a leader in 21<sup>st</sup> century American industrial production. Our vibrant, diversified and globally connected economy has attracted emerging technology firms and suppliers to "cluster" here because of its central location within Silicon Valley and the San Francisco Bay area, competitively priced real estate, and outstanding workforce. Fremont offers extremely qualified, well-educated talent with over 50% of adults having a Bachelor's, Graduate or Professional degree. And Fremont was recently voted the 2<sup>nd</sup> most inventive City in America by The Daily Beast/Newsweek with over 2,200 patents awarded in 2010. (See attached brochure for a complete community profile.)

After experiencing great economic tragedy with the closure of the New United Motor Manufacturing, Inc. (NUMMI) automobile plant, which resulted in the loss of over 4,500 direct jobs, Fremont has emerged as a leader in innovation with an entrepreneurial spirit to serve as an example of strong recovery to the region, state and nation. Aided by a U.S. Economic Development Administration-funded grant, the City has produced a Jobs Recovery Strategy, which outlines a plan for reuse and revitalization of an 850-acre area surrounding the former plant. The entire plan is framed by the creation of high-wage, skilled jobs, promoting innovative technology uses and employment-focused transit oriented development. (The attached brochure details this plan.) I should note that in the midst of this planning effort, we learned that the vacant NUMMI plant created an opportunity for Tesla Motors, one of the most innovative companies of our time, to stay in Northern California and manufacture its electric vehicles right here in Fremont.



As Vice Mayor and on behalf of the Fremont City Council, I urge you to consider the Silicon Valley as the location of choice for the next USTPO Satellite Office. Be assured that the City of Fremont is prepared to assist your office however necessary should you make this decision. Please contact me at (510) 284-4000 or the City of Fremont Economic Development Director Kelly Kline at (510) 284-4024 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Anu Natarajan  
Vice Mayor



## FREMONT COMMUNITY PROFILE 2012

As the fourth largest city in the San Francisco Bay Area, Fremont's Silicon Valley location is the ideal place to live, work and visit. The city takes pride in its diversified, globally-connected economy where businesses can be successful and residents and visitors can enjoy high-quality programs and services.

### POPULATION

Fremont is the 4th largest city in the San Francisco Bay Area; 15th in California.

• Total Population	214,089
• Total Households	71,004

#### Distribution by Ethnicity & Race

• Asian	50%
• White	33%
• Hispanic	14%
• Black/African American	3%

### INCOME PROFILE

• Average Household Income	\$114,169
• Average Household Size	3.0
• Median Age	37 years

### EMPLOYMENT PROFILE

#### Top Employers (250 - 1,000+ Employees)

Fremont Unified School District	AXT Incorporated
Washington Hospital	Lam Research Corporation
Boston Scientific	DMS Facility Services, Inc.
Western Digital	Sysco Food Services
Seagate	Synnex

### TAX PROFILE

• Property Tax Rate	1.1%
• Utility Tax	None
• State Sales Tax	8.75%
• Transient Occupancy Tax	10%

### HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE

#### Housing

• Median Home Price (2010)	\$654,700
• Average Monthly Rent (2 Br. Unit)	\$1,678

• Land Profile	92 square miles
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#### Development (Total Developed)

• Residential	71,699 Units
• Commercial	9.1 million s.f.
• Industrial/Office	40.3 million s.f.

### TRANSPORTATION

#### Air

• San Jose International Airport	13 miles
• Oakland International Airport	18 miles
• San Francisco International Airport	22 miles

#### Highways

• Interstates 880/17 & 680/280, Routes 64 & 238
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#### Ports

• Redwood City	18 miles
• Oakland	27 miles
• San Francisco	37 miles
• Richmond	38 miles

#### Public Transportation

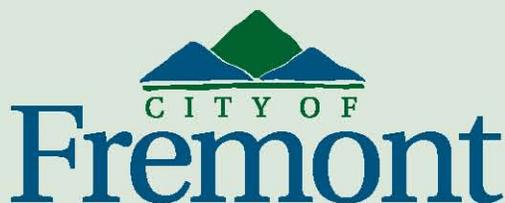
- Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system - 2 Stations
- Rail transport lines including Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) and Amtrak Capital Corridor
- AC Transit bus service, locally, and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority provide express service to various points in Silicon Valley

