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Santa Clara County Residents Invited to Provide Ideas for New Program to Expand Neighborhood Parks, Trails, Nature Education, And Community Gardens

San Jose, CA – March 10, 2016: The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority will hold a series of spring meetings to gain community ideas and input on its new Urban Open Space Program. The Urban Open Space Program will be funded by Measure Q which voters passed overwhelmingly in 2014.

“The Open Space Authority recognizes a great need within urban areas for the many health, educational and other benefits of nature and open space,” said Matt Freeman, Assistant General Manager for the Open Space Authority. “The Urban Open Space Program will help communities gain more ready access to nature in their neighborhoods.”

The Authority will host seven meetings throughout its jurisdiction, including one with live Spanish translation and one with live Vietnamese translation. All community members are encouraged to attend a meeting to provide ideas for projects and programs within their neighborhoods. Dessert and coffee will be served.

Through its Urban Open Space Program, the Authority will work with cities, the County, schools and community-based organizations to help improve quality of life for urban residents. Projects and programs will include protecting natural resources such as creeks and wildlife, providing access to nature through parks and trails, creating urban farms and community gardens and engaging children and youth through nature education.

Urban Open Space Community Meeting Schedule:

- March 23, 6-8 p.m., Gunderson High School, Room C2, 622 Gaundabert Ln, San Jose
- April 4, 6- 8 p.m., Morgan Hill Cultural and Community Center, 17000 Monterey St, Morgan Hill
- April 11, 6-8 p.m., Campbell Community Center, 1 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell
- **April 13, 7-9 p.m., Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 2020 E San Antonio St, San Jose. Note: This meeting will be conducted in both English and Spanish.**
- April 19, 6-8 p.m., Berryessa Community Center, 3050 Berryessa Rd, San Jose
- April 26, 6-8 p.m., Santa Clara University, Benson Center, Williman Room, 500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara
- **May 2, 6-8 p.m., Tully Branch Library, 880 Tully Rd, San Jose. Note: This meeting will be conducted in both English and Vietnamese.**



For more information about the Urban Open Space Program, visit openspaceauthority.org.

The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority conserves the natural environment, supports agriculture, and connects people to nature, by protecting open spaces, natural areas, and working farms and ranches for future generations. Visit openspaceauthority.org or call 408-224-7476.