



P.O. Box 5374
San Jose, CA 95150
www.lwvsjsc.org
November 4, 2019

Honorable Mayor Sam Liccardo, Vice Mayor Charles Jones, and
Council members: Sergio Jimenez, Raul Peralez, Lan Diep, Magdalena Carrasco, Dev Davis, Maya
Esparza, Sylvia Arenas, Pam Foley, Johnny Khamis
San José City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara St., San José, CA 95113

**RE: November 6, 2019, Item 19-1026, Actions Related to the Purchase and Sale of the
Brandenburg and Sobrato North Coyote Properties**

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the San José City Council:

The League of Women Voters of San Jose and Santa Clara applauds and thanks you for your dedicated commitment to the long-term health and sustainability of our city and of our region. The actions you are about to take on Wednesday are admirable and truly visionary.

The action recommended by staff and the accompanying recommendation to create a Master Planning process led by the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, both speak to the leadership of our city to meet the challenges of climate change sustainability, and address the needs for capture and storage of storm waters, reduction of flooding, essential wildlife corridors, and open space that can be used for public enjoyment, for locally-grown foods, and a carbon sink for our region.

When voters in November 2018 signaled their strong support for building and maintaining infrastructure, a key provision included funding to acquire land in Coyote Valley. It was a clear indication of public support and recognition that natural infrastructure and the benefits of nature play in helping us meet the challenges of climate change.

The quick action by our city to utilize the Measure T funds in such a complex agreement and in partnership with the Peninsula Open Space Trust and the OSA is a true accomplishment. This unique private-public agreement and the investment for our future speaks positively about what a city can accomplish. The League acknowledges and congratulates our city leaders for taking such action. These actions are also consistent with the goals in the newly-adopted Climate Smart San Jose plan.

The League of Women Voters has long been a proponent for land preservation and conservation of our natural resources. We applaud San Jose's leadership in this area at this time.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

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