

EXHIBIT H

MEASURE

INVESTING IN NATURE

Fiscal Year 2015/2016
Annual Measure Q Status Report
A summary of Measure Q revenues, expenditures and projects

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Annual Measure Q Status Report – FY 2015/2016

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Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

Board of Directors

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District 2 – Mike Flaughner

District 3 – Sequoia Hall

District 4 – Dorsey Moore

District 5 – Virginia Holtz

District 6 – Mike Potter

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Annual Measure Q Status Report – FY 2015/2016

SECTION 1

Introduction and Financial Overview

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Introduction

Since its creation in 1993, the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (Authority) has protected over 20,000 acres of open space and natural areas, preserving the natural beauty and health of our area, and protecting our region’s water resources, air quality, wildlife and scenic views for residents today and future generations. As our region continues to grow, protecting hillsides and open spaces become increasingly important to our community.

In November 2014, voters approved the Measure Q parcel tax, authorizing the Authority to levy a tax of \$24 per parcel annually for 15 years. The tax was designed to produce an estimated \$7.8 million per year in additional revenue for the Authority to continue protecting and preserving new open space areas, protecting and restoring natural areas that buffer our rivers, lakes, and streams, maintaining and operating new and existing open space preserves, constructing new trails and infrastructure on the preserves, and increasing the number of environmental education experiences for the public.

Annual Measure Q Status Report

In order to ensure accountability, transparency and public oversight of all funds collected and allocated under Measure Q and in compliance with Government Code Sections 50075.1(d) and 50075.3, an annual report is provided to the Board on or before January 1 of each fiscal year. The purpose of the report is to explain (1) the amount of funds collected and expended under Measure Q and (2) the status of the projects authorized to be funded by Measure Q.

The financial data provided in this report is derived from the annual independent audit. The project status information is a summary of the Measure Q projects conducted in the same fiscal year. The Authority’s fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of each year.

The *Measure Q Status Report* is prepared by Open Space Authority staff and submitted to the Authority’s Board of Directors. The Authority received the first funds from Measure Q in January 2016 and therefore the first reporting period is for fiscal year 2015/2016.

Financial Overview for Fiscal Year 2015/2016

REVENUES

As determined by SCI Consulting Group, the Authority’s parcel tax administrator, the Authority collected \$7,845,120 in gross parcel tax levies for Measure Q. The Santa Clara County Assessor’s Office collects one percent (1%) of the gross revenue as an administrative fee. As summarized in the financial audit, the Authority received and recorded \$7.767 million in net parcel tax revenues in fiscal year 2015/2016.

Table 1: Measure Q Parcel Tax Revenues		Amount
Gross Parcel Tax Levies		\$7,845,120
SCC Assessor’s Fee (1%)		(\$78,451)
TOTAL NET REVENUES		\$7,766,669

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EXPENDITURES

2015/2016 was this first allocation of proceeds from Measure Q. The Authority initially budgeted expenditures at \$4,217,095. Actual expenditures for all Measure Q expenses in FY 2015/2016 were \$1,764,071.

The following (Table 2) shows the summary breakdown of total expenditures for Measure Q by program.

Table 2: Measure Q Expenditures by Program		Amount
1.	Measure Q Expenditure Oversight Committee Costs	\$7,767
2.	MQ Administrative expenses	\$388,333
3.	Planning Projects	\$97,932
4.	Environmental Education Program	\$128,075
5.	Operation and Maintenance of Open Space Land	\$301,647
6.	Capital Projects & Expenditures	\$447,348
7.	Land Acquisitions & Conservation	\$392,969
8.	Urban Open Space Grant Program	\$0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$1,764,071

1. Measure Q Expenditure Oversight Committee Costs

Measure Q Expenditure Oversight Committee (MQEOC) costs represent expenditures related to the ongoing costs of administering committee meetings. Expenses include fees for the annual audit preparation, expenses for public meetings conducted by the MQEOC, legal costs for MQEOC, and staff time for board packet preparation related to MQEOC meetings. No more than one-tenth of one percent (.01%) of the gross proceeds of the parcel tax shall be expended for the MQEOC's activities.

2. Measure Q Administrative Costs

Administrative Costs represent expenditures related to the ongoing administrative costs of the Authority. Expenses include staff time for board packet preparation related to Measure Q, annual status report preparation and publication, annual engineer's report services, general public communications about Measure Q, and costs related to running the Authority. No more than 5% of the revenue generated by Measure Q may be used for administrative expenses.

3. Planning Project Costs

Planning Project Costs represent expenditures related to program development, conservation monitoring, and resource management projects related to protecting open space lands, wildlife habitats, and water resources. Expenses include consultant fees and staff time. Legal costs and staff time related to capital projects are captured under this category as well.

4. Environmental Education Program Costs

Environmental Education Program Costs represent expenditures related to the development and implementation of programs aimed to increase opportunities for environmental education experiences in urban open spaces and on the Authority's preserves. Expenses include legal fees and staff time.

5. Operations and Maintenance of Open Space Lands

Operations and Maintenance Costs represent expenditures related to the ongoing costs of maintaining new and existing Open Space Preserves, such as safeguarding the health of natural

areas and wildlife habitat, reducing the risk of wildfires, and controlling invasive non-native weeds. Expenses include services and supplies used for vegetation management, resource management, fire management, pest control, waste and hazardous material disposal, and public access maintenance such as signs, fencing, and trails.

6. Capital Expenditures

Capital Expenditures represent costs related to public access improvements, capital improvements, demolitions, and restoration projects. Expenses include design and engineering services, construction, and permit fees.

7. Land Acquisition and Conservation

Land Acquisition and Conservation represent costs related to land preservation through conservation easements or land purchases. Costs include expenditures such as appraisals, land surveys, legal fees, real estate services, escrow and closing costs.

8. Urban Open Space Grant Program

Urban Open Space Grant Program represents the actual expenses incurred in the program. Grant funds are expended after a grantee's project has been completed. Each year up to 25% of Measure Q's net revenue is set aside for the Urban Open Space Grants Program and other urban open space projects.

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Annual Measure Q Status Report – FY 2015/2016

Introduction and Financial Overview

SECTION 2

Measure Q Projects

Measure Q Projects

As stated in the Measure Q Expenditure Plan, Authority Staff are required to file a report with the Board of Directors on the status of projects for the fiscal year being reported. The report provides a look back at the projects funded by Measure Q.