## RETAIL PROFILE

- Daytime Population – 241,504; Trade Area Population – 393,000
- Top psychographic consumer segments are affluent, tech-savvy and highly educated with urban mentality
- Over 300 eateries including popular restaurant brands and a diverse range of ethnic cuisines
- Wide variety of shopping options in centers such as Pacific Commons, The Hub and Washington West as well as business districts such as Irvington and Niles
- New Opportunities:
  - Pacific Commons “The Block” (300K sf of new retail)
  - Midtown (110 acres, mixed-use development planned in the Central Business District)
- Coming Soon – Whole Foods & Sunflower Farmers Market, Century Theatres and Target

## INNOVATION PROFILE

- Known as Bay Area capital for tech manufacturing
- Home to growing cluster of nearly 30 clean tech companies such as Tesla, Solaria, Redwood Systems and Greenvolts
- Other major companies include: Lam Research, Boston Scientific, Seagate, Western Digital, and Thermo Fisher Scientific
- Growing industries and employment sectors include:
  - Electric Vehicle Industry
  - High-Tech and Information Technology
  - Clean and Green Technology
  - Biotechnology and Life Sciences
  - Logistics, Warehousing, Goods Movement
  - Medical
- Voted 2nd Most Inventive City in America by The Daily Beast/ Newsweek with over 2200 patents awarded in 2010
- Received over \$1 billion of venture capital in recent years
- 40 million square feet of industrial space; 63% of all R&D inventory in the East Bay Area
- 49% of adults hold a Bachelors, Graduate or Professional degree
- Major universities (including Stanford and U.C. Berkeley), community colleges, and technical schools are located within 30 miles



## KEY PHONE NUMBERS (510) & ONLINE RESOURCES

Economic Development .....	284-4020 & econdev@fremont.gov
Development Services Center .....	494-4443 & DSC_recep@fremont.gov
Planning Division.....	494-4440 & planinfo@fremont.gov
Building & Safety.....	494-4400 & bldinfo@fremont.gov
Business License .....	494-4610 & finance@fremont.gov
Fire Department.....	494-4200 & fremontfire@fremont.gov
Police Department.....	790-6800 & www.fremontpolice.org
Environmental Services.....	494-4570 & environment@fremont.gov
Housing & Redevelopment .....	494-4500 & ohr@fremont.gov
Chamber of Commerce .....	795-2244 & fmtcc@fremontbusiness.com
Workforce Investment Board .....	259-3842 & www.acwib.org
Small Business Development Ctr...	208-0410 & www.acsfdc.org
Family Resource Center .....	574-2000 & frc@fremont.gov

# Think FremontCalifornia

## South Fremont/Warm Springs Strategy

Fremont, in its ideal Silicon Valley location, is the 4th largest city in the Bay Area and 15th largest in California. Home to a vast industrial area that sits on the edge of arguably the most innovative region in the world, Fremont is poised to become a vital zone for 21st century American industrial production. The opportunity is here and the time is now.

### CITY OVERVIEW

- Well-located in the south eastern region of the Bay Area, south of Oakland & San Francisco and north of San Jose
- Boasts some of the best performing public schools in the state and is located near many centers of higher education and research institutions
- Easy access to 3 international airports, interstate highways, ports, rail lines and Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)

### DEMOGRAPHICS

- Population of 214,089 residents and 71,004 households
- Diverse and well educated with 49% of adults holding a Bachelors, Graduate or Professional degree
- Average household income of \$123,000 and home price of \$654,700

### BUSINESS/INDUSTRY PROFILE

- Known as the Bay Area capital for tech manufacturing
- Home to growing cluster of 30 clean tech companies such as Tesla Motors, Solaria and Greenvolts
- Other major companies include: Lam Research, Boston Scientific, Seagate, Western Digital, and Thermo Fisher Scientific
- Growing industries and employment sectors include:
  - Electric Vehicle Industry
  - High-Tech and Information Technology
  - Clean and Green Technology
  - Biotechnology and Life Sciences
  - Logistics, Warehousing, Goods Movement
  - Medical
- Voted 2nd Most Inventive City in America by The Daily Beast/Newsweek with over 2200 patents awarded in 2010
- Received over \$1 billion of venture capital in recent years and recognized in Silicon Valley's top five for patent awards
- 40 million square feet of industrial space; 63% of all R&D in the East Bay Area



