

March 22, 2021

San Jose City Council 200 E. Santa Clara Street San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

The Guadalupe River Park Conservancy (GRPC) is the City's non-profit partner providing community leadership for the active use and development of the Guadalupe River Park. We believe in and pursue the vision for the Guadalupe River Park and Gardens as identified in the San Jose Envision 2040 General Plan, Guadalupe River Park Master Plan, and Guadalupe Gardens Master Plan. It is with this lens that GRPC offers their support of the staff recommendations Google's Downtown West Project.

There are many key elements of the Project that align with the goals and values of GRPC. We particularly commend the investments in social equity, affordable housing, urban density and mixeduse neighborhoods, increase in urban tree canopy, new parks and public spaces, and highlighting the Los Gatos Creek. The Social Infrastructure Plan is also remarkable and needs to be part of standard consideration of all planning and civic development initiatives in our city.

As the Project progresses through the next phases of development, we look forward to engagement with the Google development team to continue to prioritize thriving ecosystems, stewardship of nearby public resources, fostering public life, and reinforcing connections between the Project and the community.

The Downtown West Mixed Use Project is sited adjacent to San Jose's major transit station, touches two waterways, and extends downtown westward. This Project is an opportunity to realize many city and community priorities, and be a standard in design, development, and public life. We support the Downtown West Project and encourage City Council's approval.

Regards,

Jason Su

**Executive Director** 

Guadalupe River Park Conservancy