While the Authority has two sources of funding; the District 1 Assessment and the Measure Q Parcel Tax, this report only reports on the projects that received Measure Q funds.

Some of the projects were also funded by outside grants or by partnerships with other agencies. Some also utilized funding from the District 1 Assessment. When applicable, the other funding sources are noted in the project descriptions.

Measure Q Urban Open Space Grant Program

The Urban Open Space Grant Program is funded by Measure Q and offers grants that will benefit communities and neighborhoods within the Authority's jurisdiction. The Authority's jurisdiction includes the cities of San Jose, Milpitas, Santa Clara, Campbell, Morgan Hill and unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County.

The grants are open to non-profits, public agencies, schools and school districts, and are awarded in these four categories:

- Environmental Stewardship and Restoration
- Parks, Trails, and Public Access
- Environmental Education
- Urban Agriculture/Food Systems

In 2015/2016, the Open Space Authority the Open Space Authority began development of the competitive grant program. In the last fiscal quarter of 2015/2016, the Board of Directors awarded a \$308,765 grant to the Children's Discovery Museum for the Bill's Backyard Project. However, grant funds will not be expended until the project is complete and the grantee has requested reimbursement of expenses. No Measure Q funds were expended in FY 2015/2016.

Projects, Programs and Priorities

The Measure Q Expenditure Plan (see Appendix A) states that the Open Space Authority will fund high priority projects distributed throughout the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority's jurisdiction. The projects were identified through a public process that created a vision of conservation for the Authority. The vision plan developed by the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, called the *Santa Clara Valley Greenprint*, identifies high priority open space and natural resource lands as identified in the Plan.

The Expenditure Plan lists four program areas in which Measure Q projects refer to:

- 1. Protect Open Space, Redwood Forests, Wildlife Habitat, Scenic Hillside and Agricultural Land**

Projects categorized under this program include acquisition of land and conservation easements from willing sellers in priority areas such as those in the Coyote Ridge, Upper Pajaro River, and

Santa Cruz Mountains Conservation Focus Areas, as well as coordination of protection efforts through the development of policy frameworks, conservation strategies and tools, and resource management and use plans for open spaces and wildlife habitats.

2. Protect Land around Creeks, Rivers and Streams to Prevent Pollution and Improve Local Water Quality and Supply

Projects categorized under this program include coordinating efforts to protect local water supply and quality, and restoration and capital improvements.

3. Open, Improve and Maintain Parks, Open Space, and Trails

Projects categorized under this program include planning and opening for new open space preserves, designing and constructing new public access facilities on existing preserves, and providing science-based environmental education programs designed and created organically or through partnerships. This program also funds daily operation, management, and stewardship of the Authority's existing lands and public access facilities.

4. Urban Open Space, Parks and Environmental Education Program

As structured by the Measure Q Expenditure Plan, a grant program would be established, with monies set aside to assist municipalities, schools and applicable non-profit organizations within the cities of Milpitas, Santa Clara, San Jose, Campbell, Morgan Hill and urban County areas to create healthy and safe open space and park areas for their communities. Funds are made available through an annual grant allocation process that is subject to approval by the Authority's Governing Board of Directors.

(Refer to Exhibit A of this report for the full Measure Q Expenditure Plan.)

Information about the Conservation Focus Areas referred to in the acquisition and land conservation projects and about the Authority's conservation vision can be found on the Authority's website: [Santa Clara Valley Greenprint](#)

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Summary of Projects Funded by Measure Q as of June 30, 2016

1. Protect Open Space, Redwood Forests, Wildlife Habitat, Scenic Hillside and Agricultural Land

Project Type	Project Number	Project Description	Status	Funds Expended in FY15/16
Acquisition	P-151601 to P-151605	Priority Acquisitions in Conservation Focus Areas #1-5	Ongoing	\$ 4,323
Acquisition	P-151606 to P-1516017	Priority Acquisitions in Conservation Focus Areas #6-10	Ongoing	\$ 35,116
Acquisition	P-151618	Land Purchase – 8.79 Acres – Santa Teresa Ridge	Completed	\$ 234,340*
Acquisition	P-151619	Land Purchase – 50 Acres – Southern Santa Cruz Mountains	Completed	\$ 117,386*
Acquisition	P-151620	Land Purchase – 100.6 Acres – Upper Pajaro Conservation Focus Area	In Progress	\$ 39,608*
Conservation	P-151624	Conservation Easement Monitoring Program	Ongoing	\$ 14,087
Conservation	P-151625	Conservation Decision Support Tool Development	In Progress	\$ 113
Conservation	P-151626	Develop Coyote Valley Acquisition Strategy	In Progress	\$ 18,103
Conservation	P-151629	Develop Sustainable Agricultural Land Policy Framework	In Progress	\$ 7,545
Conservation	P-151643	Develop Coyote Valley Conservation Strategy	In Progress	\$ 3,373
Conservation	P-151656	Develop Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (RCIS)	In Progress	\$ 6,041*
Conservation	P-151636	Pajaro River Ag Preserve Management and Restoration Plan	In Progress	\$ 495
Resource Management	P-151637	Integrated Pest Management Program Development	In Progress	\$ 11,916
Resource Management	P-151641	Vegetation Management Program Development	In Progress	\$ 200
Resource Management	P-151638	Aquatic Habitat Surveys	Completed	\$ 40,921*
Resource Management	P-151654	CVOSP North Meadow Burn	In Progress	\$ 215

2. Protect Land around Creeks, Rivers and Streams to Prevent Pollution and Improve Local Water Quality and Supply

Project Type	Project Number	Project Description	Status	Funds Expended in FY15/16
Conservation	P-151628	Upper Pajaro Greenprint	Completed	\$ 1,948
Capital Improvements	P-151634	Diablo Foothills Gully Restoration	Completed	\$ 256,516*
Capital Improvements	P-151635	Coyote Valley South Meadow Enhancement Project	In Progress	\$ 46,133*

3. Open, Improve and Maintain Parks, Open Space, and Trails

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Annual Measure Q Status Report – FY 2015/2016

