

FW: Letters from the Public (11/9 City Council Meeting - Item 7.1)

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 11/8/2021 9:46 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Hello!

Letters for the Agendadesk. Thank you so much!

Happy Monday!



From: Emily Schwing <emily@veggielution.org>**Sent:** Monday, November 8, 2021 9:09 AM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Cc:** Cayce Hill <cayce@veggielution.org>**Subject:** Letters from the Public (11/9 City Council Meeting - Item 7.1)

You don't often get email from emily@veggielution.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Good Morning,

I would like to submit these public letters for item 7.1(Long-Term Use Agreement for the Operation of a Six Acre Portion of Emma Prusch Farm Park). Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Emily

--

Emily Schwing
Public Affairs Director
Veggielution

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November 1, 2021

SILICON VALLEY
BICYCLE
COALITION



Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
www.bikesiliconvalley.org
96 N. Third St, Suite 375
San Jose, CA 95112
408-287-7259

Mayor & City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San José, CA 95113

Re: APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM USE AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION
OF A SIX ACRE PORTION OF EMMA PRUSCH FARM PARK.

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, I write to express strong support for the memo from the PRNS staff recommending Veggielution as the long-term operator of a six- acre portion of agricultural space at Emma Prusch Farm Park.

Veggielution is nothing short of awesome. SVBC partners with them on a program to deliver farm boxes by bike to families in East San Jose and on those days, the first Saturday of every month, it is the very best place to be in all of San Jose. If you haven't been to the farm on one of these mornings, you are missing out! If you have been there, then you know that Veggielution is creating a wonderful community space that is much loved. And they have built these types of programs with the utmost thoughtfulness about their place and role in East San Jose.

Veggielution knows what they are doing to steward this precious space. There is no one better suited for the role.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

Shiloh Ballard

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SVBC is a 501(c)(3)
non-profit organization

SAN JOSE CONSERVATION CORPS +CHARTER SCHOOL

November 9th, 2021

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Dorsey Moore

Executive Director/CEO

Mayor & City Council

City of San José

200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor

San José, CA 95113

Re: APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM USE AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF A SIX ACRE PORTION OF EMMA PRUSCH FARM PARK.

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the San Jose Conservation Corps + Charter School, I write to express strong support for the memo from the PRNS staff recommending Veggielution as the long-term operator of a six-acre portion of agricultural space at Emma Prusch Farm Park to the City Council for the purposes producing food and providing educational programming to enhance and support existing Emma Prusch Farm Park programs for the benefit of the community. We at SJCC+CS believe that Veggielution is the entity best suited to retain the park's agricultural history while continuing to improve the space for use by the community.

Acceptance of this recommendation will inform the City Council's decision to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes ("Policy").

In particular, I wish to emphasize that support of this recommendation will allow partnership agencies to help advance the **5 guiding principles** of **ActivateSJ** by:

- Encouraging more long term partnership opportunities with trusted community rooted agencies to operate public open spaces to enhance **Public Life** and **Identity** in our City Parks.
- Ensuring a long term agreement that allows access to more capital-based funding to improve infrastructure in our City Parks to sustain **Stewardship**, **Nature**, and **Equity and Access** in our indispensable City Parks.

In closing, SJCC+CS recommends that the City Council:

- Accept the recommendation to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes.

Please contact me if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Dorsey Moore

Executive Director/CEO

408-459-6402

dmoore@sjcccs.org



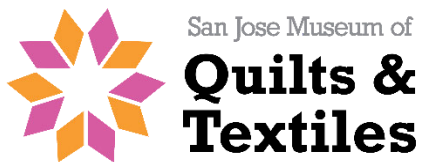
CHANGING LIVES
EDUCATING THE WORKFORCE FOR THE FUTURE

San Jose Conservation Corps + Charter School

1560 Berger Drive, San Jose, CA 95112 Main Phone: 408-283-7171

www.sjcccs.org 501(c)(3) Federal Tax ID: 77-0155997





November 9th, 2021

Mayor & City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San José, CA 95113

Re: APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM USE AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF A SIX ACRE PORTION OF EMMA PRUSCH FARM PARK.

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles, I write to express strong support for the memo from the PRNS staff recommending Veggielution as the long-term operator of a six-acre portion of agricultural space at Emma Prusch Farm Park to the City Council for the purposes producing food and providing educational programming to enhance and support existing Emma Prusch Farm Park programs for the benefit of the community.

Acceptance of this recommendation will inform the City Council's decision to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes ("Policy").

In particular, I wish to emphasize that support of this recommendation will allow partnership agencies to help advance the **5 guiding principles** of **ActivateSJ** by:

- Encouraging more long term partnership opportunities with trusted community rooted agencies to operate public open spaces to enhance **Public Life** and **Identity** in our City Parks.

