

Program Application: [83518554](#)

Linked Pre-Application Form - DO NOT DELETE

Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action: Youth-Led Environmental Education and Climate Resiliency Ini...

Grant Amount Requested

\$75,000.00

Organization Name

Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action

Urban Grant Program Application Questions

Overview

Type of project (check all that apply)

Grant category (check all that apply)

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.

SVYCA's Climate Resilience Initiative will be conducted both in person and virtually throughout Santa Clara County, with a primary focus on Morgan Hill. Workshops and outreach will occur on high school campuses within the Morgan Hill Unified School District (MHUSD), as well as in the community of Morgan Hill.

Project Location

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

Authority District 1

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 1

Project Abstract

Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action (SVYCA) is a student-led organization that empowers youth through education, leadership, and policy initiatives to advance climate action. With support from the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (OSA), SVYCA proposes a youth-led outreach and education initiative to strengthen climate resilience in Morgan Hill. Through a paid internship program, SVYCA will train six high school students per year to lead community-based environmental education programs and promote local climate solutions. This two-year initiative will engage up to 12 underserved youth in exploring climate solutions, provide real-world sustainability experience, and foster leadership skills development. By expanding access to climate education and sustainability practices, this initiative will foster equitable community planning, create grassroots support for climate resilience, promote land conservation, and train the next generation of environmental leaders.

Project Planning

Describe the proposed project.

SVYCA's Climate Resilience Initiative will launch a two-year, paid internship program focused on high school students in the Morgan Hill Unified School District. The initiative will engage six interns (two per high school across three schools) starting in October 2026.

Interns will receive mentorship from experienced youth leaders via the existing Morgan Hill/Gilroy Action Team (MYCAT) and a part-time internship coordinator (college student).

Together, they will design and lead nine interactive community-wide workshops (June 2026 - June 2028) on environmental solutions. Possible examples of community workshops include: composting, food systems, waste management, renewable energy, community climate planning, environmental justice, and nature-based solutions.

The interns will also develop and deliver community-wide presentations/workshops, conduct outreach to 10–15 local businesses, and create digital content reaching over 500 youth. All content will support AB 285, California's climate literacy mandate, which aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). This initiative will build on the existing 2025 SVYCA climate education teacher training program, funded by Silicon Valley Clean Energy and supported by the Santa Clara County Office of Education. The program emphasizes equity by focusing on reaching students who lack access to school-based environmental clubs or green career opportunities.

Describe key project deliverables and estimated completion dates.**Key Project Deliverables & Completion Dates**

Fall 2026 – Intern recruitment and hiring (6 high school interns); hire a college student or recent grad as a part-time internship coordinator.

Winter 2026–27 – Intern training and mentor matching; presentation/and or workshop curriculum development begins.

Spring 2027–Summer 2028 – At least 9 interactive workshops led by interns; outreach to businesses, the community, schools, and officials.

Fall 2027–Summer 2028 – Continued community engagement, digital content dissemination, climate advocacy initiatives; final community workshop presentations.

Summer 2028 – Community impact report, intern evaluations, including metrics on participants and climate actions implemented; document expansion of Morgan Hill/Gilroy Action Team by at least 50%; share open-access curriculum and outreach materials for public use.

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

No permits are required. Workshop venues are school-based or community-based and will be coordinated with school administrators and local partners. SVYCA has an existing working relationship with MHUSD, and we are currently offering climate literacy training for teachers via SCCOE and MHYCAT. If SVYCA encounters barriers to implementation, we will shift to a community-centered model for outreach.

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

This is a two-year pilot initiative with long-term sustainability plans in place. SVYCA has successfully piloted a similar internship model with Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) in San Mateo County. SVYCA will continue to operate the Morgan Hill/Gilroy Action Team beyond the grant term and maintain partnerships with MHUSD, the City of Morgan Hill, the American Association of University of Women, and local nonprofits. SVYCA anticipates success in Morgan Hill and will seek additional funding to institutionalize this initiative to ensure equitable youth climate leadership experiences. Furthermore, SVYCA staff capacity has grown in 2025, enabling us to support future growth.

Describe the project's readiness for implementation.

The project is ready to begin in Fall 2026. SVYCA already has a track record of launching successful youth internship programs, including a San Mateo pilot playbook. SVYCA also has an established Action Team in Morgan Hill with a proven record of policy collaboration (e.g., supporting the City's first Climate Action Plan). Some curriculum frameworks already exist from prior county-wide initiatives, such as composting, and can be adapted for MHUSD. Organizational capacity and youth leadership pipelines are in place to start immediately upon funding. Staff expansion in 2025 ensures operational capacity.

