From: Michael Kutilek
To: OSA Clerk

Subject: Coyote Meadows: From Concept to Activation Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:30:12 AM

July 21, 2020

Citizen Advisory Committee Open Space Authority of Santa Clara Valley 33 Las Colinas Lane San José, CA 95119

## **Dear Committee Members:**

I write to express my support for Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful's 2020 Large Grant Application titled "Coyote Meadows: From Concept to Activation". Grant funds would be used to implement Phase 1 of the Coyote Meadows Redevelopment Concept Plan with the guidance of the Coyote Meadows Coalition (Coalition).

Activating Coyote Meadows as public urban open space would benefit residents of rapidly-growing Downtown San José. Neighborhood access to transportation and trail connections to a future regional multi-modal transit center will help battle climate change. And, Coyote Meadows will effectively extend Kelley Park located just across Story Road by another 50 acres while offering a connection to neighborhood parks to the north creating a chain of parks.

The Coalition will partner with San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory (SFBBO) who will plan and provide guidance to implement a restoration project along the site's riparian area, removing invasive trees and adding native plants.

Finally, San José State University will work with the Coalition to conduct a survey of resident attitudes regarding Coyote Meadows becoming public urban open space. Sharing survey results with local decision-makers will help them understand the attitudes, expectations, and motivations of nearby residents.

| 11 1          | eek Beautiful's 2020 Large Grant Application, and I urge the Oper support it as well. If you have any questions, please feel free to |
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| contact me at | or   |
| Sincerely,    |  |

[Michael Kutilek, Ph.D., San Jose Resident