

Program Application: 83493097

Linked Pre-Application Form - DO NOT DELETE

Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programs

Grant Amount Requested

\$75,000.00

Organization Name

Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

Urban Grant Program Application Questions

Overview

Type of project (check all that apply)

Grant category (check all that apply)

Environmental Stewardship and Restoration, Parks, Trails, and Public Access, Environmental Education

Project Location: Address / Neighborhood

What is the physical location of the project? If there is no physical location, please enter "N/A." If the project will be in multiple locations, please list all. Note: project location(s) must be within the Authority's jurisdiction.

Guadalupe Gardens: 438 Coleman Avenue, San José, CA 95110

Arena Green: 345 W Santa Clara St, San Jose, CA 95113

Discovery Meadow: 180 Woz Way, San Jose, CA 95110

Project Location

Open Space Authority District of Project Location(s)(check all that apply)

Authority District 3

Who does the project serve? Please indicate which Open Space Authority Districts are served (where do the people served by the program live) (check all that apply)

Authority District 2, Authority District 3, Authority District 4, Authority District 5, Authority District 6, Authority District 7

Project Abstract

The Guadalupe River Park Conservancy (GRPC) will lead Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programs (Program Proposal) a two-year initiative that leverages partnerships and expertise to activate Guadalupe River Park as a hub for environmental education, public wellness, and climate awareness. Through nature-based programs such as bilingual youth enrichment sessions, trail tours and cleanups, horticulture and sustainability workshops, seasonal celebrations, and wellness classes, the project will deepen environmental understanding, promote health and well-being, and strengthen social connections that support collective adaptation to climate impacts.

Project Planning

Describe the proposed project.

The Program Proposal builds on GRPC's proven models of park activation and community engagement to deliver a robust, two-year calendar of programs that connect residents to nature and strengthen resilience to climate impacts. Programs include:

Beginning Environmental Explorers & Animal Encounters: A free bilingual (English/Spanish) weekly environmental science program leveraging the local ecology and our animal ambassadors for children ages 2–6 and their caregivers, held at the Rotary PlayGarden.

Restore & Explore Trail Tours: Guided experiences combining a trail cleanup with a nature tour over two hours, fostering stewardship and awareness of local ecology.

Horticulture Open Hours: Drop-in volunteer opportunities for hands-on learning about plant care, soil health, tree pruning, native plantings, and agriculture and urban ecology in the Heritage Rose Garden, Historic Orchard, and other spaces along the Guadalupe River Park.

Yoga & Zumba in the Park: Free, bi-weekly wellness programs offered March through October, improving physical and mental well-being while increasing equitable access to nature.

Community Events: Seasonal community gatherings that celebrate social connection, civic ownership, environmental awareness, and cultural expression, including the 30th anniversary of our Pumpkins in the Park harvest festival, and burgeoning offerings such as Pride Block parties, Night Markets, and more.

Partnership Engagement, Promotion & Impact Measurement: Build new partnerships with local community service groups, fitness and pet clubs, and sustainability organizations to expand program reach. Strengthen collaborations with Santa Clara County Parks, UC Master Gardeners, and other partners to enhance expertise and visibility. Work closely with the City of San José to coordinate park activation and promotion. Collect participant feedback and track measurable outcomes to evaluate program impact and inform future initiatives.

Describe key project deliverables and estimated completion dates.

50 BEE & Animal Encounter programs: March-October 2026 & 2027

4 Restore & Explore programs: October 2026 & 2027

16 Horticulture Volunteering Sessions: Year-round

30 Yoga & Zumba programs: March-October 2026 & 2027

2 Community events: October 2026 & 2027

Evaluation and impact survey: October-December, 2026 & 2027

Final summary report: December 2027

Does this project require permission, permits, or other approvals? If so, please describe the status of these.

No additional permits are required. GRPC operates Guadalupe River Park under an active management agreement with the City of San José's Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services Department, authorizing program, operation, and stewardship activities.

What is the lifetime of this project? If applicable, describe plans for operating and maintaining the project in the future.