Project Budget

Budget Summary - Grant Request & Budget Summary - Matching Funds

Grant request: Personnel

\$40,500.00

Grant request: Contracted Services

\$17,000.00

Grant request: Supplies / Materials

\$4,000.00

Grant request: Other Direct Costs

\$6,000.00

Grant request: Indirect Costs

\$7,500.00

Total Matching Funds

\$0.00

Total Budget

\$75,000.00

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

UGP_Project_Budget_SVYCA 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).

The majority of funds support youth internships and staff coordination to ensure equitable access to opportunities. Contracted services cover technical expertise and support services. Materials ensure high-quality curriculum delivery. Other costs include accessibility (translation and transportation). Indirect costs support administration and general operations.

Personnel (\$40,500)

\$24,000 – Stipends for six interns (\$2,000 per year per student x 2 years x 6 students)

\$16,500 – SVYCA staff time for project oversight, youth leadership support, and administrative coordination (~210 hours total over 2 years at \$75/hr).

Contracted Services (\$17,000)

Internship Program Coordinator (Part-time, 10 hrs/month for 20 months @ \$75/hr) to manage intern logistics, community partnerships, and workshop implementation support (\$500 for four speaker stipends).

Supplies/Materials (\$4,000)

Educational workshop supplies, printing, outreach flyers, signage, composting kits, digital software, and tech for presentations (Chromebooks).

Other Direct Costs (\$6,000)

Travel reimbursements for interns (bus/train/local transport), workshop venue rentals, refreshments for in-person events, speaker costs, and school-related engagement costs are included.

Indirect Costs (\$7,500)

General administrative costs (10% of total) include insurance, finance, compliance, technology support, and data tracking systems.

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, SVYCA would implement a smaller-scale pilot, with the number of interns, schools served, and workshops proportionally reduced. The intern hours or stipends may be adjusted accordingly. The program would still launch and maintain its core leadership development and climate literacy goals, but community/business reach, as well as resource development, would be more limited.

Project Goals

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

Youth in Morgan Hill face systemic barriers to accessing environmental education opportunities and green career pathways. Unlike their peers in other districts, students in MHUSD often lack access to environmental clubs, sustainability-focused curricula, and paid internship experiences in their local community. This means that youth who wish to volunteer, intern, or participate in programs often drive 45 minutes to 1 hour away to do so. This results in high barriers for most families (ie. time and transportation costs) as well as detrimental climate effects (ie. car emissions). Additionally, despite California's adoption of AB 285, a climate literacy mandate, implementation in local classrooms remains inconsistent.

This project addresses three intersecting gaps:

Youth voices are often excluded from climate planning and action.

Underserved youth in Morgan Hill lack access to climate literacy, environmental education and AB 285-aligned learning.

Students face structural barriers (low income, immigrant households, limited club or educational opportunities) which result in lack of representation in green career pipelines.

By developing local leadership, enhancing climate literacy, and fostering civic engagement pathways, this initiative directly addresses inequities in education and climate resilience planning.

How does this project serve the community?

Number of people served

500

Number of youth served

300

Number of programs provided

9

Other Grantee Goal #1 (optional)

Media Goal - 500+ youth reached via digital media, blogs, videos, op-eds

Number of youth hired - 6 interns + 1 part-time coordinator (college)

Green Career Goal - 50% of interns pursue STEM/green career pathways.

Other Grantee Goal #2 (optional)

Business Community Goal - 10–15 business and community stakeholders engaged

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 initiative will create a sustainable youth-driven climate leadership pipeline in Morgan Hill. Interns can continue as Action Team leaders or 2nd-year Intern Mentors, sustaining community engagement and resilience work. Curriculum materials will be publicly available and adaptable for other districts. The project will cultivate long-term civic engagement, ensuring youth representation in climate planning.

This project is designed to deliver both immediate and lasting impact by embedding youth leadership within local climate resilience efforts. It will:

Create a cohort of trained youth leaders with real-world experience in civic engagement, environmental literacy, and community organizing. Additionally, this project will provide current SVYCA climate leaders with the professional skill-building experience of developing, managing, and mentoring an internship program.

