



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: January 22, 2025

Subject

Authorization to execute a Joint Use Agreement for Continued Public Access to Santa Clara Valley Water District property situated along a portion of Stevens Creek Trail.

Recommended Action

Authorize the City Manager to execute a new Joint Use Agreement with Santa Clara Valley Water District for ongoing access to the District's property situated along a portion of the Stevens Creek Trail.

Background

The Santa Clara Valley Water District owns property within the Stevens Creek Corridor, and a segment of the Stevens Creek Trail runs through the property. The City and the District executed a twenty-five-year Joint Use Agreement in 1999, and the agreement expired on November 16, 2024. A new twenty-five-year Joint Use Agreement, similar in structure to the existing one, has been negotiated to extend public access and recreational opportunities along the trail. Under the new agreement, the City and Santa Clara Valley Water District continue to retain the flexibility to terminate the agreement at any time during the twenty-five-year period by providing 90 days' written notice.

The agreement facilitates recreational access and effective management and maintenance of the trail, ensuring its continued benefit to the Cupertino community. By formalizing this partnership, both entities reinforce their commitment to enhancing local recreational spaces and environmental stewardship in Cupertino.

Staff recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a new Joint Use Agreement for a term of twenty-five years. Santa Clara Valley Water District has agreed to the Joint Use Agreement as outlined in Attachment A.

Next Steps

The next step for this item is for the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors to approve the agreement. Without this agreement in place, continued recreational access for the Cupertino community may be at risk.

Sustainability Impact

This agreement prioritizes flood protection, stream stewardship, water resources management, and minimizing impact to natural habitat and wildlife.

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact.

California Environmental Quality Act

Execution of the agreement is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under CEQA Guidelines section 15301 (operation and maintenance of existing facilities).

City Work Program (CWP) Item

No.

CWP Item Description

N/A.

Council Goal

Quality of Life.

Prepared by: Daniel Degu, Economic Development Manager

Reviewed by: Christopher D. Jensen, City Attorney

Tina Kapoor, Interim Assistant City Manager

Approved for Submission by: Pamela Wu, City Manager

Attachment:

A – Draft Joint Use Agreement, City-Santa Clara Valley Water District, for Stevens Creek Trail