List of Measure Q Projects

Project Type	Project Number	Project Description	Status	Funds Expended in FY15/16
Capital Improvements	P-151630	Outdoor Learning Center and ADA Trail	In Progress	\$ 83,319*
Capital Improvements	P-151631	SVOSP Public Access Improvement: Sierra Vista Trail and Bridge	In Progress	\$ 37,491
Capital Improvements	P-151657	CVOSP Public Access Improvement: Pedestrian Bridge	Completed	\$ 5,167
Capital Improvements	P-151653	Rancho Canada del Oro Preserve Public Access: Blair	In Progress	\$ 572
Capital Improvements	P-151632	Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve Public Access	In Progress	\$ 715
Capital Improvements	P-151633	Dexter Canyon Bridge	On Hold	\$ 23,286
Capital Improvements	P-151640	Pea Structure Demolition	In Progress	\$ 2,359
Operations	P-151639	Pilot Field Data Collection System	Ongoing	\$ 1,871
Operations	P-151644	Signs and Fencing	Ongoing	\$ 18,862
Operations	P-151645	Invasive Plant Management	Ongoing	\$ 22,902
Operations	P-151646	Roads and Trails	Ongoing	\$ 62,918
Operations	P-151647	Grazing Infrastructure	Ongoing	\$ 63,631
Operations	P-151648	Vegetation Management	Ongoing	\$ 12,835
Operations	P-151649	Resource Management	Ongoing	\$ 17,680
Operations	P-151650	Wildlife Management	Ongoing	\$ 16,543
Operations	P-151651	Fire Management	Ongoing	\$ 15,968
Operations	P-151652	Waste and Hazmat Disposal	Ongoing	\$ 15,401
Environmental Education	P-151621	Understanding Our Community Phase I	Completed	\$ 30,246
Environmental Education	P-151622	Youth Program Development	In Progress	\$ 14,436
Environmental Education	P-151623	New Environmental Education Programs	In Progress	\$ 37,563
Environmental Education	P-151642	Urban Open Space Grant Program Development	In Progress	\$ 45,738
Environmental Education	P-151655	OSA Website	In Progress	\$ 92

4. Urban Open Space, Parks and Environmental Education Program

Project Type	Project Number	Project Description	Status	Total Funds Expended FY 15/16 [†]
Urban Open Space Grant	G-000001	Children’s Discovery Museum: Bill’s Backyard (\$308,765)	Awarded	\$ 0
Urban Open Space Grant	G-000002	Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAGE) (\$10,000)	Awarded	\$ 0

Project Status

In Progress – this status indicates work has started.

Completed – this status indicates that all milestones have been completed.

On Hold – this status indicates that a project has been placed on hold and the Authority has temporarily suspended all work related to the project due to a number of reasons.

Ongoing – this status applies to the acquisition and conservation easement programs and the operations and maintenance program at the Authority. There is no end date to these programs and the efforts made towards the continued protection and maintenance of open space is ongoing.

Funds Expended or Awarded

* Measure Q funds expended for this project is the net cost to the Authority. The total project cost was also funded with monies from other sources.

† This column provides the approved Urban Open Space grant amounts awarded and set aside in the fiscal year. The dollar amount in this column does not represent cash disbursements made.

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SECTION 3

Project Status Details

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Measure Q Projects Report

Project Number P-151601 to P-151605
Project Name Priority Acquisitions in Conservation Focus Areas #1-5

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Identification of land acquisition and land preservation opportunities in the Conservation Focus Areas as outlined in the Santa Clara Valley Greenprint. Conservation Focus Areas labeled 1 through 5 include the Baylands, Upper Penitencia Creek/East Foothills, Upper Alameda Creek, Coyote Ridge, and Coyote Valley regions.

These Conservation Focus Areas contain productive tidal marsh ecosystems, large watersheds, serpentine grasslands, and valuable farmlands. These areas have also been identified as critical habitats for many rare and endangered species. Strategic acquisitions in the Coyote Ridge and Coyote Valley Conservation Focus Areas also offer the possibility to protect and interconnect over 500,000 acres of open spaces, while conservation in the Upper Penitencia/East Foothills Conservation Focus Area would preserve the Diablo Range ridgeline and increase recreational opportunities for residents of Milpitas and East San Jose's neighborhoods.

Status

Most negotiations for properties in these conservation focus areas are still ongoing as of June 30, 2016.

Milestones Completed

In FY2015/2016, the Authority engaged in conversations with five (5) landowners in these areas for the potential purchase or easement of approximately 6,600 acres of open space.

Upcoming Milestones

As negotiations are still in progress, property, property owner(s) information, and negotiation details are withheld for confidentiality reasons.

Funds expended in FY15/16 \$4,323

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$4,323

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Project Number P-151606 to P-151617
Project Name Priority Acquisitions in Conservation Focus Areas #6-10

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Identification of land acquisition and land preservation opportunities in the Conservation Focus Areas as outlined in the Santa Clara Valley Greenprint. Conservation Focus Areas labeled 6 through 10 include the Upper Coyote, Southern Santa Cruz Mountains, Sargent Hills, Upper Pajaro, and Pacheco regions.

These Conservation Focus Areas boast important local agricultural viability, wildlife habitats, local water supplies, and diverse vegetation. These areas have also been identified as critical landscape linkages, connecting mountain ranges and allowing wide-ranging animals to migrate and disperse between natural areas. Strategic acquisitions in the Santa Cruz Mountains Conservation Focus Area also offer opportunities to expand and connect the Authority's Rancho Cañada del Oro and Uvas Creek Preserves with other county and regional parks and open spaces, while land protection in the Upper Coyote Creek Conservation Focus Area would help close gaps between Anderson and Coyote Reservoirs, Henry Coe State Park, and the Authority's Palassou Ridge property.

Status

Negotiations for properties in these conservation focus areas are still **ongoing** as of June 30, 2016.

Milestones Completed

In FY2015/2016, the Authority engaged in conversations with over eight (8) landowners in these areas for the potential purchase or easement of approximately 7,560 acres of open space.

Upcoming Milestones

As negotiations are still in progress, property, property owner(s) information, and negotiation details are withheld for confidentiality reasons.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$35,116

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151618
Project Name Acquisition of 8.79 Acres on Santa Teresa Ridge

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Acquisition of this property permanently protects this priority conservation area.

Status

Transaction Completed

Milestones Completed

The purchase of two lots totaling 8.79 acres was approved by the Board on September 10, 2015.

Funds expended in FY15/16 \$234,340

The total project cost for the property purchased from the Sanfilippo Family Living Trust was approximately \$839,350, which included the purchase amount, environmental site assessment, legal services, and staff time. The project was funded by the Authority's District 1 Benefit Assessment fund and Measure Q fund, as well as by the City of San Jose's Park and Recreational Services Department through the Authority's 20% Funding Program for San Jose urban park projects. (see breakdown in Table 2).