The two-year Program Proposal builds upon the initial two-year pilot program that explored public programming interest along the Guadalupe River Park. This Program Proposal will establish a foundation for long-term recurring public programs at Guadalupe River Park. After the grant term, GRPC will seek additional city partnerships, sponsorships, and philanthropic support to maintain our offerings.

Describe the project's readiness for implementation.

GRPC has a fully staffed Programs and Operations team, established community partnerships, and outreach relationships with elected officials, community groups, and local businesses and media. Nearly all offerings within the Program Proposal have been tested to show additional interest, including those supported by OSA in the 2023 programming pilot grant. GRPC is prepared to launch the grant deliverables upon this round's award.

Project Budget

Budget Summary - Grant Request & Budget Summary - Matching Funds

Grant request: Personnel

\$42,290.00

Grant request: Contracted Services

\$15,000.00

Grant request: Supplies / Materials

\$3,000.00

Grant request: Other Direct Costs

\$7,000.00

Grant request: Indirect Costs

\$7,710.00

Total Matching Funds

\$35,000.00

Total Budget

\$75,000.00

Please upload a detailed version of your budget by accessing the link below:

UGP_Project_Budget_GRPC 2025.xlsx

Materials and Budget Template (item #9) found here: <https://www.openspaceauthority.org/programs/grant.html#Materials>

Provide a brief budget narrative to explain the expenses listed in each of the budget categories (e.g. Personnel).

Personnel (\$42,290): Supports staff time for planning, coordination, and implementation of nature-based programming, including the Education & Programs Manager, Public Programs Coordinator, Volunteer Programs Coordinator, Education Programs Coordinator, Horticulturist, Program Educators (Guad Guides), and Advancement Manager. Personnel costs include preparation, delivery, and evaluation of programs such as bilingual youth education, wellness classes, and stewardship events.

Contracted Services (\$15,000): Covers professional services such as bilingual translation, education training, health & wellness instructors for yoga and fitness programming.

Supplies & Materials (\$3,000): Funds educational materials, art and science supplies, signage, event and volunteer equipment, safety gear, outreach collateral, and program marketing materials that ensure accessibility and engagement across audiences.

Other Direct Costs (\$7,000): Includes logistical expenses for hosting public programs and events, such as permit fees, transportation of materials, accessibility accommodations, and community engagement resources.

Indirect Costs (\$7,710): Represents shared administrative and facility expenses that support program operations, such as accounting, HR, insurance, utilities, and office supplies at ~10%.

Award Amount: The Board reserves the right to award partial funding on projects. If your project were to receive partial funding, what would this mean for your project?

If awarded partial funding, GRPC will prioritize maintaining a balanced representation of program types while scaling event frequency proportionally.

Project Goals

Describe the specific problems, issues, or unserved needs the project will address.

San José residents, particularly those in the downtown and central areas, face limited access to free and inclusive green-space programming that connects environmental learning with health and recreation. While many neighborhoods are geographically close to parks, they remain park-poor—not due to the absence of green space, but because nearby parks are often under-maintained, lack consistent programming, and therefore do not enable residents to experience the full benefits of public parklands.

The Guadalupe River Park, located at the heart of San Jose, provides a unique opportunity to change this dynamic by serving as a well-maintained, activated, and welcoming destination for nature-based experiences that are culturally relevant, bilingual, and family-friendly. This project responds to a clear need for accessible programs that bring people together across backgrounds, promote wellness, and build trust and civic ownership in shared public and natural spaces. By fostering environmental awareness and regular park use, the initiative helps residents strengthen their connection to place, gain tools for sustainable living, and participate in shaping a healthier, more connected San José through the River Park.

How does this project serve the community?

Number of people served

18,000

Number of youth served

8,000

Number of programs provided

100

Other Grantee Goal #1 (optional)**Other Grantee Goal #2 (optional)**

Impact

Describe the lasting impact of the project. Please include whether the program is open to the public and whether any materials developed will be available to the public.

The Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programs Proposal will leave a lasting legacy of environmental awareness, stewardship, and inclusive access to nature in the heart of San José. All programs—youth enrichment sessions, trail tours, volunteer cleanups, horticulture workshops, and wellness classes—are free and open to the public. Participants will gain knowledge of local ecology, climate adaptation, and sustainable living practices that extend beyond the park. Educational resources and workshop materials, such as bilingual activity guides and sustainability toolkits, may be shared online and through partner schools.

