I’ve seen a copy of the Draft Study Areas boundary map that will be considered for future improvements and see that the North Central corridor on the western border is excluded. This is particularly surprising to me because of a problem that has been discussed and studied before, which is the 101/Poplar on/off ramp.

Undoubtedly, you are aware of the historical background regarding this ongoing discussion, but let me review a bit:

At the time the Peninsula overpass was to be redone, the State was willing to put an off-ramp on Peninsula Avenue, which would have helped to alleviate some of the traffic issues at Poplar. The Burlingame residents didn’t want the extra traffic in their area and started crying “eminent domain” — and somehow they won. The traffic study that was done showed that the majority of the cars that utilize the Poplar/101 access is coming from Burlingame — and yet, San Mateo seems to always give in to their demands. I would also not be surprised - if another traffic study is done - that it will show a huge increase in traffic on both Humboldt and Poplar.

The last plan I am aware of was to put the 101 South access onto Peninsula Avenue - and again, Burlingame was crying “eminent domain”, but I was under the impression that it would be done - eventually. I have e-mailed Public Works several times asking what, if anything, has been done to make this happen, but I get no response.

So why is this North Central corridor not in the City’s planning map, particular in view of the additional traffic that will be added when that huge hi-rise project to the west of the SPCA is completed? I am also aware that the developer of that project was required to give the City some funds to address the 101 access issues at both Poplar and Third Avenue. How are those funds being used? Please don’t tell me — it was used to put in the pedestrian crossings and “beautification” improvements on N. Humboldt!