

CINDY CHAVEZ

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

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June 30, 2020

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
Urban Grant Program
Attn: Megan Dreger - Grants Administrator
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

Dear Grant Review Committee,

I write in support of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) grant application for Environmental Educations Programs. The grant will fund field trip scholarships and transportation stipends for Title One schools and groups with special needs in our region for three years.

This grant is in line with the County of Santa Clara's goal to provide vulnerable youth with summer camps and enrichment opportunities:

- GRPC's field trips, offered free of charge to Title One schools, including special needs field trips which are customized to the group attending and their educational needs.
- GRPC's dedication to providing academically rigorous outdoor education that supports students as whole learners, centers student inquiry, promotes executive function development, and is standards-aligned.
- GRPC's mission to develop the next generation of environmental stewards who understand the value of healthy, dynamic green spaces in San Jose's urban core.

I believe that the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy provides a unique opportunity for students to learn about the green, open spaces in their own urban community, and have provided thoughtful alternatives to program delivery to honor Shelter-in-Place orders. The County has committed to supporting the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy by connecting GRPC with the County programs for Probation, CalWORKS, CalFRESH, foster youth and low-income youth.

For these reasons, I am proud to support the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy and I give my enthusiastic support to their application to the Open Space Authority Urban Grant Program.

Sincerely,

Cindy Chavez

President, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors



ALUM ROCK UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2930 Gay Avenue, San José, CA 95127 · Phone: 408-928-6800 · Fax: 408-928-6416 · www.arusd.org

6/25/20

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
Urban Grant Program
Attn: Megan Dreger - Grants Administrator
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

Re: Letter of Support for GRPC's Open Space Authority Grant Application for Environmental Education Programs

Dear Grant Review Committee,

I am a fifth grade teacher at Ryan Elementary and I submit this Letter of Support for the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) application to fund field trip scholarships and transportation stipends for Title One schools and groups with special needs in our region for three years. My class was able to participate in a River/Garden field trip at the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy in 2017 - 2020.

This experience was meaningful for my students because:

- Students participated in meaningful grade level hands- on –activities.
- Students were able to participate in activities aligned to common core science standards
- Students loved playing in the beautiful park and develop meaningful friendships

Being able to participate in future field trips held by GRPC would allow my students to:

- Be aware of factors polluting the Guadalupe watershed
- Aware of their neighborhood
- Be curious and love learning in open air settings
- Learn about the delicate balance in nature

I believe that the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy provides a unique opportunity for students to learn about the green, open spaces in their own urban community, and have provided thoughtful alternatives to program delivery to honor Shelter-in-Place orders. For this reason, I give my enthusiastic support to their application to the Open Space Authority Urban Grant Program.

Sincerely,

Anita Ghosh

Teacher, Fifth grade
Ryan Elementary
1241 McGinness Avenue,
San Jose, CA- 95127

Hilaria Bauer, Ph.D., Superintendent

Board of Trustees: Ernesto Bejarano, President · Corina Herrera-Loera, Vice-President
Andrés Quintero, Clerk · Linda Chavez, Member · Dolores Márquez-Frausto, Member



LUTHER BURBANK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Established since 1906

Edith Mourtos - Superintendent

June 29, 2020

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
Urban Grant Program
Attn: Megan Dreger - Grants Administrator
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

Re: Letter of Support for GRPC's Open Space Authority Grant Application for Environmental Education Programs

Dear Grant Review Committee,

I am a 5th grade teacher at Luther Burbank School and I submit this Letter of Support for the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) application to fund field trip scholarships and transportation stipends for Title I schools and groups with special needs in our region for three years. My class was able to participate in a River/Garden field trip at the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy every year since 2010. And in a few years, we also participated in the Water Festival, which gave students a greater appreciation of water as a natural resource. However, field trips cost money, and for Title I schools, said field trips are not a priority if scholarships are not available. Simply put, had it not been for the scholarships offered by GRPC, we would not have been able to participate. It would be a disservice to students to not support GRPC's request for field trip funds for Title I schools.

This experience was meaningful for my urban student population because:

- students were able to learn about the riparian habitat in action by allowing them hands-on learning experience,
- students find greater appreciation for the environment by becoming a part of it,
- students were able to enter the river and learn hands-on the cycle of the salmon a

Being able to participate in future field trips held by GRPC would allow my students to:

- be learn about how and where the natural environment and human impact intersect, and thus what they can do to help,
- learn hands-on why the urban natural environment is important to protect, and learn its place in the greater interest to preserve the Earth's natural wonder.

