# County of Santa Clara

**Parks and Recreation Department**

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June 22, 2020

Board of Directors
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
33 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119

Re: West Valley College Park Management Program application to 2020 Urban Open Space Grant program

Dear Director Kennett and members of the Board,

The Santa Clara County Parks Department is excited about the proposed Feasibility Study for a Public lands Institute at West Valley College (WVC) and fully support the WVC Park Management Program's request for funding from your 2020 Urban Open Space Grant Program.

Santa Clara County Parks (Parks) has long partnered with the Park Management Program at WVC including the provision of classroom space in Sanborn Park where students can gain hands-on experience in parkland stewardship. Parks has benefited not only from the work of students but has hired outstanding employees from program graduates. The vision of the Public Lands Institute builds upon and strategically expands the foundation laid by the Park Management Program. It will be a joint education facility that includes training and stewardship activities that would assist all public land agencies and environmental organizations. The target audience includes underserved populations to create greater access to this type of education and professional training. The program will include both hands on and on-line training and education.

We are committed to assisting WVC Park Management Program meet grant and project deliverables. We will support this project through participation in the feasibility study.

We look forward to working with WVC Park Management Program and its partners to expand access to quality education and professional development in the park management industry.

Sincerely,

Don Rocha

Don Rocha
Director


Board of Supervisors: Mike Wasserman, Cindy Chavez, Dave Cortese, Susan Ellenberg, S.Joseph Simitian

County Executive: Jeffrey V. Smith