Funding Source	Fund	Contribution Amount
Open Space Authority	District 1 Benefit Assessment	\$234,340
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$230,010
City of San Jose Park and Recreational Services Department	OSA 20% Funding Program	\$375,000

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151619
Project Name Acquisition of 50 acres in the Southern Santa Cruz Conservation Area

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Acquisition of this property would help protect the Llagas Creek watershed and help improve management of Twin Creeks Road, which often has issues with trespass.

The property is in the Southern Santa Cruz Conservation Focus Area as described in the Santa Clara Valley Greenprint. The property has very steep terrain and is predominately covered in chaparral and oak woodland. Allison Canyon runs through the western portion of the property and drains into Llagas Creek. Twin Creeks Road runs along a prominent ridge that crosses the eastern corner of the property. From the ridge, the property offers stunning views of Uvas Canyon and the ridges around Uvas Reservoir to the southeast.

Status

Transaction Completed

Milestones Completed

The Board authorized the purchase of a 50-acre parcel adjacent to the southern boundary of Rancho Canada del Oro Open Space Preserve (RCDO) in the purchase amount of \$100,000 on September 10, 2015.

Funds expended in FY15/16

The total project cost for the property purchased from the P. Paul Arpin 1993 Living Trust was approximately \$117,386, which included the purchase amount, escrow fees, surveys, legal services, and staff time. The project was fully funded by Measure Q.

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$117,386

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151620
Project Name Acquisition of 100.6 acres in the Upper Pajaro Conservation Area

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Purchase and acquisition of 100.6-acre parcel in the Upper Pajaro Conservation Focus Area. Once acquired will be added to the existing Pajaro River Agricultural Preserve expanding it to 285 acres.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

Under direction of the Board, the Authority entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the Leung Family dated February 16, 2016

On March 24, 2016, the Board authorized the purchase of the 100.6-acre property in the amount of \$1,780,000.

Upcoming Milestones

Escrow is expected to close by December 31, 2016.

Funds expended in FY15/16

The total estimated project costs, including acquisition, is approximately \$2,697,150. The Authority has entered into a **grant agreement with the Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority** that stipulates that the Flood Prevention Authority would reimburse the Open Space Authority for property transaction costs and pre-acquisition costs. The remaining costs related to demolition and remediation will be funded by Measure Q.

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$39,608

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151621
Project Name Understanding Our Community Phase I

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

“Understanding Our Community,” is a community assessment project aimed to provide insight into strategic conservation investments by gaining a deeper understanding of community demographics and barriers to open space access.

The data gathered in the community assessment project serves as the foundation for development of new outreach and community engagement approaches and to inform the Measure Q Urban Open Space Grant Program guidelines and criteria.

Status

Completed

Milestones Completed

A copy of the report can be found online at <http://www.openspaceauthority.org/urban/pdf/OA%20Understanding%20our%20Community%20Report.pdf>

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$30,246

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151622
Project Name Youth Program Development

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Development of environmental education and volunteer programs that are of particular benefit to elementary, middle and high school-age youth. The development of youth programs will provide young participants within the Authority's jurisdiction access to nature and science-based programs as outlined in the Measure Q Expenditure Plan. The Authority is developing these programs to reach portions of the Authority's diverse community as outlined in the Understanding Our Community report (Project P-151621).

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

On March 24, 2016, the Board approved the Policy Regarding Interaction with Youth. In addition, the Authority's monthly Land Stewards volunteer program has begun accepting youth volunteers, in addition to ongoing work with adult volunteers.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$14,436

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151623
Project Name Create New Environmental Education Programs

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Increase and expand Environmental Education Program. Staff designed new environmental education programs delivered on the Authority's Preserves as well as other locations throughout the Authority's jurisdiction. The Authority established partnerships with other environmental educators to reach a more diverse audiences as outlined in the Understanding Our Community report (Project P-151621).

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

In FY 2015/2016, the Authority and its partners conducted more than 200 programs, reaching an audience of over 8,000 participants. This is double the number of participants reached in the previous year. Outdoor educational events and activities ranged from photo hikes to stargazing events to health-related activities such as tai chi and wellness walks to special needs programs at the Rotary Play Garden. Staff time was also dedicated to looking for potential partnerships with culturally-relevant environmental education programming and farm-based ecology and nutrition education.

In partnership with Bay Area Wilderness Training over 30 teachers and youth workers within the Authority's jurisdiction were provided half-day to full-day outdoor leadership education and training.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$37,563

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Project Number P-151624 and P-151525
Project Name Conservation Easement Monitoring Program and
Conservation Decision Support Tool Development

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Development of Conservation Easement Monitoring program and decision support tool.

Status

Ongoing

Milestones Completed

As of June 30, 2016, the Authority holds more than ten (10) conservation easements. Each year, staff conducts annual monitoring and present a current conditions report on each easement.

In FY 2015/2016, staff initiated efforts to refine geographical information system (GIS) tools and conservation metrics in support of the Santa Clara Valley Greenprint implementation and its conservation easement monitoring program.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$14,119

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Project Number P-151626 / P-000024
Project Name Develop Coyote Valley Acquisition Strategy

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

The purpose of the project is to identify and prioritize strategic locations in the Coyote Valley for conservation to protect wildlife habitat and landscape connectivity, water resources, agricultural viability, climate resilience, and recreation.

Status

In Progress

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$18,103

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151628
Project Name Upper Pajaro Greenprint

Expenditure Plan Category 02

Project Description

In partnership with The Nature Conservancy and the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County, the Authority, development of a collaborative document to articulate the many values of the Pajaro River watershed and provide a dynamic gateway for landowners, public agencies, funders, and elected officials to learn, connect, and engage in efforts to maintain this region.

Status

Completed

Milestones Completed

The resulting framework, which can be reviewed at www.pajarocompass.org, is an illustrative analysis and ongoing forum for all members and stakeholders, facilitating future collaboration and shared resources for the protection and restoration of natural areas that buffer our water supply.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$1,948

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151629
Project Name Develop Sustainable Agricultural Land Policy Framework

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

In collaboration with the County of Santa Clara, development of a sustainable agricultural land framework for the Santa Clara County, including GIS mapping, stakeholder outreach, and policy development. The project provide guidance for the OSA, the County and other agencies to plan and protect prime agricultural areas.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

Upcoming Milestones

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$7,545

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151630
Project Name Outdoor Learning Center and ADA Trail

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Planning and development of an Outdoor Learning Center and ADA Accessible Loop and Connector Trail at Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve.