The Program Proposal also strengthens park infrastructure and volunteer networks that will sustain stewardship efforts long after the grant term. By empowering residents as co-stewards of the Guadalupe River Park, the project ensures that environmental education, civic pride, and equitable access to nature continue to thrive for years to come.

Climate Resilience

How does this project enhance and/or raise awareness about climate resilience? Please include any metrics that can be used to help quantify or understand the climate benefits of the project.

The Program Proposal advances climate resilience by connecting residents directly to nature-based climate solutions—tree planting, composting, watershed care, and sustainable horticulture—that mitigate local heat and pollution impacts. Participants and youth will engage in environmental workshops, stewardship days, and bilingual enrichment sessions designed to increase awareness of urban forestry, water conservation, and waste reduction. Quantifiable climate benefits include: planting and maintaining new native and climate-adapted trees (supporting local cooling and air quality), engaging over 2,000 volunteers annually in pollution prevention and restoration, and number of participants who attend our offerings.

Each program integrates climate literacy, helping participants understand how small-scale community actions contribute to regional resilience goals. By transforming the River Park into a hub for environmental learning through a breadth of programs, the Program Proposal builds public capacity to respond to climate challenges while improving ecological health across San José's downtown core.

Community Engagement / Stakeholder Support / Community Building

Describe the community support and/or community engagement process. Please upload any community support letters in the Documents Upload section below.

The Program Proposal includes input from local residents, schools, environmental educators, and partner organizations, reflecting years of community-driven collaboration in the Guadalupe River Park. GRPC maintains ongoing partnerships with the City of San José, UC Master Gardeners, San Jose Conservation Corps, Neighborhood Hands, schools and community service organizations, BIPOC-led event producers and artisans/makers, among others, ensuring programs respond to real community needs and long-term equitable uplift through wellbeing and opportunity in parks.

Engagement occurs through public workshops, volunteer programs, and annual community events such as Pumpkins in the Park, which convene thousands of residents for collective celebration. Feedback from participants, teachers, and volunteers informs program design, ensuring cultural relevance and accessibility across languages and abilities. By combining environmental education with social connection, the Program Proposal strengthens civic participation and neighborhood pride—helping residents see themselves as caretakers of the River Park and of each other.

Underserved Communities

Describe how the project addresses open space needs for sensitive populations such as residents of park-poor neighborhoods, underserved, or disadvantaged communities, youth, seniors, persons with disabilities, or is located within an under-resourced community.

The Guadalupe River Park is located in downtown San José, a CalEnviroScreen and Healthy Places Index-identified disadvantaged area where many residents experience poor air quality, limited mobility, and a lack of safe, well-maintained public spaces. While green space surrounds the city center, many neighborhoods remain “park-poor” in function rather than proximity—with barriers such as safety, maintenance, and accessibility limiting equitable use and enjoyment.

This project addresses those disparities by activating the River Park as a free, inclusive, and bilingual open space where youth and residents of all backgrounds can learn, play, and heal through nature. By combining place-based stewardship with community collaboration, the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy transforms an underutilized urban corridor into a safe, vibrant, and restorative environment—one that ensures every San José resident, regardless of income or ability, can experience the benefits of nature close to home.

Organizational Capacity

Briefly describe the organization and its ability to successfully implement this project. This might include successful past projects, key staff qualifications, financial resources, etc.

The Guadalupe River Park Conservancy (GRPC) is San José’s nonprofit partner for the management, activation, and stewardship of the 254-acre Guadalupe River Park & Gardens. Established in 1996, GRPC provides community leadership through environmental education, advocacy, and hands-on stewardship programs that connect residents to nature and to one another.

With nearly three decades of experience managing large-scale partnerships with the City of San José and community organizations, GRPC has demonstrated strong capacity to deliver complex, multi-stakeholder projects. The organization manages more than 200 volunteer and public programs annually, engaging over 2,000 volunteers who contribute upwards of 7,000 hours of park care and environmental restoration each year. In 2025 alone, GRPC coordinated the planting of more than 40 new park trees, restored 200 heritage orchard trees, and hosted free bilingual environmental programs for over 2,400 youth and families.

