



Ms. Luisa Valiela
Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
September 13, 2022

Subject: Support for San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund Grant – Creek Clean Up and Trash Removal in high priority areas in Santa Clara County

Dear Ms. Valiela,

The District 6 Neighborhood Leaders Group (D6NLG), a decades-old association of involved community representatives of the numerous neighborhoods and associations in San José's Council District 6, exists to advocate for San José to become an even more safe, sustainable, attractive, and inviting city.

At our September 12th meeting, the D6NLG voted to support the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) as it applies to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Grant. This grant will help Valley Water to continue supporting cleanups of trash and debris in the waterways of San José, including the Los Gatos Creek and the Guadalupe River here in District 6. Various members of D6NLG have volunteered for years with Valley Water on numerous creek cleanups to remove contaminants and water-flow-impeding debris, and we know first-hand the benefits these efforts bring to our community. And, in addition to funding creek cleanups, the grant will also help fund work to repair and preserve the eroding or damaged creek banks, restore the riparian vegetation and habitat, and expand the homeless outreach program in the city and the county.

The D6NLG urges you to approve Valley Water's grant application.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Lawrence Ames', with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Dr. Lawrence Ames, Chair, D6NLG