Status

On Hold

The Authority is seeking additional outside funding for this project.

Milestones Completed

In FY2015/2016, the Authority contracted with Callander Associates Landscape Architecture to provide professional design services for the conceptual design of the Outdoor Learning Center.

Upcoming Milestones

Funds expended in FY15/16

In early 2015, the Authority secured a \$200,000 grant from the Santa Clara Valley Water District for the construction of the Outdoor Learning Center and ADA Trail.

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$83,319

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151631
Project Name New Trail Segment at Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Trail expansion project at Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve. Includes installation of 45' fiberglass bridge. The project will expand and create a trail loop system to the existing Vita Point enhancing the preserve user experience.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

Trail work has commenced.
45' fiberglass bridge installed.

Upcoming Milestones

Project completion is expected in April 2017.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$37,491

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151632
Project Name Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve Public Access Planning

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Development of a public access plan for Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

Preliminary public access projects identified include planning and designing staging, trails, public amenities, as well as design and engineering for culvert enhancements.

Upcoming Milestones

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$715

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Project Number P-151633
Project Name Dexter Canyon Bridge Replacement

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Replacement of the Dexter Canyon Bridge located within Palassou Ridge Open Space Preserve. The construction of new abutments and installation of a new bridge is to be located in approximately the same location as the existing bridge.

Status

On Hold

Milestones Completed

As of June 30, 2016, the conceptual design phase has been completed. The Authority contracted with Fall Creek Engineering to provide design and engineering services for the replacement of Dexter Canyon Bridge to ensure the Authority continues to provide safe, well-maintained Preserves, as outlined in the Measure Q Expenditure Plan.

Upcoming Milestones

The Authority is seeking additional funding for engineering and construction costs.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$23,286

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151634
Project Name Diablo Foothills Gully Restoration

Expenditure Plan Category 02

Project Description

Repair and restoration of eroded gully at Diablo Foothills Open Space Preserve. Repair ensures protection of 0.7-acre pond which contains habitat for listed species such as California red-legged frogs and California tiger salamanders.

Status

Completed

Milestones Completed

With Measure Q funding, the restoration achieved to protect wildlife habitat and local water resources.

Funds expended in FY15/16

A **\$22,138.60** grant from the **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program** was awarded to the Authority to offset a small portion of the expenditures.

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$256,516

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151635
Project Name Coyote Valley South Meadow Enhancement

Expenditure Plan Category 02

Project Description

Restoration of the South Valley Meadow is located at Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve. The goal of the project is to improve the site's hydrology and habitat through a series of restoration actions that will stabilize a modified and actively eroding stream channel, remove a series of water diversion ditches that de-water the meadow, create a series of swales and ponding features to slow and capture storm water and reroute it to emergent wetland areas, and replant with a diverse and climate resilient native plant palette.

This restoration project aims to protect water resources, floodplains, wetlands, and riparian corridors as outlined in the Measure Q Expenditure Plan.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

In FY 2015/2016, the Authority contracted with Prunuske Chatham Inc. for design and engineering services in preparation for construction.

Upcoming Milestones

Phase I construction is expected to be completed by Spring 2017.

Funds expended in FY15/16

In February 2014, the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors approved a **grant of \$256,276** for construction of this project.

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$46,133

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151636
Project Name Pajaro River Agricultural Preserve Management and Restoration Plan

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Development of a Management and Restoration Plan for the Pajaro River Agricultural Preserve. The development of the Plan establishes a guiding vision to direct future management and restoration of the Preserve. It is intended that the preserve be used for active agriculture. A portion will also be used for flood management and prevention of the Llagas Creek Watershed.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

Hydrological assessments have been completed.

Upcoming Milestones

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$495

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151637
Project Name Integrated Pest Management Program Development

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Development of an Integrated Pest Management policy and Guidance Manual to ensure that the Authority's program follows best practices and is state-of-the-art. The IPM Policy will provide direction on pest management strategies and priorities. The Guidance Manual will standardize pest management and IPM procedures, be a resource for staff on how to implement the IPM Program, and will be updated periodically as new information becomes available. The IPM Policy and Guidance Manual will be comprehensive, covering a wide range of pest management strategies, including invasive plants and animals in natural areas, structures, recreational facilities, and agricultural lands.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

In early 2016, Staff presented an updated draft policy to the Board.

Upcoming Milestones

A final version of the policy is anticipated to approved in Summer 2018.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$11,916

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151638
Project Name Aquatic Habitat Surveys

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Conduct surveys for the Protection and restoration of aquatic habitat—including ponds, streams and surrounding riparian vegetation—is a high conservation priority for the Authority as these areas provide habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals including sensitive species such as California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and Western pond turtle.

Status

Completed

Milestones Completed

In FY2015/2016, the Authority entered into a contract with Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting to survey thirty-four (34) ponds for sensitive target species, assess the habitat quality, and provide management recommendations. The recommendations would assist the staff to identify and priority restoration opportunities.

In early 2015, twelve ponds were identified in Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve (SVOSP), many of which were located in designated critical habitat for California red-legged frog. After completing the surveys, the Authority expanded the survey effort to ponds on additional open space preserves: Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve, Diablo Foothills Open Space Preserve, Palassou Ridge Open Space Preserve, and Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve.

Funds expended in FY15/16

The total project cost was approximately \$77,570. The Water District contributed \$11,064 which covered the consultant's work done on its Coyote Ridge Preserve. The VHA contributed \$24,794 which covered the consultant's work done on Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve because it is enrolled in the VHA Reserve System.

Agency	Fund	Contribution Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$40,921
Santa Clara Valley Water District		\$11,064
Valley Habitat Agency		\$24,794

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151639
Project Name Pilot Field Data Collection System

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Development of field data collection program to increase effectiveness of the OSA's resource management program and field operations tasks. Implementation of the system will reduce staff time, improve efficiency and support operation and management of the Open Space Authority's lands.

Status

Ongoing

Milestones Completed

Staff completed research on integrating technology into the daily workflow to streamline maintenance tasks. A pilot was launched and staff used tablets to collect field data.

Upcoming Milestones

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$1,871

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151640
Project Name Pea Structure Demolition

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Demolition of structure on 230-acre parcel purchased In 2010. The property is located on the boundary of Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve. A structure on this property has been discovered to contain asbestos and lead paint, and is threatening to collapse into a nearby creek.