Across recent years, GRPC has successfully implemented multi-year projects in climate resilience, environmental education, and park revitalization. Past milestones include the Heritage Rose Garden irrigation system overhaul, Historic Orchard 200 tree replanting, launch of various service learning partnership with local high schools, creation of the Guadalupe River Art Walk, development and expansion of the Rotary PlayGarden, and launch of a Native Forage Demonstration Garden with the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe. These projects illustrate GRPC’s capacity to combine environmental restoration, public engagement, and partnership coordination—skills directly aligned with the proposed nature-based climate resilience initiative.

Leadership & Innovation

Describe how this project employs innovative approaches or encourages collaboration and partnerships.

The Program Proposal builds on the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) track record of cross-sector collaboration and creative public engagement. The project integrates environmental education, wellness, and stewardship in one accessible calendar of offerings—bridging climate learning with hands-on restoration and community health.

GRPC's innovation lies in transforming a downtown urban park into a living classroom and resilience hub, where partners across public, private, and cultural sectors co-design activities that reflect San José's diversity. Through collaborations with the County of Santa Clara, UC Master Gardeners, City of San José, and corporate volunteer partners, the project empowers individual ecological knowledge through shared stewardship of a public open space.

Documents Section

Document Uploads (please combine into one file if possible)

GRPC Application Package - Resolution & Letters of Support.pdf

Additional files (if needed)

Additional files (if needed)

Submitted Date - Internal

Summary Field:

Name: Average Score (no bonus)

Form: Staff Review

Summary Type: average

Field: Base Score Total

Decimal: 2

Currency: No

Description/Help Text: NONE

Short Name: NONE

Field Purpose: NONE

Filter:

- ALL:
 - isComplete | is | true

Summary Field:

Name: Total Count of Submitted Reviews

Form: Staff Review

Summary Type: count

Field: NONE

Decimal: NONE

Currency: No

Description/Help Text: NONE

Short Name: NONE

Field Purpose: NONE

Filter:

- ALL:
 - isComplete | is | true
 - Folder | is | Submitted

Program Application: File Attachments

Please upload a detailed version of your budget by accessing the link below:

UGP_Project_Budget_GRPC 2025.xlsx

Document Uploads (please combine into one file if possible)

GRPC Application Package - Resolution & Letters of Support.pdf

Instructions

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority | 2025 Urban Grant Program

INSTRUCTIONS

Please provide a detailed project budget. More information, including a detailed list of direct and indirect costs, is available in the Urban Grant Program Guidelines (<http://www.openspaceauthority.org/urban>). A sample budget is included in a separate tab.

The Budget Form in a separate tab in this document. The budget categories are listed below with a description of each field.

PROJECT

Project Name: The name of the project
Organization: The name of the organization requesting funding

PERSONNEL

Estimate employee and volunteer time directly related to the project. Hourly rates for employees can include salary plus fringe benefits, payroll tax, etc, but can not include indirect costs. Note: please list position titles only.

Position title: Title of each employee working directly on this project. Note: please list position title only.
Description of Budget Item: The amount of time (e.g. hours) and the hourly rate for each employee. Hourly rates can include salary plus fringe benefits, payroll taxes, etc, but can NOT include indirect costs. Please provide adequate detail to show how totals were calculated.
Grant Request: The amount requested from this Grant (if applicable).
Matching Funds: The amount funded through matching funds (if applicable).
Total: This column will be automatically calculated.

CONTRACTED SERVICES

Labor, supplies, and materials to be provided by consultants/contractors for project implementation.

Item: The item listed
Description of Budget Item: Please provide a description of the item with adequate detail to show how totals were calculated.