Seed long-term change by equipping young people with the skills and confidence to lead sustainability initiatives within their schools, neighborhoods, and beyond.

Build community capacity for climate resilience through youth-led education on composting, food systems, green infrastructure, and waste reduction.

Support implementation of AB 285 through teacher and student climate literacy tools that will continue beyond the life of the grant.

Strengthen partnerships among youth, educators, businesses, and local governments to sustain ongoing efforts in environmental stewardship and education.

The program will provide proof of concept to scale this model to other regions.

Yes, the program includes public-facing events, workshops, and digital media campaigns. Educational content and outreach materials (e.g., slide decks, videos, handouts, blogs) will be shared through SVYCA's website and social media and made available for public use.

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.

SVYCA's initiative enhances climate resilience by equipping youth — especially from historically underserved backgrounds — with the knowledge and tools to take local action on climate challenges. The program addresses climate resilience at three levels:

Personal Resilience

Students gain knowledge of climate impacts and solutions relevant to their everyday lives, improving their individual capacity to respond and adapt.

Community Resilience

Intern-led workshops promote practical, place-based solutions such as composting, local food systems, and waste management — all of which directly improve community sustainability and health.

Interns engage in outreach to local businesses and schools, building broader community networks that support climate resilience.

Civic Resilience

The initiative fosters civic engagement by connecting youth with local government, encouraging participation in climate planning, and advancing equity-centered environmental policies.

The initiative supports the implementation of AB 285, ensuring climate literacy becomes a foundational part of the local education system.

By targeting Morgan Hill — a community with known barriers to climate education access — this project expands who is included in climate action. It bridges climate literacy, youth empowerment, and climate justice action, helping build a generation of leaders who can advocate for and implement solutions that protect both individuals and ecosystems in the face of a changing climate.

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.

Community engagement is foundational to SVYCA's model. This project was shaped by local input from students, educators, and regional partners. The following strategies will ensure sustained community engagement:

Youth-Driven Action: Interns will co-design workshops based on peer feedback and lived experiences in Morgan Hill schools.

School District Partnerships: SVYCA maintains a working relationship with Morgan Hill Unified School District and will expand collaboration with teachers, administrators, and parent-teacher groups to ensure broad engagement.

Stakeholder Involvement: The program has support from the Santa Clara County Office of Education, a key partner in advancing AB 285 and integrating climate literacy into classrooms.

Local Collaboration: Interns will build relationships with 10–15 downtown businesses and engage school boards, city officials, and local organizations through presentations and actions. Many of these relationships are currently being cultivated by MHYCAT.

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.

This project directly addresses equity and access for underserved youth in the deep engagement community of Morgan Hill Unified School District (MHUSD). These youth historically lack access to environmental education, urban green spaces, and green-job pathways.

Demographics:

According to the 2023 census, Morgan Hill, CA, has a population of 45,152.

The largest population demographics are: 39% White, 2% Black, 36% Hispanic, 17% Asian.

Over 20% of students come from immigrant households.

As of 2021-2022, ~27% of MHUSD high school students qualified for the free lunch program which became a universal school service in 2025.

Climate and environmental literacy is not consistently available across schools in MHUSD. Nor are green clubs or extracurricular activities that support climate literacy or action.

Community-Based Data:

SVYCA used data from CalEnviroScreen and the Open Space Authority's "Understanding Our Community" report to identify Morgan Hill as a Deep Engagement Community — under-resourced but highly ready to benefit from place-based climate action and leadership opportunities.

Equity-Driven Program Design:

Paid internships eliminate financial barriers to participation.

Workshops are tailored to meet the cultural and linguistic needs of diverse youth populations.

Curriculum materials are aligned with AB 285 to ensure inclusive access to climate education.

Career Development:

The program introduces youth to green career pathways via internship opportunities, including sustainability, climate action, and conservation — fields in which BIPOC and low-income youth are significantly underrepresented.

This program is not only about teaching climate science — it's about closing opportunity gaps and empowering students from structurally excluded communities to shape the future of their neighborhoods and the ecosystems they inhabit.

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.

Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action (SVYCA) is a highly effective, student-led nonprofit dedicated to empowering youth through environmental education, civic leadership, and climate policy advocacy. Since its founding, SVYCA has:

Trained and supported over 150 youth leaders across Santa Clara, San Mateo, and Alameda Counties.

Successfully launched a youth-led clean energy internship program in San Mateo across 3 districts and 4 high school campuses with 8 intern positions.