Status

In Progress – (NOTE: the structure burned in the Loma Fire which occurred in October 2016. The hazardous materials, however are still present and the project has shifted to removal of those substances.)

Milestones Completed

In FY2015/2016, several surveys, including a hazardous materials survey, biological survey, and an archeological survey, have been conducted to assess the structure and prepare for a demolition.

Upcoming Milestones

Removal of hazardous materials remaining from the Loma Fire.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$2,359

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151641
Project Name Vegetation Management Program Development

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Development of the Authority's Vegetation Management Program includes initiating environmental reviews pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) after planning and establishing milestones for the overall program's three (3) policies.

The Authority's Vegetation Management Program includes the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy and Guidance Manual, the Wildland Fuel Management Policy and Plan, and the Grazing Management Program.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

The Board has provided direction to staff regarding the IPM Policy, and staff has determined an estimated completion of the Wildland Fuel Management Policy and Plan in March 2017.

Upcoming Milestones

Staff anticipates a CEQA evaluation of the Vegetation Management Program in March 2018.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$200

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151642
Project Name Urban Open Space Grant Program Guidelines Development

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Development of the guiding documents for the Open Space Authority's competitive urban open space grant program. Includes the creation of a process and guidelines for the administration of the new grant program.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

In March 2016, Staff presented a draft of the Measure Q Urban Open Space Guidelines and draft Grant Application to the Board. Information about the Authority's grant program was delivered through hosted community meetings, onsite sessions held at the Authority's office, and webinars.

Upcoming Milestones

The grant program is scheduled to be launched in Summer 2016.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$45,738

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151643
Project Name Develop Coyote Valley Conservation Strategy

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

Development of a focused conservation vision and strategy for conserving key areas within the Coyote Valley. Completion of the strategy will provide a roadmap of priorities for conservation of wildlife corridors, agricultural lands, water resources, and natural areas.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$3,373

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151644 to P-151652
Project Name Operations and Maintenance of Open Space Preserves

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

The daily operation, management and stewardship of the Authority's lands and public access facilities. Includes trail and preserve maintenance, resource management such as grazing management, invasive plant management, site monitoring, resource and habitat enhancement, monitoring and maintaining capital structures, and careful stewardship and reporting for contract land management and mitigation.

Status

Ongoing

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$246,739

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151653
Project Name Rancho Cañada del Oro Public Access Planning: Blair

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Development of public access plan at Blair Ranch entrance of Rancho Prepare Cañada del Oro includes preparing plans and completing the CEQA document for a trail connection at the Blair Property.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

Upcoming Milestones

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$572

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151654
Project Name Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve North Meadow Burn

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

The Coyote Valley Meadow Burn is a 10-acre prescribed burn in the north meadow of Coyote Valley in conjunction with our partners at Cal Fire and County Parks. The project goal is to provide a training on wildland fire techniques to OSA staff and to remove invasive species and promote native diversity.

Status

In Progress
Project completion expected Spring 2017

Milestones Completed

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$215

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151655
Project Name New Open Space Authority Website Design and Implementation

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Design and implementation of a new website that will provide increased access to education and general information. Navigation will be simplified and focus on the preserve visitor experience and on providing opportunities to learn more about the natural environment. Additionally, the website will be mobile-friendly and provide ease of access on smart phones and tablets.

Status

In Progress

Milestones Completed

Website design framework has been completed.

Upcoming Milestones

Website launch is expected in spring 2017

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$92

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151656
Project Name Develop Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (RCIS)

Expenditure Plan Category 01

Project Description

The Authority will co-develop and pilot an advance mitigation framework to focus transportation and water impact investments into key conservation sites throughout Santa Clara County.

Status

In Progress

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$6,041

EXHIBIT H

Project Number P-151657
Project Name New Pedestrian Bridge at Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve

Expenditure Plan Category 03

Project Description

Installation of 45' fiberglass pedestrian bridge at Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve.

The Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve Use and Management Plan (Plan) outlines long term goals and objectives that will restore the Preserve's natural resources while providing a program of low impact, high quality open space outdoor recreation and educational experiences for Preserve visitors.

Status

Completed

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$5,167

EXHIBIT H

Project Number G-000001
Project Name Bridge to Nature: Bill's Backyard

Expenditure Plan Category 04

Project Description

Measure Q Urban Open Space Grant Program: In February 2016, the Board approved to provide funding to the Children's Discovery Museum (CDM) in support of its "Bridge to Nature: Bill's Backyard" project.

CDM proposes to create *Bill's Backyard*, a place where children engage in unstructured play that fosters their own discoveries about the natural world and where parents gain comfort in natural places and confidence in their children's abilities to navigate them, which will provide that linking experience. *Bill's Backyard* will be an innovative outdoor nature play space that inspires children and their parents to spend time outside, exploring the wonders and joys that can be found by building, exploring, climbing, rolling, digging and getting dirty.

Status

Awarded grant of \$308,765. Payments will be made on a reimbursement basis.

Grant Information

A portion of the Authority's funding will be applied to design costs and construction, including building ADA-compliant pathways, installation of visitor amenities, and construction of the arbor and garden.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$0

EXHIBIT H

Project Number G-000002
Project Name Coyote Valley Agricultural Outreach and Education

Expenditure Plan Category 04

Project Description

Measure Q Urban Open Space Grant Program:

In FY 2015/2016 the OSA awarded \$10,000 to Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAGE) to expand education of agricultural lands in Coyote Valley. SAGE provides outreach and engagement to farmers and key stakeholders to support Coyote Valley agricultural and conservation efforts.

Status

Awarded grant of \$10,000. Payments will be made on a reimbursement basis.

Funds expended in FY15/16

Funding Source	Fund	Amount
Open Space Authority	Measure Q Parcel Tax	\$0

APPENDIX A

MQ Expenditure Plan

EXHIBIT H

EXHIBIT H

The Open Space, Wildlife Habitat, Clean Water and Increased Public Access Expenditure Plan

A. Summary

Since its creation in 1993, the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority (OSA) has protected over 16,000 acres of open space and natural areas, preserving the natural beauty and health of our area, and protecting our region's water resources, air quality, wildlife and scenic views for residents today and future generations. Governed by a publicly elected board of directors, OSA has used funds wisely, bringing in state, federal, and private grant money, and providing annual audits in a transparent public process.

