



Incorporated October 22, 1956

# CITY OF SARATOGA

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## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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June 30, 2020

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority  
Open Space Authority Urban Grant Program  
33 Las Colinas Lane  
San Jose, CA 95119

To Whom It May Concern,

The City of Saratoga supports the County of Santa Clara's grant request to receive funding from the Open Space Authority Urban Grant Program. The City believes that this grant funding would provide opportunities for the County to create programs that will have positive impacts on urban forestry in the Santa Clara Valley. The City of Saratoga also supports the County's plan to use the funds toward public outreach in order to increase awareness about the importance of maintaining and creating urban forestry.

Through its practices and programs, the City of Saratoga continues to embrace and promote activities that conserve and develop the urban forest in Saratoga. For example, in 2016 the City challenged its residents to plant 2,020 trees by the year 2020 after Saratoga lost a significant number of trees due to the drought. To achieve this goal, the City developed a partnership with Our City Forest to offer residents discounted trees. By May 2019, the City and the community planted more than 2,100 trees.

Additionally, the City works closely with the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Program to comply with the environmental mandates issued by the CA Regional Water Board. These mandates include the installation of green storm water infrastructure, which result in more permeable landscaping and more trees planted near new development and street improvements.

The City of Saratoga values the County of Santa Clara's effort toward promoting its urban forestry program and urges the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority to approve its grant request.

Sincerely,

*Mainini Cabute*

Mainini Cabute  
Environmental Programs Manager  
Public Works Department