Instructions

Grant Request:	The amount requested from this Grant (if applicable).
Matching Funds:	The amount funded through matching funds (if applicable).
Total:	This column will be automatically calculated.
SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	
Supplies and materials that are <u>directly related</u> to the project.	
Item:	The item listed
Description of Budget Item:	Please provide a description of the item with adequate detail to show how totals were calculated.
Grant Request:	The amount requested from this Grant (if applicable).
Matching Funds:	The amount funded through matching funds (if applicable).
Total:	This column will be automatically calculated.
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	
Other direct costs that are <u>directly related</u> to the project. This might include travel, service fees for fiscal sponsorship, or newly-acquired equipment.	
Item:	The item listed
Description of Budget Item:	Please provide a description of the item with adequate detail to show how totals were calculated.
Grant Request:	The amount requested from this Grant (if applicable).
Matching Funds:	The amount funded through matching funds (if applicable).
Total:	This column will be automatically calculated.
INDIRECT COSTS	
Indirect costs are eligible for grant funding only for 501(c)(3) Nonprofits and are <u>limited to 20%</u> of grant funding. Indirect costs cannot be counted as matching funds.	
Item:	20% Administrative overhead for Nonprofits
Description of Budget Item:	Any additional description
Grant Request:	The amount requested from this Grant (if applicable).
	The percent of grant funding
Total:	This column will be automatically calculated.

Instructions

GRAND TOTAL	
Grant Request:	This column will be automatically calculated.
Matching Funds:	This column will be automatically calculated.
Total:	This column will be automatically calculated.
COST SHARE	
A minimum of 25% of grant request in matching funds is required. A project budget with less than 25% of the grant request in matching funds does NOT meet the grant requirements and will not be considered for funding.	
Matching Funds:	This column will be automatically calculated.
MATCHING FUNDS	
Please describe the source of matching funds listed above. This might include cash match (e.g. grantee's own funds, donations, grants, etc) or in-kind match (non-cash contribution such as volunteer time).	
Source:	The source of funding (e.g. In-kind contributions, Organization's contributions, Donations, Grant, etc.).
Description:	Any additional description.
kind)	Indicate whether the funding is cash or in-kind match.
Pending)	Indicate whether the matching funds are secured or pending.
Matching Funds:	The amount funded through matching funds.

Budget Form

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority | 2025 Urban Grant Program

PROJECT BUDGET

Highlighted cells are automatically calculated.

PROJECT

Project Name:	Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programs
Organization:	Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

PERSONNEL

Estimate employee and volunteer time directly related to the project. Hourly rates for employees can include salary plus fringe benefits, payroll tax, etc, but can not include indirect costs. Note: please list position titles only.

Position Title	Description of Budget Item	Grant Request (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)	Total
Manager, Programs	grants mgmt, team mgmt)	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
Coordinator, Public Programs	supports marketing	\$ 4,750.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 14,750.00
Coordinator, Volunteer Programs	maintain supplies	\$ 2,380.00		\$ 2,380.00
Coordinator, Education Programs	supplies, support marketing	\$ 2,800.00		\$ 2,800.00
PT Program Educators (Guad Guides)	implementing, reporting on programs	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 26,000.00
Horticulturist	instruction and volunteer mgmt	\$ 3,360.00		\$ 3,360.00
Manager, Advancement	and promotion of programs	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL PERSONNEL		\$ 42,290.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 62,290.00

CONTRACTED SERVICES

Labor, supplies, and materials to be provided by consultants/contractors for project implementation.

Item	Description of Budget Item	Grant Request (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)	Total
Fitness instructor fees	Instructor for yoga, zumba, et al.	\$ 9,000.00		\$ 9,000.00
Equipment rentals and logistics support	includes shade, restroom, stage, etc.	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
				\$ -
				\$ -