However, the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority currently faces significant challenges. As our region continues to grow, protecting hillsides and open spaces are increasingly important to our community. If adopted by voters, the Open Space, Wildlife Habitat, Clean Water, and Increased Public Access Measure (Measure) would allow OSA to protect and preserve natural open space areas for future generations by: improving parks, open spaces and trails; protecting land around creeks, rivers and streams to prevent pollution and improve local water quality; preserving wildlife habitat; expanding public access; enhancing environmental education; and protecting scenic hillsides.

The Santa Clara County Open Space Authority will ensure that the revenue generated is spent in the most efficient and effective manner possible, consistent with serving the public interest and in accordance with existing law. The Authority shall use the funding only for the purposes set forth in this Expenditure Plan ("Plan") and it shall give priority to projects in this Plan.

The high priority potential projects listed in the Plan are the result of a broad public engagement process to create a shared vision for the future of the region's open space. This vision plan developed by the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, called the *Santa Clara Valley Greenprint*, identifies high priority open space and natural resource lands as identified in this Plan. If approved, the proceeds from the parcel tax would be allocated to fund high priority projects distributed throughout the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority's jurisdiction such as those listed below.

The Authority may annually review and propose amendments to the Plan to provide for the use of additional federal, state and local funds, to account for unexpected revenues, or to take into consideration unforeseen circumstances, provided, however, that all funds collected pursuant to the Measure shall be used solely for the purposes of this Plan as presented to the voters.

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B. Program Descriptions

1. Protect Open Space, Redwood Forests, Wildlife Habitat, Scenic Hillside and Agricultural Land

The purpose of this program is to permanently protect new open space lands essential to completing connections in the region's park, open space and habitat systems as identified in the Authority's *Santa Clara Valley Greenprint*, the *County Parks Acquisition Plan*, *Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan*, and other adopted plans.

- a. Ensure permanent protection of essential open space, water resources and wildlife habitat. Areas for open space protection can include but are not limited to Baylands, East San Jose Foothills, Upper Alameda Creek Watershed, Coyote Ridge, Coyote Valley, Upper Coyote Creek Watershed, Southern Santa Cruz Mountains, Sargent Hills, Upper Pajaro River Watershed, Pacheco Creek Watershed. Protect, restore and enhance critical habitat to implement the Valley Habitat Plan such as serpentine grasslands, wetlands, redwood forests and riparian areas along creeks, rivers and streams.
- b. Leverage public and private funding and coordinate protection efforts to complete critical open space preservation
- c. Conserve the region's last remaining farmland and rangelands in and around areas such as the Coyote Valley, Morgan Hill, Gilroy and Pajaro River to protect local food and maintain environmental benefits provided by agricultural lands including water supply, groundwater recharge, flood risk reduction, and habitat protection.
 - i. Conserve high priority farmland and rangelands through voluntary agreements with willing landowners.
 - ii. Provide grants to resource conservation districts (RCDs) and other agricultural organizations to work with farmers and ranchers to promote natural resource stewardship.

2. Protect Land around Creeks, Rivers and Streams to Prevent Pollution and Improve Local Water Quality and Supply

The purpose of this program is to protect and restore natural areas that buffer our rivers, lakes and streams, including the Guadalupe River, Coyote Creek, Fisher Creek, Penitencia Creek, Upper Alameda Creek, Uvas Creek, Llagas Creek, Pacheco Creek, Pescadero Creek and the Pajaro River to protect water supply and water quality.

- a. Protect clean, safe drinking water supplies by restoring and enhancing natural areas around local creeks, rivers and streams from their headwaters in the hills to the Bay.
- b. Preserve key open space areas to enhance local water supply and recharge groundwater.
- c. Protect water resources, floodplains, wetlands and riparian corridors.

3. Open, Improve and Maintain Parks, Open Space, and Trails

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The purpose of this program is to maintain existing Open Space Preserves, safeguard the health of natural areas and wildlife habitat; reduce the risk of wildfires; provide more hiking and walking trails and increase opportunities for environmental education experiences.

- a. Open and expand Preserves on existing lands, including more trails for walking, hiking and biking and more access points for residents. Develop science-based environmental education programs and facilities, trails, and other public access facilities in appropriate locations including East San Jose/Penitencia Creek/Milpitas Foothills, Coyote Ridge, Coyote Valley, Morgan Hill El Toro Peak, Almaden Valley/Santa Teresa Hills.
- b. Construct new trails and close gaps in regional hiking and bicycle trails (such as the Bay Area Ridge Trail, San Francisco Bay Trail, Coyote Creek Trail and Guadalupe River).
- c. Reduce the risk of wildfire near communities, protect air and water quality and control invasive, non-native weeds through vegetation management in coordination with fire districts, cities and the County.
- d. Provide safe, well-maintained Open Space Preserves and recreational trails, including the Bay Area Ridge Trail, San Francisco Bay Trail, Guadalupe River Trail and Coyote Creek Trail.
- e. Work with qualified organizations and entities, including, but not limited to, the California Conservation Corps, the San Jose Conservation Corps, AmeriCorps and others, to maintain facilities in Open Space Preserves including, but not limited to, cultural and historic structures, bridges, roads, and other infrastructure.
- f. Prevent pollution and vandalism of open space, water resources and wildlife habitat.

4. Urban Open Space, Parks and Environmental Education Program

The purpose of this Grant Program is to assist municipalities, schools and applicable non-profit organizations within the cities of Milpitas, Santa Clara, San Jose, Campbell, Morgan Hill and urban County areas to create healthy and safe open space and park areas for their communities by creating or improving parks, preserving open space and maintaining or creating trails; enhancing and restoring habitat, natural resources and water resources; and enhancing access to healthy food through urban farms and gardens.

No more than 25 percent of the revenues generated by this funding measure will be made available for this Grant Program. The Grant Program would provide grants to cities, the County, schools and non-profit organizations on a competitive basis for the types of projects listed below within the boundaries of the OSA. Funds shall be available through an annual grant allocation process designed by the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, in coordination with cities, the County, schools and non-profit organizations within the boundaries of the OSA. Grant allocations shall reward a diversity of projects and be balanced geographically across the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority's jurisdiction. The grant allocation process and the individual projects shall be subject to approval by the Authority's Governing Board of Directors ("Board").

Urban Open Space Project Criteria:

- a. Protect and enhance open space, wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors, and develop land for nature-based parks, open space preserves, trails and greenbelts.