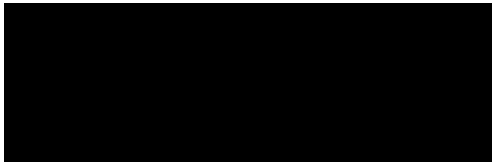
- Ensuring a long term agreement that allows access to more capital-based funding to improve infrastructure in our City Parks to sustain **Stewardship, Nature, and Equity and Access** in our indispensable City Parks.

In closing, the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles recommends that the City Council:

- Accept the recommendation to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (“PRNS” or “Department”) to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,



Shannon Knepper
Marketing Manager
San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles

November 4, 2021

Mayor & City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San José, CA 95113

Re: APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM USE AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF A SIX ACRE PORTION OF EMMA PRUSCH FARM PARK.

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

I have been directly involved with Veggielution since summer 2021 in my capacity as a faculty member in the Dept. of Urban & Regional Planning at San Jose State University. I have been leading a team of graduate students to promote Veggielution's new Pocket Park in the SoFA District. Through this collaboration I have come to fully embrace and appreciate Veggielution's mission to promote urban agriculture in the nation's tenth-largest city.

I write to express strong support for the memo from the PRNS staff recommending Veggielution as the long-term operator of a six-acre portion of agricultural space at Emma Prusch Farm Park to the City Council for the purposes producing food and providing educational programming to enhance and support existing Emma Prusch Farm Park programs for the benefit of the community.

Acceptance of this recommendation will inform the City Council's decision to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes ("Policy").

In particular, I wish to emphasize that support of this recommendation will allow partnership agencies to help advance the *5 guiding principles* of *ActivateSJ* by:


- Encouraging more long term partnership opportunities with trusted community rooted agencies to operate public open spaces to enhance *Public Life* and *Identity* in our City Parks.
- Ensuring a long term agreement that allows access to more capital-based funding to improve infrastructure in our City Parks to sustain *Stewardship*, *Nature*, and *Equity and Access* in our indispensable City Parks.

In closing, I strongly recommend that that the City Council:

- Accept the recommendation to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,


Richard ("Rick") M. Kos, AICP
Faculty Member, Graduate Advisor, Admissions Director, Practitioner-in-Residence
San Jose State University | Department of Urban & Regional Planning
One Washington Square | San Jose, CA 95192-0185



San Jose Parks Foundation

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Downtown Enrichment

Erickson Park

Farmworker Caravan

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Five Wounds Trail

Guadalupe Oak Grove Park

Guardian Art/Saga

Hamann Park Mural

Japanese Friendship Garden

Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful

La Colina Park

Lake Cunningham Park

Martin-Fontana Parks Assoc.

Miner Park

Pueblo Play Playground

Roosevelt Park Roller Hockey Rink

San Jose Family Camp

San Jose Parks Advocates

Santa Teresa Bernal NA

Save Our Trails

Seven Trees - Project Kulitoora

Sherman Oaks Playground

Sons Of San Jose Memorial

South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition

St. James Park

Theodore Lenzen Park

Thousand Oaks Park

United Veterans Council of SCC

Viva CalleJ

James P. Reber

Founding Executive Director

Diana Dunckelmann

Finance

P.O. Box 53841
San Jose, CA 95153

T: 408.893.PARK
sanjoseparks.org

November 2, 2021

Mayor & City Council

City of San José

200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor

San José, CA 95113

Re: APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM USE AGREEMENT FOR THE
OPERATION OF A SIX ACRE PORTION OF EMMA PRUSCH FARM
PARK.

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of San Jose Parks Foundation, I write to express full support for the memo from the PRNS staff recommending Veggielution as the long-term operator of a six- acre portion of agricultural space at Emma Prusch Farm Park to the City Council for the purposes producing food and providing educational programming to enhance and support existing Emma Prusch Farm Park programs for the benefit of the community.

Acceptance of this recommendation will inform the City Council's decision to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes.

In particular, the Foundation emphasizes that support of this recommendation will allow partnership agencies to help advance the *5 guiding principles* of *ActivateSJ* by:

1. Encouraging more long-term partnership opportunities with trusted community rooted agencies to operate public open spaces to enhance *Public Life* and *Identity* in our City Parks.
2. Ensuring a long-term agreement that allows access to more capital-based funding to improve infrastructure in our City Parks to sustain *Stewardship*, *Nature*, and *Equity and Access* in our indispensable City Parks.

To restate our support; San Jose Parks Foundation recommends that the City Council:

Accept the recommendation to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

James P. Reber

Executive Director

Providing private sector support for San Jose's Parks & Trails
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation



November 9th, 2021

Mayor & City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San José, CA 95113

Re: APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM USE AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF A SIX ACRE PORTION OF EMMA PRUSCH FARM PARK.

