



6980 Santa Teresa Blvd. Suite 100, San Jose CA 95119 Tel: 408-224-7476 www.openspaceauthority.org

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Contact: Patty Eaton, peaton@openspaceauthority.org, 408-224-7476 or 408-712-4041 (Cell)

**Urban Open Space Grant Program to Fund
Urban Parks and Trails, Community Gardens, Outdoor Education, Creek Restoration**
Grant application deadline is August 26, 2016

San Jose, CA – July 12, 2016: The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority is pleased to introduce a new grant program designed to connect more people throughout its jurisdiction with the many benefits of nature. This competitive annual grant program is funded by Measure Q and will provide funding for projects in one or more of these categories:

- Environmental Stewardship and Restoration
- Parks, Trails, and Public Access
- Environmental Education
- Urban Agriculture/Food Systems

Eligible organizations include public agencies, schools and school districts, and nonprofits. The grants range from \$2,500 to \$250,000. The application deadline is **Friday, August 26, 2016**.

The Authority is offering two public workshops to provide an overview of the grant and the application process. Participation is recommended but not mandatory.

- **Tuesday, July 19, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.** Tully Branch Library, 880 Tully Rd, San Jose – Attendees can [register](#) here.
- **Wednesday, July 20, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. ONLINE WORKSHOP ONLY** – Attendees must [register](#) in order to receive the link and access code.

The Authority recently released its [Understanding Our Community: A Community Assessment Project](#) report, which details barriers that prevent residents in its jurisdiction from going outdoors to enjoy nature and reaping its health and other benefits. “The *Understanding Our Community* report will inform the Authority’s implementation of the Urban Open Space Grant Program,” said Andrea Mackenzie, General Manager for the Authority. “The data and findings will guide us to invest in the neighborhoods with the greatest need for parks, trails, community gardens and other open space amenities and achieve the greatest impact.”

For more details on the Urban Open Space Grant Program, visit www.openspaceauthority.org.

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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. Since 1993, the Open Space Authority has protected nearly 20,000 acres of open space, preserving the region’s scenic beauty, protecting water resources and other natural capital, and providing outdoor recreation opportunities for Santa Clara County residents. Visit openspaceauthority.org or call 408-224-7476.