Board of Trustees

Norma Castañeda • Mark Lemucchi • Vincent Robinson • Michael Rowe • Jean Tseng

4 Wabash Avenue, San José, California 95128

408-295-1814 • www.lbsd.k12.ca.us



LUTHER BURBANK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Established since 1906

Edith Mourtos - Superintendent

I believe that the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy provides a unique opportunity for students to learn about the green, open spaces in their own urban community, and have provided thoughtful alternatives to program delivery to honor Shelter-in-Place orders. For this reason, I enthusiastically support to their application to the Open Space Authority Urban Grant Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Saba".

Fadi Saba
61 Wilson Avenue
San Jose, CA 95126

Board of Trustees

Norma Castañeda • Mark Lemucchi • Vincent Robinson • Michael Rowe • Jean Tseng

4 Wabash Avenue, San José, California 95128

408-295-1814 • www.lbsd.k12.ca.us

O.B. Whaley Elementary School
Evergreen School District
2655 Alvin Ave, San Jose, CA 95121

June 26,2020

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
Urban Grant Program
Attn: Megan Dreger - Grants Administrator
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

Re: Letter of Support for GRPC's Open Space Authority Grant Application for Environmental Education Programs

Dear Grant Review Committee,

I am a first grade teacher at O.B. Whaley Elementary School and I submit this Letter of Support for the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) application to fund field trip scholarships and transportation stipends for Title One schools and groups with special needs in our region for three years. My class was able to participate in a River/Garden field trip at the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy in 2019-2020 school year.

This experience was meaningful for my students because:

- Many students' families do not have the time or opportunity to take them to visit places such as parks
- The activities involved in the trip support the science curriculum in our first grade program.
- Students gained an understanding of why it is important to keep public spaces free of litter.

Being able to participate in future field trips held by GRPC would allow my students to:

- Learn about animal and plant life
- Gain an appreciation for public parks and natural resources conservations.

I believe that the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy provides a unique opportunity for students to learn about the green, open spaces in their own urban community, and have provided thoughtful alternatives to program delivery to honor Shelter-in-Place orders. For this reason, I give my enthusiastic support to their application to the Open Space Authority Urban Grant Program.

Sincerely,



Hanh Dao



San José
Unified
School District

Anne Darling Elementary



June 26, 2020

Preparing
today's students
to be the
thinkers,
leaders,
and creators
of tomorrow.

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
Urban Grant Program
Attn: Megan Dreger- Grants Administrator
33 Las Colinas Lane
San José, CA 95119

Re: Letter of Support for GRPC's Open Space Authority Grant Application for Environmental Education Programs

Dear Grant Review Committee,

I am a 5th grade teacher at Anne Darling Elementary, and I submit this Letter of Support for the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's (GRPC) application to fund field trip scholarships and transportation stipends for Title One schools and groups with special needs in our region for three years. My class was able to participate in a River/ Garden field trip at the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy in 2017-2020.

This experience was meaningful for my students because our school does not have a fund for field trips, so without a scholarship provided by GRPC, the students at our school would be unable to experience enriching opportunities such as the River and Garden field trip. Our students were also able to apply the science concepts that they learned in the classroom to an outdoor and hands-on application, which provided a broader understanding of their learning while having fun.

Being able to participate in future field trips held by GRPC would allow my students to gain enriching learning opportunities that they otherwise would not have. It would also allow my students to develop an interest in STEM related fields, as well as cultivate a broader understanding of the connection between conservation and human activity, and the impact that it has in outdoor spaces that people occupy.

I believe that the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy provides a unique opportunity for students to learn about the green, open spaces in their own urban community, and have provided thoughtful alternatives to program delivery to honor Shelter-in-Place orders. For this reason, I give my enthusiastic support to their application to the Open Space Authority Urban Grant Program.

Sincerely,

Jessica Sun
5th Grade Teacher
Anne Darling Elementary
333 N. 33rd St.
San Jose, CA 95133
(408) 535-6209 ext. 22173

sjusd.org
408-535-6209
333 North 33rd Street
San José, CA 95133