



PARKS FOR ALL FOREVER™

.May 28, 2020

Megan Dreger, Grants Administrator
The Open Space Authority of Santa Clara Valley
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

Dear Open Space Authority Citizen Advisory Committee:

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy is pleased to express its support of the Santa Clara County Public Health Department Measure Q Urban Open Space Grant application. The proposed JUNTOS Initiative represents a strong partnership with the Santa Clara Valley Pediatric Healthy Lifestyle Center, Santa Clara County Parks, the City of San Jose and other key partners.

We enthusiastically applaud the County's ongoing efforts to promote park utilization to underserved and diverse communities. As a project of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, the Institute at the Golden Gate is dedicated to ensuring the health and wellbeing of all Bay Area residents, especially those with high health needs, through regular use and enjoyment of parks and public lands. We understand that for many families, accessing a park is much more complicated than simply finding one; we applaud this proposal, which focuses on breaking down the barriers that families face in enjoying the parks and building leadership skills of participants with the implementation of a Junior Ranger type model and a Promotora Model.

The County of Santa Clara Public Health Department and County partners including the Valley Medical Center -Pediatric Healthy Lifestyle Center and Santa Clara County Parks is a model partnership between parks and public health departments in tackling larger, community-based challenges of transportation, bi-lingual programming, and accessible public spaces.

As vocal champions of the powerful role of parks in promoting community health, we look forward to supporting this effort and we urge the Open Space Authority's favorable consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Diane Mailey
Director
Institute at the Golden Gate