



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SAN JOSE TO BE 2011 AMGEN TOUR OF CALIFORNIA STAGE 4 FINISH**

*City to host race's first mountaintop finish*

*Details announced online via specially produced stage video*

SAN JOSE, CALIF. (February 10, 2010) – Specific route details for Stage 4 of **2011 Amgen Tour of California** professional cycling race are being revealed via a stage-specific video, AEG, presenter of the race, announced today. The video, created in collaboration between the Stage 4 host cities, Livermore and San Jose, highlights features of the route and showcases unique race challenges between these two Bay Area cities.

Consistently considered cycling's most important and successful road race held in the United States, the **2011 Amgen Tour of California** will cover more than 800 miles in eight epic days from May 15 – 22. Stage 4 will take place Wed., May 18 with a start in downtown Livermore and a finish on Sierra Rd. in San Jose. The 13 other official stage start and finish communities that have been selected for the 2011 race include: South Lake Tahoe (new for 2011), North Lake Tahoe-Northstar at Tahoe Resort (new for 2011), North Lake Tahoe-Squaw Valley USA (new for 2011), Sacramento, Auburn (new for 2011), Modesto, Seaside, Paso

Robles, Solvang, Claremont (new for 2011), Mt. Baldy (new for 2011), Santa Clarita and Thousand Oaks.

“We are honored to host the Amgen Tour of California’s first mountaintop finish and welcome back these elite cyclists to San Jose,” said San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed. “We invite cycling fans to witness this exciting finish and then come down the mountain to enjoy San Jose’s world-class restaurants and accommodations.”

Stage 4, presented by UnitedHealthcare, is only 81 miles long. But, what it lacks in distance, it more than makes up for with difficulty. Two of Stage 4’s climbs are legendary in California cycling lore. After the cyclists depart from Downtown Livermore, the race will head out to Mines Rd. and to the first KOM (King of the Mountain climb) of the day. Mines Rd. is 25 miles long, hilly and winding. Mines Rd. then becomes San Antonio Canyon Rd., and after two more KOMs, the riders will face the daunting challenge of Mt. Hamilton, the Tour’s first Hors Category climb— a French term to designate a climb that is "beyond categorization" and is incredibly tough. The two-mile climb to the Mt. Hamilton Observatory (4,130') will offer a spectacular view of San Jose and Silicon Valley.

Next will be the descent down the front side of Mt. Hamilton. Almost immediately after finishing the descent, the race will take a turn onto Sierra Rd., a 3.5-mile ascent with a 10 percent average grade and 1,700' feet of climbing. What is usually the home of herds of cattle will be complemented by thousands of screaming fans as they welcome home the winner, who will almost certainly wear the golden leader’s jersey.

“We are extremely happy to be returning to San Jose for the sixth time—every year since the inception of the race. It’s always exciting to announce the route details,

but this year seems especially exciting given the diverse and challenging course that has been put together for the cyclists, especially the Stage between Livermore and San Jose” said Andrew Messick, president, AEG Sports. “The **2011 Amgen Tour of California** route will not only showcase the beautiful and unique landscape of California, including some of the state’s most scenic landmarks, but will provide some exciting new firsts for the race as well, such as the San Jose mountaintop finish”

The Stage 4 route video, as well as videos for all other Stages, is available for reviewing on the **Amgen Tour of California** website ([www.amgentourofcalifornia.com](http://www.amgentourofcalifornia.com)), as well as the **Amgen Tour of California’s** Facebook page and on YouTube.

**For information about the Amgen Tour of California and to view the stage videos, please visit [www.amgentourofcalifornia.com](http://www.amgentourofcalifornia.com).**

#### **About the Amgen Tour of California**

The largest cycling event in America, the **2011 Amgen Tour of California** is a Tour de France-style cycling road race, presented by AEG, that challenges the world’s top professional cycling teams to compete along a demanding course through the state from May 15-22.

#### **About Amgen**

Amgen discovers, develops, manufactures, and delivers innovative human therapeutics. A biotechnology pioneer since 1980, Amgen was one of the first companies to realize the new science’s promise by bringing safe, effective medicines from lab to manufacturing plant to patient. Amgen therapeutics have changed the practice of medicine, helping millions of people around the world in the fight against cancer, kidney disease, rheumatoid arthritis, bone disease, and other serious illnesses. With a deep and broad pipeline of potential new medicines, Amgen remains committed to advancing science to dramatically improve people’s lives. To learn more about our pioneering science and vital medicines, visit [www.amgen.com](http://www.amgen.com).

#### **About AEG**

AEG is one of the leading sports and entertainment presenters in the world. AEG, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Anschutz Company, owns or controls a collection of companies including facilities such as STAPLES Center, The Home Depot Center, Sprint Center, The O2, NOKIA Theatre L.A. LIVE and NOKIA Theatre Times Square; sports franchises including the Los Angeles Kings (NHL), two Major League Soccer franchises, two hockey franchises operated in Europe, management of privately held shares of the Los Angeles Lakers, the ING Bay to Breakers foot race and the **Amgen Tour of California** cycling road race; AEG LIVE, the organization’s live-entertainment division, is a collection of companies dedicated to all aspects of live contemporary music performance, touring and a variety of programming and multi-media production. For more information, visit AEG today at [www.aegworldwide.com](http://www.aegworldwide.com).

**ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The San Jose Cycling Classic is being produced by the City of San Jose's Office of Economic Development (OED), part of the San Jose Office of the City Manager, is committed to a vital, competitive San Jose economy that increases prosperity for people and companies and enhances City revenues. The Office—which includes the San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs—guides the City's economic strategy, provides assistance for business success, helps connect employers with trained workers, and provides art and cultural resources to our community. For more information, please visit, [www.sjeconomy.com](http://www.sjeconomy.com).

**ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE**

From its founding in 1777 as California's first city, San Jose has been a leader, driven by its spirit of innovation. Today, San Jose stands as the largest city in Northern California and the Capital of Silicon Valley—the world's leading center of innovation. The city, the 10<sup>th</sup> largest in the U.S., is committed to remaining a top-ranked place to do business, to work and to live. For more information, visit, [www.sanjoseca.gov](http://www.sanjoseca.gov).

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