Budget Form

TOTAL CONTRACTED SERVICES		\$ 15,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS				
Supplies and materials that are <u>directly related</u> to the project.				
Item	Description of Budget Item	Grant Request (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)	Total
Youth activities, education & animal	supplies	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,200.00
Gardens, ground, horticulture care	Includes tools, irrigation, plat care	\$ 800.00		\$ 800.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
OTHER DIRECT COSTS				
Other direct costs that are <u>directly related</u> to the project. This might include travel, service fees for fiscal sponsorship, or newly-acquired equipment.				
Item	Description of Budget Item	Grant Request (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)	Total
Community events & festivals	sanitation, etc.	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 9,600.00
Youth activities	Equipment & tools, trainings, translation	\$ 600.00		\$ 600.00
Gardens, ground, horticulture care	repair, misc plant mgmt	\$ 1,800.00		\$ 1,800.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL OTHER DIRECT COSTS		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
INDIRECT COSTS				
Indirect costs are eligible for grant funding only for 501(c)(3) Nonprofits and are <u>limited to 20%</u> of grant funding. Indirect costs cannot be counted as matching funds.				
Item	Description of Budget Item	Grant Request (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)	Total
		\$ 7,710.00	n/a	\$ 7,710.00
TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS		\$ 7,710.00	n/a	\$ 7,710.00

Budget Form

PERCENT OF GRANT REQUEST		10.3%	n/a	n/a
GRAND TOTAL				
		Grant Request (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)	Total
TOTALS		\$ 75,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
COST SHARE				
				(%)
A minimum of 25% of grant request in matching funds may be required. This field is automatically calculated.				46.7%
MATCHING FUNDS				
Please describe the source of matching funds listed above. The total matching funds listed here should match the total matching funds listed under Grand Total above. This might include cash match (e.g. grantee's own funds, donations, grants, etc) or in-kind match (non-cash contribution such as volunteer time).				
Source	Description	(cash or in-kind)	Pending)	(\$)
City of San Jose	Support festivals downtown	cash	Pending	\$ 10,000.00
Northrup Grumman	enrichment	cash	Secured	\$ 10,000.00
Knight Foundation	Support Arena Green park activation	cash	Secured	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL MATCHING FUNDS				\$ 35,000.00



**Guadalupe River Park Conservancy
BOARD RESOLUTION**

Resolution of the **Board of Directors (Board)** of the **Guadalupe River Park Conservancy (GRPC)** authorizing GRPC to enter into a grant agreement for funding for a **\$75,000** grant under the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority Urban Grant Program for **Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming (Project)**, located at **438 Coleman Ave, San Jose, CA**.

Whereas, in accordance with the voter-approved Measure T Expenditure Plan, the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (Authority) has established a competitive Urban Grant Program (the Program) for projects that provide healthy and safe open space and park areas and environmental education programs within and near urban areas of Santa Clara County; and

Whereas, GRPC has identified Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming (Project) at 438 Coleman Ave, San Jose, CA. as a priority project; and

Whereas, GRPC believes the Project meets the criteria for the Authority's Urban Grant Program; and

Whereas, the total project cost for the implementation of the Project is \$110,000; and

Whereas, GRPC will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the Project; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that this Board of GRPC hereby finds, determines, declares, and orders as follows:

- 1. Truth of Recitals.** That the foregoing recitations are true and correct.
- 2. Measure T Consistency.** That the Project is consistent with the Measure T Expenditure Plan.
- 3. Authorization.** The Executive Director of GRPC is hereby authorized to conduct all negotiations and submit and sign all documents, including but not limited to, grant agreement, conservation easement, amendments, reimbursement requests as may be necessary for completion of the project.
- 4. Operation and Maintenance.** GRPC has available and sufficient funds necessary to operate and maintain the project.
- 5. Program Guidelines.** GRPC has reviewed, understands, and agrees to abide by the provisions contained in the Authority's Program Guidelines.
- 6. Legal Compliance.** The GRPC acknowledges that it will comply with all federal, state and local laws applicable to the Project.

Passed and adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy on October 10, 2025.

Authorized Original Signature:

Printed Name & Title:

Dr. Sheryl Ehrman, Secretary of the Board of Directors



October 14, 2025

Board of Directors
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

Re: OSA 2025 Grant Program - Support for GRPC's Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programs Grant Proposal

Dear Open Space Authority Board of Directors,

As the District 6 Councilmember with the City of San José, I submit this letter in support of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) **Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming** grant proposal. This grant will support a robust two-year public programs calendar along the River Park with diverse offerings fostering environmental awareness, improving public health, and supporting social connection and resilience.

