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May 1, 2019

The Honorable Steven Scharf
Mayor, City of Cupertino
10300 Torre Ave
Cupertino, CA 95014

Re: Proposed New Fee for Clean Water and Storm Water Protection Program: **SUPPORT**

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

On behalf of the Board of the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce, we support the proposed new fees for clean water and storm water protection.

The storm water maintenance and pollution prevention program that started in 1992 has been operating at a deficit because the current fee, which is \$12 per single-family residential parcel per year, does not generate enough revenue to pay for the necessary operations and maintenance needed to proactively service the system and ensure that storm water flowing to the creeks, bay and ocean is clean.

In the current fiscal year, the estimated costs of the program total \$1.197 million, but the revenue from the current fee is only about \$379,000 per year. The amount of the 1992 fee cannot be increased, so it is appropriate that a new property-related fee that would charge only the additional amount of revenues needed to offset the cost to provide proactive maintenance and clean water programs for that individual parcel.

Under the current funding model, repair of a single system failure may cost an entire year's program budget. The new storm drain fee will allow the program to utilize the best practices needed to safeguard our storm water system. In addition to the many significant program benefits including preventative maintenance, education and so much more that directly supports and protects the quality of our community, the fact remains that when storm drains are needed and do not function properly, collateral environmental and economic damage can be extensive.

It is for these many reasons that the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has taken a position of **SUPPORT**, for the proposed new storm drain fees.

Thank you for your consideration of our views on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anjali Kausar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Anjali Kausar, CEO
Cupertino Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Cupertino City Clerk