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy, I write to express strong support for the memo from the PRNS staff recommending Veggielution as the long-term operator of a six-acre portion of agricultural space at Emma Prusch Farm Park to the City Council for the purposes producing food and providing educational programming to enhance and support existing Emma Prusch Farm Park programs for the benefit of the community.

Acceptance of this recommendation will inform the City Council's decision to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes ("Policy").

In particular, I wish to emphasize that support of this recommendation will allow partnership agencies to help advance the **5 guiding principles** of **ActivateSJ** by:

- Encouraging more long term partnership opportunities with trusted community rooted agencies to operate public open spaces to enhance **Public Life** and **Identity** in our City Parks.
- Ensuring a long term agreement that allows access to more capital-based funding to improve infrastructure in our City Parks to sustain **Stewardship**, **Nature**, and **Equity and Access** in our indispensable City Parks.

In closing, the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy recommends that the City Council:

- Accept the recommendation to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,



Jason Su, Executive Director



November 9, 2021

Mayor & City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San José, CA 95113

Andrea Mackenzie, General Manager
Alex Kennett, District 1
Mike Flaughter, District 2
Helen Chapman, District 3
Dorsey Moore, District 4
Shay Franco-Clausen, District 5
Mike Potter, District 6
Kalvin Gill, District 7

**Re: Approval of Long-Term Use Agreement for the Operation of a Six Acre Portion of Emma Prusch Farm Park
[Agenda Item 7.1 on November 9, 2021]**

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (Open Space Authority), I write to express **strong support for the staff recommendation** to grant authority to the City of San Jose's Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) to enter into an agreement with Veggielution as the long-term operator of a six acre portion of agricultural space at Emma Prusch Farm Park for the purposes of producing food and providing educational programming to enhance and support existing Emma Prusch Farm Park programs for the benefit of the community.

The Open Space Authority is a public, independent special district created by the California State Legislature in 1993 to conserve the natural environment, support agriculture, and connect people to nature by protecting open spaces, natural areas, and working farms and ranches for future generations.

The programs at Emma Prusch Farm Park that are led and conducted by Veggielution and PRNS staff and volunteers provide an invaluable service to the community, and their goals closely align with the Open Space Authority's mission and commitment to connecting residents, especially those living in urban areas, to nature. Therefore, the Authority embraces the proposed agreement and the strong partnership that it represents between Veggielution, the City of San Jose, and community residents.

In particular, the Authority wishes to emphasize that support for this recommendation will allow partnership agencies to help advance the five guiding principles of ActivateSJ by:

- Encouraging more long-term partnership opportunities with trusted community-rooted agencies to operate public open spaces that enhance **Public Life** and **Identity** in our City Parks.
- Ensuring a long-term agreement that allows access to more capital-based funding to improve infrastructure in our City Parks to sustain **Stewardship**, **Nature**, and **Equity and Access** in our indispensable City Parks.

In closing, the Open Space Authority urges the City Council to accept the recommendation and therefore authorize the negotiation and execution of a long-term agreement between Veggielution and PRNS, for the benefit of the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

Andrea Mackenzie
General Manager

CC: Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority Board of Directors

November 9, 2021

Mayor & City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San José, CA 95113

Re: APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM USE AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF A SIX
ACRE PORTION OF EMMA PRUSCH FARM PARK.

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), Santa Clara County's Urban Agriculture and Food System Program, I write to express strong support for the memo from the PRNS staff recommending Veggielution as the long-term operator of a six- acre portion of agricultural space at Emma Prusch Farm Park to the City Council for the purposes producing food and providing educational programming to enhance and support existing Emma Prusch Farm Park programs for the benefit of the community.

Acceptance of this recommendation will inform the City Council's decision to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes ("Policy").

In particular, I wish to emphasize that support of this recommendation will allow partnership agencies to help advance the **5 guiding principles** of *ActivateSJ* by:

- Encouraging more long term partnership opportunities with trusted community rooted agencies to operate public open spaces to enhance **Public Life** and **Identity** in our City Parks.
- Ensuring a long term agreement that allows access to more capital-based funding to improve infrastructure in our City Parks to sustain **Stewardship**, **Nature**, and **Equity and Access** in our indispensable City Parks.

In closing, UCCE's Urban Agriculture and Food Systems Program recommends that the City Council:

- Accept the recommendation to grant authority for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services ("PRNS" or "Department") to enter into a long-term agreement for a period of up to 25 years in conformance with Long-Term Use of City Parklands for Private Enterprise Purposes

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

Lucy Diekmann
Urban Agriculture & Food Systems Advisor