The organization is expanding from one to three staff members in 2025, ensuring capacity for oversight, mentorship, and program continuity.

SVYCA is experienced in partnering with multiple school districts, county offices of education, and local governments.

SVYCA has demonstrated its commitment to multiple annual events in the past 5 years - including an Annual Climate Leadership Summit (500+ attendees), a Green New Years Celebration (150 attendees), and this year was the inaugural year for SVYCA's Youth Climate Leadership Academy (32 participants, 10 mentors) which has already won grant funding for two more years.

Project-Specific Capacity:

SVYCA currently operates a strong action team in Morgan Hill (MYCAT), which will anchor this pilot.

The Morgan Hill/Gilroy team currently has 8 members and was successful in advocating for the city's first climate action plan.

MHYCAT is currently leading teacher training programs funded by Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) to support the rollout of AB 285 — California's statewide climate literacy mandate.

Interns will be supported by trained youth mentors, the MHYCAT student leaders and a part-time internship coordinator, who will be funded through this grant.

Together, these assets ensure SVYCA is prepared to launch, manage, and sustain this two-year initiative successfully.

Leadership & Innovation

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

Innovation & Collaboration:

This project represents a novel, scalable model for youth-led climate resilience that blends education, empowerment, and workforce development — all rooted in community and equity. This will be the first of its kind in Morgan Hill.

Innovative Approaches:

Peer-to-peer Leadership: Interns are not just participants but leaders — they co-develop curriculum, lead workshops, and shape strategy.

Pilot and Policy Alignment: The program supports the implementation of AB 285, which many schools have yet to act upon. It bridges a policy gap with real-time youth leadership.

Place-based + Digital Strategy: Combining in-person workshops with digital campaigns ensures deeper engagement and broader reach.

Equity-first Design: Paid internships and accessible engagement mechanisms ensure participation by those who have been historically excluded from climate leadership experiences.

Community-embedded Learning: Interns will directly engage with school boards, city governments, and local businesses — real-world platforms rarely available to high school students.

Partnership and Collaboration:

The partnership with the Santa Clara County Office of Education strengthens institutional support and alignment with county-wide climate literacy goals.

Coordination with MHUSD staff and community organizations ensures the program reflects the needs of local youth.

The model builds on and complements SVYCA’s partnership with Peninsula Clean Energy in San Mateo, positioning it for cross-county replication.

This is not just a program — it’s a movement to make youth central to climate resilience planning and environmental justice.

Documents Section

Document Uploads (please combine into one file if possible)

SYVCA Letter of Support.pdf

Additional files (if needed)

AAUW Letter of Rec.pdf

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_SVYCA 2025.xlsx

Document Uploads (please combine into one file if possible)

SVYCA Letter of Support.pdf

Additional files (if needed)

AAUW Letter of Rec.pdf

Budget Form

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority | 2025 Urban Grant Program

PROJECT BUDGET

Highlighted cells are automatically calculated.

PROJECT

Project Name:	Youth-Led Environmental Education and Climate Resiliency Initiative			
Organization:	Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action			

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
Executive Director	budget and grant management	\$ 7,500.00		\$ 7,500.00
Program Manager	compliance	\$ 7,500.00		\$ 7,500.00
Engagement Coordinator	Coordinator as needed	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
SVYCA Interns (6)	presentations, and other projects.	\$ 24,000.00		\$ 24,000.00
				\$ -
TOTAL PERSONNEL		\$ 40,500.00	\$ -	\$ 40,500.00

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
Internship Coordinator	interns on day-to-day tasks.	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00
Speakers	intern cohort.	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00
				\$ -
TOTAL CONTRACTED SERVICES		\$ 17,000.00	\$ -	\$ 17,000.00

SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

Budget Form

				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL OTHER DIRECT COSTS		\$ 6,000.00	\$ -	\$ 6,000.00
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
10% Administrative overhead for Nonprofits	Supports organizational capacity to deliver the program effectively	\$ 7,500.00	n/a	\$ 7,500.00
TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS		\$ 7,500.00	n/a	\$ 7,500.00
PERCENT OF GRANT REQUEST		10.0%	n/a	n/a
GRAND TOTAL				
		Grant Request (\$)	Matching Funds (\$)	Total
TOTALS		\$ 75,000.00	\$ -	\$ 75,000.00
COST SHARE				
N/A				(%)
A minimum of 25% of grant request in matching funds may be required. This field is automatically calculated.				0.0%
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).				