Warm Springs BART Station Rendering



## ▶ OPPORTUNITY

The City was awarded a \$333,000 U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant following the New United Motor Manufacturing, Inc. (NUMMI) closure in April of 2010 to fund a Jobs Recovery Strategy which included “reuse and revitalization” of the 850 acre area in South Fremont/Warm Springs. These studies will be completed in early 2012.

This area is critically important to the City and the region and represents a unique convergence of forces. The closure of the NUMMI plant has created the opportunity for electric car manufacturer, Tesla Motors, to stay in Northern California, and just south of the study area is the former Solyndra manufacturing plant, which now presents the opportunity for a new user to take over this state-of-the-art facility. There is also an abundance of industrial space and vacant land, including 160 acres recently purchased by Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) that is currently on the market. In late 2015, a new BART station will open within walking distance of Tesla Motors and the vacant UPRR property. The City and the region are heavily invested in ensuring the area is developed strategically and takes advantage of the huge public support and regional access provided by the new BART station.



- The BART system serves the San Francisco Bay Area
- There are currently 111 miles of track linking five counties and 44 stations (including the end of the line station in central Fremont)
- BART expansion is in progress with two future stations planned in Fremont – Warm Springs (opening 2015) and Irvington (opening TBD)
- By 2018 an additional 10 mile southern extension is planned from Warm Springs to San Jose which will provide access to the South Fremont/Warm Springs area from both the north and south
- Other than Fremont, most existing and future station areas on the “BART to San Jose” line are more oriented to housing than to job centers

## JOBS/EMPLOYMENT

Fremont is expected to grow significantly with a 48% increase in demand for jobs by 2035. Its future growth will be focused near transit in four Priority Development Areas in an effort to reduce automobile dependence and bring together a mix of uses to develop a more sustainable, strategically urban, modern city. Fremont is uniquely positioned to accommodate jobs growth for the Silicon Valley and the Bay Area region. This is an opportune time to ensure the infrastructure and public transportation connections are in place to meet this regional need.

### Jobs Distribution: Region, Alameda County, Fremont

Area	2010 Jobs	2035 Jobs	2010-2035 Growth Rate
Region	3,271,300	4,493,300	37%
Alameda County	675,591	925,449	37%
<b>Fremont</b>	<b>86,839</b>	<b>128,484</b>	<b>48%</b>

## ► SOUTH FREMONT/WARM SPRINGS STRATEGY

### EMPLOYMENT FOCUSED TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD)

The EDA funding includes a Land Use Alternatives Study and provides three alternatives for consideration. The concepts are generally intended to address minor, moderate and potentially higher levels of intensity of uses, and include a focus on opportunity sites in the study area. All three alternatives concentrate on creating high wage, skilled jobs and promoting innovative technology uses and transit oriented development.

- Total number of jobs projected: 9,700 - 12,300
- Total number of residential units proposed: 0 - 3,900

Each of the alternatives is grounded in baseline analysis, stakeholder interviews, community workshops, and an Expert Panel. The panel was comprised of members from industry, the development community, academia, and government, including Ro Khanna, former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Domestic Operations, International Trade Division, at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

