

From: Alie Victorine [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 8:16 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: City Council December 19 Agenda Item 7.2

Dear mayor and City Council Members,

We strongly support San Jose's efforts to reduce pollution entering San Jose's rivers and creeks not only because the City is legally required to do so, but because cleaner rivers and creeks will make it safer for residents to enjoy our waterways and allow fish and wildlife to thrive.

As a part of these efforts we advocate that the City invest in green infrastructure projects to ensure that our rivers are healthy and safe for both people and wildlife. Our City's creeks and rivers could be a jewel for our community, and in some places they are, but in other areas the neglect is reducing the safety of our neighborhoods, decreasing the enjoyment of our riparian areas, and harming our native wildlife. We personally have helped remove literally tons of trash and litter from Coyote Creek, both before during and after the floods of February 2017. We know from firsthand experience that the trash entering our streams is coming from multiple sources, but rarely are large amounts of pollution entering where there are parks and managed trails. Green infrastructure should be a part of the City's solution.

We understand that the City is developing a plan to see what it would take to actually reduce pollution to safe levels in our streams – we would like to see that plan fully funded. Reducing pollution through green infrastructure just makes sense: it will green our streets and add parks, making San Jose more livable. Green infrastructure also recharges groundwater, which will help reduce the impact of future droughts.

We strongly urge the Mayor and City Council to look at the benefits of investing in green infrastructure projects for our city.

Sincerely,

Alie and Bruce Victorine

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