

June 22, 2020

Katherine Cushing
CommUniverCity San José
McKinley Neighborhood Center,
651 Macredes Avenue,
San José, CA 95116

Dear Ms. Cushing,

The City of San José is pleased to support the proposal titled "CommUniverCity SJSU's Growing Sustainably Program" submitted by the San José State University Research Foundation on behalf of Katherine Cushing to the SANTA CLARA VALLEY OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY - URBAN GRANT PROGRAM.

The City has supported the CommUniverCity, part of San José State University Research Foundation, since 2013 with a general fund grant ranging between \$100,000 and \$125,000/year. A portion of our investment has been directed towards supporting gardening and nutrition education for elementary school students under agreement GF-017-017C (Activity #3) in CommUniverCity's service area. CommUniverCity has demonstrated excellence managing and executing projects funded by the City.

Subject to annual appropriation and fund availability, we expect that the City will continue contributing to CommUniverCity's work educating our youngest residents on sustainable food systems and promoting environmental stewardship. This work will also complement the Housing Department's ongoing work with CommUniverCity's Community Leadership Program, which trains and supports emerging Spanish-speaking leaders in the community. Environmental issues have consistently emerged for the past two years as a key resident concern.

We are proud to be a key partner in CommUniverCity's work and recognize its contribution to our mission of strengthening and revitalizing our community through neighborhood investment.

Sincerely,



Rachel VanderVeen
Deputy Director, Housing Department