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.

Sample Budget

				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS		\$ 1,600.00	\$ -	\$ 1,600.00
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 (\$) (\$)		Total
Transportation	community events.	\$ 3,500.00		\$ 3,500.00
	school or community center facilities, when free spaces are unavailable.			
Venue rentals		\$ 4,000.00		\$ 4,000.00
Translation & interpretation services	Vietnamese)	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL OTHER DIRECT COSTS		\$ 8,500.00	\$ -	\$ 8,500.00
INDIRECT COSTS				

Sample Budget

TOTAL MATCHING FUNDS				\$ 6,692.00



Santa Clara County Office of Education

Dr. David M. Toston, Sr.
County Superintendent of Schools

Dear OSA Grant Review Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action (SVYCA) in their application alongside MHYCAT for the OSA Grant. I have had the privilege of working alongside youth-led organizations dedicated to environmental education and community engagement. SVYCA stands out as an exemplary model of youth-driven climate action and education.

SVYCA empowers young leaders to advocate for sustainability and climate resilience through education, policy initiatives, and direct community engagement. Their innovative programming has inspired hundreds of high school and college students to take meaningful action in water conservation, climate adaptation, and environmental justice. By equipping youth with the knowledge, skills, and leadership opportunities necessary to make a tangible impact, SVYCA fosters a new generation of environmentally conscious leaders deeply invested in their communities.

One of SVYCA's key strengths is its commitment to collaboration. The organization actively partners with local schools, environmental organizations, and government agencies to ensure its programs are impactful and inclusive. By receiving this grant, SVYCA will expand these critical programs, reaching more students and community members while strengthening its capacity to drive meaningful change.

Additionally, I have had the pleasure of working alongside the MHYCAT team to provide professional learning workshops for educators in their district. They are committed to sharing their expertises and passion.

I wholeheartedly endorse SVYCA's application for this grant. Their dedication to climate education, youth leadership makes them an ideal recipient of OSA's support. I am confident that the funding will enable them to further their mission, educate and inspire more youth, and contribute to a more sustainable future for our region.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me if you require any additional information regarding SVYCA's impact and qualifications for this grant.

Sincerely,

Erin Mongiello

Erin Mongiello
Coordinator, Environmental Literacy & Sustainability, Santa Clara County Office of
Education



American Association of University Women – Morgan Hill Branch
Climate Education and Action Committee (CEAC)
Margaret McCann, Chair
Email: [margaret.mccann@email.com] · Phone: (408) 813-4711

Date: October 7, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write in strong support of the Morgan Hill Youth Climate Action Team (MHYCAT) and their grant application, in partnership with the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, to implement an internship program for high school students in the Morgan Hill Unified School District. This innovative program will provide young people with hands-on environmental education, leadership training, and real-world experience in sustainability—helping to prepare the next generation of climate leaders right here in Morgan Hill.

As Chair of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Morgan Hill Branch’s Climate Education and Action Committee (CEAC), I have had the privilege of collaborating closely with MHYCAT over the past year on our “Bring Your Own Bag” (BYOB) campaign at the Morgan Hill Farmers Market. Together, our groups worked to reduce single-use plastic waste by distributing more than 900 reusable bags and engaging hundreds of shoppers and vendors in conversations about sustainable choices. The enthusiasm, professionalism, and leadership of the MHYCAT members—particularly Ishq Kandhra and Diya Chauhan and their fellow youth leaders—were instrumental to the campaign’s success.

Through our collaboration, I have witnessed MHYCAT’s impressive ability to connect with diverse members of the community, work collaboratively with city officials and local organizations, and communicate environmental issues with clarity and passion. Ishq and their peers demonstrate maturity, empathy, and initiative well beyond their years. Their drive to turn ideas into action reflects a deep commitment to making Morgan Hill a more sustainable and climate-resilient community.

The proposed internship program aligns beautifully with the mission we share in AAUW and CEAC—to empower youth, foster environmental awareness, and promote equity through education and leadership opportunities. I am confident that MHYCAT will bring the same energy, integrity, and creativity to this program as they have to every project they undertake.

I wholeheartedly endorse MHYCAT’s grant proposal and commend the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority for supporting such a meaningful partnership. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information.

With warm regards and full support,

Margaret McCann

Chair, Climate Education and Action Committee (CEAC)
American Association of University Women – Morgan Hill Branch