

# City of Palo Alto

*Office of the Mayor and City Council*

July 8, 2020

Nai Hsueh, Chair  
Valley Water Board of Directors  
5750 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose, CA 95118

*Re: Support for the Community Preferred Plan and Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program*

Dear Chair Hsueh:

On behalf of the City of Palo Alto, I write to express support for advancing to the voters the renewal of the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, and implementation of the Draft Community Preferred Plan triggered by the Program's renewal. I therefore urge the Valley Water Board of Directors to adopt the Preferred Plan and place the renewal of the Program on the November 2020 ballot. Please recognize that our City Council has not yet taken a position on the Plan or the ballot measure, and due to timing constraints will not have the opportunity for timely discussion. As such we recommend Valley Water proceed with advancing this measure for consideration by Santa Clara County voters.

If the ballot measure is successful, the City of Palo Alto would apply funds to critical flood protection projects needed to protect Palo Alto and neighboring communities including the San Francisquito Creek project (Project E5) and the San Francisco Bay Shoreline Protection project (Project E7). Other important benefits include continuing routine Vegetation Control and Sediment Removal for capacity along Matadero, Adobe and Barron Creeks (Project F1), and Continue Emergency Response Planning and Preparedness (Project F2).

We understand that in addition to the specific benefits noted above, this potential ballot measure has yielded the following draft priorities as part of the exploratory process:

- Ensuing a safe, reliable water supply
- Reducing toxins, hazards and contaminants in our waterways
- Protecting our water supply from earthquakes and natural disasters
- Restoring wildlife habitat and provide open space
- Providing flood protection to homes businesses, schools, and highways

The City of Palo Alto supports the opportunity for voters to decide on the Preferred Plan and urges the Board to adopt and place this measure on the November ballot. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Adrian Fine

Mayor, City of Palo Alto

Cc:

Palo Alto City Council

The San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority

Ed Shikada, Palo Alto City Manager