

March 23, 2018

Senator Bob Wieckowski
State Capitol, Room 4085
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Re: **Support for SB 881: Flood control: County of Santa Clara: South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project***

Dear Senator Wieckowski:

On behalf of the Palo Alto City Council, I write to express our support for SB 881. As you know, this bill is a necessary step to authorize subvention funding to the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) for the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project. This project is a congressionally-authorized study by the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Santa Clara Valley Water District, and the State Coastal Conservancy with the goal of protecting the parts of Santa Clara County's shoreline with the highest potential damage and threat to human health and safety from flooding.

Part of this study included an economic analysis and flood risk modeling.¹ The modeling results showed the City of Palo Alto as an area with high levels of potential damages under various sea level change scenarios. As such, our city has a strong interest in continuing the Project and receiving flood risk management strategy recommendations.

We understand that the total design and construction cost for the flood risk management structures, ecosystem restoration, and recreational improvements are estimated to be \$177 million.² The District will provide \$45 million, with an estimated \$4 to \$7 million expected to be eligible for the state flood subventions reimbursement fund. We support your efforts in adding this Project to the list of flood control projects authorized to receive these subventions reimbursement.

Sincerely,



Liz Kriss
Mayor, City of Palo Alto

cc:

Senate Judiciary Committee members and staff
Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee members and staff
Senator Jerry Hill
Assembly Member Marc Berman
Palo Alto City Council
Palo Alto City Manager James Keene
Santa Clara Valley Water District
Townsend Public Affairs

¹ See the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project website, last accessed on March 14, 2018.
<http://www.southbayshoreline.org/faq.html#9>

² See SB 881 fact sheet, from Senator Wieckowski's office

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