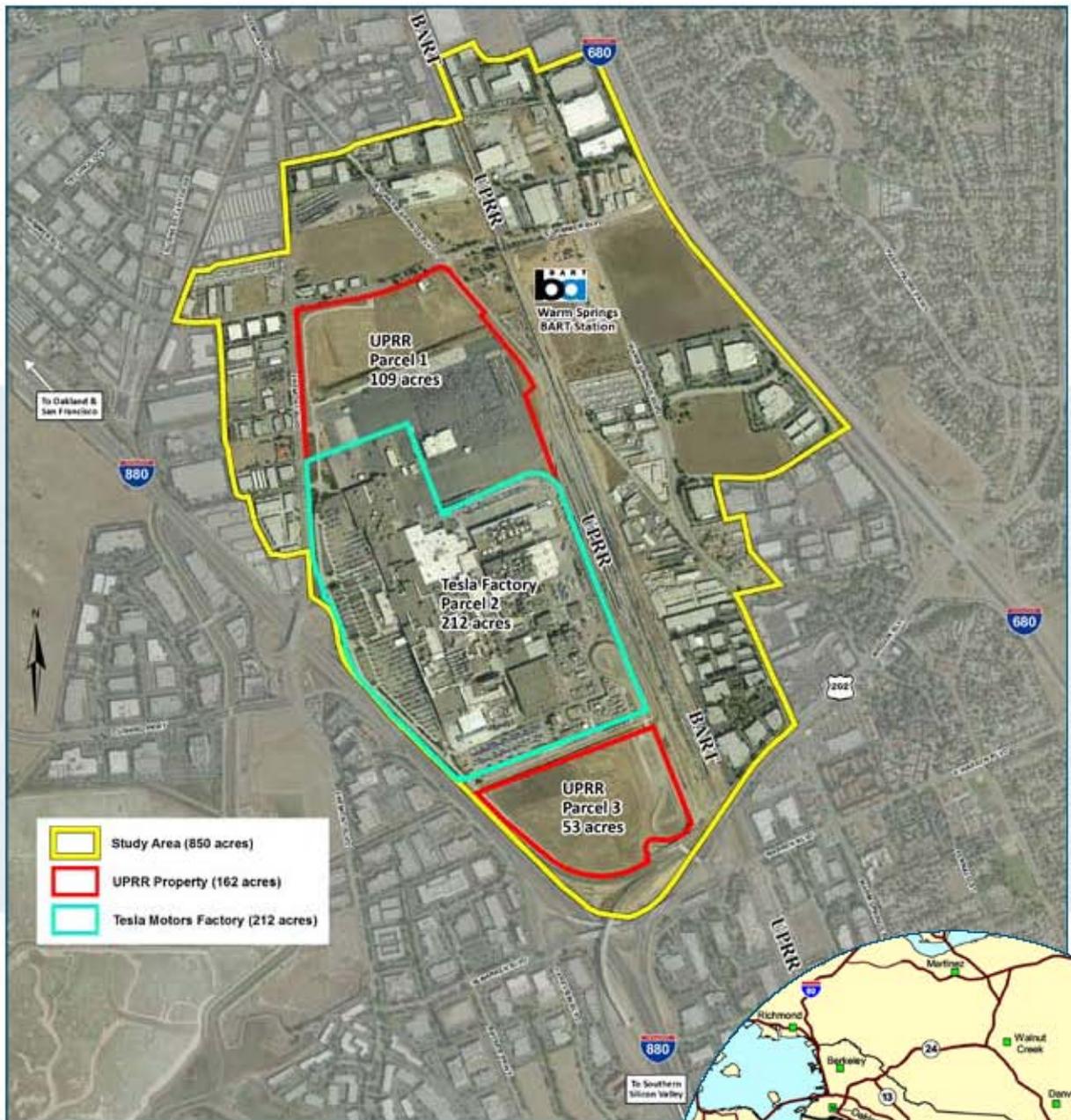


# Think Fremont

### NEXT STEPS

- Seek opportunities to develop the necessary infrastructure for innovative R&D and office uses to spur development and capture new opportunities as the economy and real estate market improve
- Promote and assist establishment of foreign trade zones for firms located within the area
- Leverage the presence of Tesla as a showcase for innovative manufacturing to attract other similar businesses to Fremont and to the United States
- Pursue opportunities to create high-paying jobs including electric vehicles, green technology, manufacturing, and professional sectors
- Cluster employment uses close to the Warm Springs BART station and leverage this TOD as the only Silicon Valley station currently connected to a major employment center





**FDR INFORMATION CONTACT**

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 (510) 284-4002

**Jeff Schwab**  
 Community Development Director  
 (510) 494-4527

**Kally Kline**  
 Economic Development Director  
 (510) 284-4024

**Jim Pearson**  
 Public Works Director  
 (510) 494-4722

