



Midpeninsula Regional
OpenSpace

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

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August 16, 2021

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
70 W. Hedding Street, 10th Floor
San Jose, CA 95110

Dear Board of Supervisors,

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen) would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for considering a partnership with Midpen to protect the scenic ridgeline and important habitats that lie between Lehigh Quarry and Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve. **On Monday, August 16, 2021, Midpen's Board of Directors voted to approve entering into the Memorandum of Agreement with the County of Santa Clara to inspect and enforce the Ridgeline Easement held by the County on Lehigh Quarry lands.**

The Board of Directors believes that by partnering with Santa Clara County to inspect and enforce the Ridgeline Easement, Midpen can better protect Rancho San Antonio's critical habitats and watershed for surrounding communities going forward. The Santa Cruz Mountains are one of the world's biodiversity hotspots, and Rancho, despite centuries of human use, is still home to some of the most iconic, important and threatened species in our area, including mountain lions, bobcats, California red-legged frogs, and a great diversity of birds and mammals.

By partnering with Midpen, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors can help ensure the ridgeline will be protected for its open space and conservation values and to preserve water and air quality, in perpetuity for the benefit of all.

Sincerely,

Yoriko Kishimoto

Yoriko Kishimoto (Aug 16, 2021 17:34 PDT)

Director Yoriko Kishimoto, Lehigh Ad Hoc Committee Chair

cc:

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space Board of Directors
Ana Ruiz, General Manager, Midpen
Kristina Loquist, Office of Supervisor S. Joseph Simitian, County of Santa Clara
Robert Salisbury, Senior Planner, County of Santa Clara
Elizabeth Pianca, Lead Deputy County Counsel, County of Santa Clara
Kirsten Struve, Valley Water, Sr. Water Resources Specialist

Lisa McCann, San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board
Lindsay Whalin, Engineering Geologist, San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board
Roger Lee, Acting Public Works Director, City of Cupertino
John Marvin, Air Quality Program Manager, Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Ed Shikada, City Manager, City of Palo Alto
Brad Kilger, Interim City Manager, City of Los Altos
Mayor Neysa Fligor, City of Los Altos
Brian Schmidt, Legislative Advocacy Director, Green Foothills
Shani Kleinhaus, Environmental Advocate, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
James Eggers, Chapter Director, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
Mayor Kavitha Tankha, Town of Los Altos Hills
Mayor Darcy Paul, City of Cupertino
Eddie Venancio, Business Representative, Teamsters Local 853
Jim Riley, District Representative, Operating Engineers Local 3