Petition against S-1 Alternative Regional Trail Route

To the attention of:
Los Altos Hills City Council
Stanford University
CalTrain
County of Santa Clara
City of Palo Alto

The residents of Christopher's Lane in Los Altos Hills would like to petition against the proposed S-1 Alternative Regional Trail Route and would like you to consider the following reasoning behind this rejection of the use of the CalTrain right of way.

Security and Safety Issues:

This area has heavy brush and tree growth which has not been cut back or maintained through the years. Increased foot traffic will endanger the homes during dry periods and put them at high risk. Who is going to insure our homes against anyone smoking on this trail? Several of us have witnessed the massive destruction across the freeway some years ago when the fire did jump the freeway to this area.

The popularity of hiking around the Stanford dish trails has increased to the point where a number of parked cars have lined Stanford Ave. This added access will do the same to our street which is not really maintained well by the city as far as paving, paths and street signs. Also, anyone who is not a resident of this street will not know the difficulty and dangers of merging onto Page Mill Road-the site of numerous accidents. The residents of this street have had to suffer the stress and timing of exiting and entering Page Mill with the increase of the Palo Alto business commute. It could take as long as 20 minutes to safely access the road at times.

There have been several roll over accidents at the North on-ramp merge to I-280 which would actually put the hikers at risk.

Potential for Crime:

Homes near I-280 in the hills have recently been broken into during the day as well as when residents have been home. Access to the back of our homes is like advertising for crime.

Loss of Privacy:

Many residents have experienced people from the freeway who have jumped the fence to use a phone, get assistance etc. This trail will allow more people to look into our homes and backyards which will result in a lack of privacy and safety.

Who is going to pick up the litter which comes with people and is so unsightly until someone volunteers to pick it up? Who is going to cover the graffiti that has recently been done to the concrete water outlets when more people access the area?

Attachment : Signature of Residents