

FW: 6/28 City Council 3.4 Support for Lake Cunningham

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Fri 6/24/2022 3:49 PM

To:

- Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

From: Brahms/Edgeview Neighborhood Association <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, June 24, 2022 3:29 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 6/28 City Council 3.4 Support for Lake Cunningham

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Honourable San Jose City Council Members:

My name is Andres Solomonoff, and I am the president of the [REDACTED] Neighborhood Association, a small community in District 8. Our district is home to Lake Cunningham, where East San Jose and Evergreen families have had access to open space and recreational activities for generations.

Unfortunately, due to the years of deteriorating water quality at this lake, Lake Cunningham was closed down, taking away many recreational opportunities for our residents like swimming, kayaking, boating, and more. In addition, funding has never been identified to address this environmental issue.

However, the City has been presented with a rare opportunity to redirect leftover funds from Measure T's Environmental & Flood Protections Projects category to renew Lake Cunningham.

I urge that the City Council appropriate Measure T's leftover funds to revitalize Lake Cunningham for East San Jose and Evergreen families.

In Community Spirit,

Andres Solomonoff

President, [REDACTED] Neighborhood Association

Sent from mobile phone.

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June 27, 2022

San Jose City Council
20 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Via email to: mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov; Chappie Jones <District1@sanjoseca.gov>, Sergio Jimenez <district2@sanjoseca.gov>, District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>, District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>, Magdalena Carrasco <District5@sanjoseca.gov>, Dev Davis <district6@sanjoseca.gov>, Maya Esparza <District7@sanjoseca.gov>, Sylvia Arenas <district8@sanjoseca.gov>, Pam Foley <District9@sanjoseca.gov>, Matt Mahan <district10@sanjoseca.gov>

Re: 6/28 City Council 3.4 Support for Lake Cunningham

Dear Mayor Liccardo and San Jose City Council Members,

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society (SCVAS) is one of the largest National Audubon Society chapters in California. Our mission is to promote the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of birds and other wildlife by equitably engaging people of all ages in birding, education, and conservation.

SCVAS supported and campaigned for Measure T and we write to ask: Please approve the memorandum from Council Members Arenas, Carrasco, and Cohen to direct the remaining Measure T funds toward improved water quality at Lake Cunningham. This action is important for the health of wildlife and humans and allows Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Services to reopen the area, permitting access to nature by residents of East San Jose.

This is an ecological and an environmental equity issue. The City Council has the opportunity to start rehabilitating this critical neighborhood lake that can transform both our nature and underserved communities in East San José. We cannot delay this type of investment any longer.

Sincerely,

Shani Kleinhaus, Ph.D.,
Environmental Advocate,
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

Agenda Item 3.4 Measure T

Jim Carter [REDACTED]

Tue 6/28/2022 6:11 AM

To:

- City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

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The Honorable Sam Licardo, Mayor of San Jose, and

Members of the San Jose Council

200 E. Santa Clara St

San Jose, CA 95113

Via email sent March

Subject: Comments Agenda Item 3.4,

I am the current Chair of the City Of San Jose Neighborhoods Commission, I am writing this on my behalf and not the Neighborhoods Commission.

Measure T as reported is the largest bond measure in the history of San Jose. More than 70% of the electorate voted for this bond measure and authorized up to \$650 Million in General Obligation Bonds for infrastructure projects. Neighbors are willing to pay for public safety and streets to improve the quality of life in San Jose.

I encourage you and the council to approve the recommendations put forth by the Measure T oversight board and the City of San Jose Department of Planning. I commend the oversight board for their diligent work.

As you Mayor Licardo and Council Member Davis stated in your memo you must fund public safety project reserves to help meet the original commitments made to the voters in 2018 to ensure the remaining seven projects get built.

Lake Cunningham was never mentioned by the council as a priority when the measure's project list was put together or presented to the voters in September of 2018. The project would require extensive analysis in order for the project which was stated well after voter approval, to move forward.

I am not contesting that Lake Cunningham needs to be brought back to its restored state. It is an asset to the community and hopefully grant money or other funds can be found to restore the Lake.

Completing the projects outlined in the initial proposal should be completed first, included are the below projects.

New Fire Station 32 This new station could be designed as a dual company station to accommodate the service demands in the Olinder/San Felipe area.

Relocate Fire Station 23 to better serve the residents and neighbors in North San Jose. Fire Station 23 is intended to replace the existing station located on Capitol Avenue at Via Cinco de Mayo.

New Fire Station 36 – Staff has selected a site at the intersection of Capitol Expressway and Tuers Road for the construction of new Fire Station 36. Please accept the recommendations from the Planning Director regarding this Station.

Measure T is a Public Safety Bond Measure and those items stipulated in the measure were voted on and passed by the residents and neighbors of the City of San Jose. Please respect the wishes of those residents who voted for the measure.

Respectfully

Jim Carter

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Agenda Item 3.4, 6/28/22, Measure T for Lake Cunningham

Juan Estrada <[REDACTED]>

Tue 6/28/2022 3:11 PM

To:

- CouncilMeeting <CouncilMeeting@sanjoseca.gov>;
- City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>;
- The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>;
- District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

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Dear City Council,

We ask that you spend the remaining \$3.2 million to address water quality contamination at Lake Cunningham, rather than redirecting it to construction projects. The question at hand isn't whether a proposed construction project is worthy of funding or not. That's a separate topic. The question is whether funds should be shifted from water quality to pay for it. For health and equity reasons, you all intuitively know the answer is No.

Regarding the new proposal to defer a decision: You have an opportunity today to take a step towards rehabilitation of a critical city lake that serves all residents of San Jose. We don't need to wait to determine whether funding is needed. We already know it's needed. Delaying a decision would simply delay action which would delay justice. San Jose residents also understand that Rome wasn't built in a day. The community understands that \$3.2 million will take a step towards improved water quality and that much more will be needed to fully restore and fix Lake Cunningham. There is no need to hesitate and delay justice simply because \$3.2 million won't fix everything.

Lastly, I also ask that you consider that there is also a potential opportunity to leverage the \$3.2 million in environmental funding. As you're aware, most state grant funds expect that there will be a locally-sourced match. A city that applies for grant funding without committing any of its own funding is not likely to succeed. Designating environmental funds for Lake Cunningham could put San Jose in a better position to seek large grants, whether water quality, wetland or urban greening grants.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Juan Estrada



Juan Estrada

Advocacy Associate and Organizer

██████████ | greenfoothills.org

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