This grant will enable the GRPC to provide a multitude of community impacts by utilizing environmental stewardship, public programming, active wellbeing, and community engagement. Programs offered will connect stewardship with environmental education, provide free fitness classes, introduce youth to the natural environment, and help develop horticulture skillsets. The River Park will act as a primary third space, essential for developing meaningful social connections through place-based activations, and deepened awareness of our natural environments.

The *Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming* grant proposal aligns with a number of the City's priorities to connect people to nature, promote environmental awareness, and foster healthy communities. With the recent clearing of Columbus Park along the Guadalupe River Park, the City is actively working to re-engage families and communities along the river trail to promote stewardship of the trail and park. Our office is also on the pulse of stitching districts between District 6 and District 3, of which the Guadalupe River Park runs directly through. We've already partnered with multiple community organizations including the GPRC, the San José Sharks, SJ Downtown Association, Clean Creeks Coalition, and many more for this exact purpose – to support social connection and build environmental awareness of this park.

For these reasons, my office is in full support of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's *Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming* grant proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Mulcahy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Mulcahy
Councilmember, District 6
City of San José

— SAN JOSE —
**PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES**

October 14, 2025
Board of Directors
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

SUBJECT: OSA 2025 Grant Program - Support for GRPC's Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programs Grant Proposal

Dear Open Space Authority Board of Directors,

As a Division Manager in the Parks Department in the City of San Jose, I submit this letter in support of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming grant proposal. This grant will support a robust two-year public programs calendar along the River Park with diverse offerings fostering environmental awareness, improving public health, and supporting social connection and resilience.

This grant will enable the GRPC to provide a multitude of community impacts by utilizing environmental stewardship, public programming, active wellbeing, and community engagement. Programs offered will connect stewardship with environmental education, provide free fitness classes, introduce youths to the natural environment, and help develop horticulture skillsets. The River Park will act as a primary third space, essential for developing meaningful social connections through place-based activations, and deepened awareness of our natural environments.

The City of San José's Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) connects residents through parks, recreation, and community programs that promote active, healthy, and inclusive neighborhoods. Managing more than 200 parks, 48 community centers, 10 regional parks, and nearly 63 miles of trails, PRNS provides essential spaces and services that enhance quality of life citywide. The Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming grant proposal aligns with multiple City of San Jose, Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services' priorities to connect people to nature, promote environmental awareness, and foster healthy communities.

- Stewardship
- Equity and Access
- Public Life



Building Community Through **Fun**

SAN JOSE

**PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES**

For these reasons, please accept my support the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming grant proposal

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 408.505-3889

Sincerely,



Torie O'Reilly

Division Manager, Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

Dance Fitness Program

October 10, 2025

Board of Directors
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

Re: OSA 2025 Grant Program - Support for GRPC's Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programs Grant Proposal

Dear Open Space Authority Board of Directors,

As the Zumba instructor of the Dance Fitness Program, I submit this letter in support of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) **Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming** grant proposal. This grant will support a robust two-year public programs calendar along the River Park with diverse offerings fostering environmental awareness, improving public health, and supporting social connection and resilience.

This grant will enable the GRPC to provide a multitude of community impacts by utilizing environmental stewardship, public programming, active wellbeing, and community engagement. Programs offered will connect stewardship with environmental education, provide free fitness classes, introduce youths to the natural environment, and help develop horticulture skillsets. The River Park will act as a primary third space, essential for developing meaningful social connections through place-based activations, and deepened awareness of our natural environments.

The Dance Fitness Program focuses on supporting community members have access to free fitness classes utilizing the city parks. The *Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming* grant proposal aligns with a number of the Dance fitness program priorities to connect people to nature, promote environmental awareness, and foster healthy communities.

- Social Interaction: Participating in a Zumba/dance fitness class, participants could connect with others, socialize and exercise that can improve their mental health.
- The dance fitness classes promote a healthy lifestyle and improving mood and decreasing stress levels.
- The dance fitness classes are suitable for people to all fitness levels.
- Providing free dance fitness classes to people in their community creates a safe and friendly environment in our city parks.

For these reasons, I support the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's *Enhancing Community Climate Resilience through Nature-Based River Park Programming* grant proposal.

Sincerely,

Yadira Vargas

Yadira Vargas
Zumba Instructor