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- b. Create, develop and implement pedestrian and bicycle trail connections to connect urban communities to local and regional parks, Open Space Preserves, creeks and flood control channels, to improve public health (i.e. San Francisco Bay Trail, Coyote Creek, Guadalupe River, Silver Creek, Thompson Creek, Penitencia Creek, Three Creeks Trail, Five Wounds Trail).
- c. Implement urban tree planting and tree protection/maintenance.
- d. Create and expand urban farms and community gardens to support public health and local agriculture.
- e. Expand nature and science-based environmental education programs and hands-on youth engagement projects.

EXAMPLES OF HIGH PRIORITY POTENTIAL PROJECTS AND GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

1. San Francisco Baylands Restoration: Increase wildlife habitat and reduce pollution by restoring salt ponds to tidal marsh, provide enhanced flood control, and develop new public access to the Bay
2. Alviso Adobe and Higuera Adobe Parks: Establish Alviso Adobe as a historical museum, and refurbish the historic Caretaker's Cottage in Higuera Adobe Park in collaboration with the City of Milpitas
3. San Francisco Bay Trail: Increase public access by closing gaps in Bay Trail walking and biking trail connections
4. San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail: Provide Water Trail public access amenities at Alviso Marina
5. Ulistac Natural Area: Increase educational programming, and restore natural habitat
6. Sierra Vista: Establish staging area and trails, convert historic residence to visitor hostel, restore pond and wildlife habitats for endangered species
7. Penitencia Creek Trail: Complete trail linking Penitencia Creek community to Alum Rock Park and Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve
8. Guadalupe River Nature Center and Environmental Programming: Partner with nonprofits to establish outdoor environmental education learning center and interpretive programming for youth and families
9. Five Wounds Trail: Develop additional trails connecting to future public transit station
10. Coyote Creek Trail: Expand walking and biking trail connections and restore natural habitats
11. Silver Creek Trail: Increase walking and biking opportunities by creating connections to regional trails, parks and transit
12. Three Creeks Trail: Complete eastern trail alignment
13. San Tomas Aquino /Saratoga Creek Trail: Construct walking and biking trails through cities of Campbell and Santa Clara

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14. Thompson Creek Trail Improvements: Complete walking and biking trail improvements
15. Guadalupe River Trail: Expand walking and biking trail connections
16. Martial Cottle Park: Partner with County Parks to develop trail link to Blossom Hill Light Rail Station and implement recreation and wetland restoration projects
17. Santa Teresa Hills: Partner with City of San Jose, County and Santa Teresa Neighborhood Association to protect land and develop regional ridgeline trail connections to create more access to local trails
18. Coyote Ridge: Establish new open space preserve with parking and regional trails, and protect and restore habitat for endangered species
19. Calero County Park: Partner with County to establish a staging area, public access and trails at Rancho San Vicente and at McKean Road
20. Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve: Build an outdoor learning center and a loop trail accessible to seniors and people with disabilities, and restore and enhance wetland habitat
21. Coyote Valley Agriculture and Natural Resource Reserve: Preserve agricultural lands, enhance natural resources, establish public access, and protect wildlife corridor
22. Youth Agricultural Education and Demonstration Farm: Partner with Cities of San Jose, Morgan Hill, Sobrato High School, nonprofits and agricultural organizations to establish an agricultural education and demonstration farm in the Coyote Valley Greenbelt
23. Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve: Restore wildlife habitat, build an interactive education center, and construct new staging area and regional trails for increased public access
24. El Toro Peak: Partner with City of Morgan Hill to establish an open space preserve with staging area and trails, and restore natural habitat
25. Southern Santa Cruz Mountains: Establish regional trail connections between Uvas Reservoir, Uvas County Park and Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve, develop staging area, and protect wildlife corridor
26. Uvas Creek: Protect wildlife habitat and corridor, protect natural lands for water supply and water quality, and increase trails to close gaps in regional trails
27. Palassou Ridge: Establish open space preserve, restore historic stone house for visitor center, develop multi-use trails connecting to Henry Coe State Park; implement wildfire prevention and habitat restoration projects
28. Diablo Foothills: Establish open space preserve, restore wetlands and bird habitat, implement public access improvements
29. Sargent Hills: Protect wildlife corridor, create staging area, public access and regional trail connections to the Bay Area Ridge Trail

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30. South County Agriculture: Conserve working farms and ranches near Morgan Hill, Gilroy and Pajaro River for greenbelts and agricultural viability and to enhance flood control, water quality, wildlife habitat and connectivity

C. Administrative Provisions and Fiscal Safeguards

1. Citizen Oversight and Independent Financial Audits

In order to ensure accountability, transparency and public oversight of all funds collected and allocated under this Measure and to comply with state law, all of the following shall apply:

- a. On or before January 1 of each fiscal year, the Authority's chief fiscal officer shall file an annual report with the Board that explains (1) the amount of funds collected and expended under this Measure and (2) the status of the projects authorized to be funded by this revenue in compliance with Government Code Sections 50075.1(d), 50075.3.
- b. No later than June 30, 2015, or the first collection of revenue pursuant to the Measure, whichever is later, an Independent Oversight Committee shall be convened to review the expenditures of all parcel tax revenues collected under this Measure. The Board shall establish by resolution the terms, composition, and specific duties of the Oversight Committee, consistent with the "Citizen Oversight and Independent Financial Audits" provisions set forth in this Part C(1). The Oversight Committee will consist of seven at-large members. In making appointments to the Oversight Committee, the Board will seek to reflect the demographic diversity of its jurisdiction.
- c. Members of the Oversight Committee shall be appointed by the Board and shall be residents within the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority's jurisdiction who are neither elected officials of any government, nor employees from any agency or organization that directly benefits financially from the proceeds of the parcel tax.
- d. Oversight Committee meetings will be announced in advance and will be open to the public. The Oversight Committee shall meet at least once but no more than four times per year.

The responsibilities of this Committee include:

- Reviewing Plan expenditures on an annual basis to ensure they conform to the Plan.
 - Reviewing the annual audit and report prepared by an independent auditor and submitting its recommendations and oversight report thereon.
- e. All actions, including decisions about selecting projects for funding, will be made by the Board in public meetings in compliance with the Brown Act
 - f. Annual levies of the parcel tax would start in 2015.
 - g. To the extent allowable by law, all residential and non-residential parcels will be uniformly taxed.

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- h. The revenue raised by the Measure for the purposes described in this Plan will be administered by the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority. All funds shall be placed in a separate account to hold all funds collected pursuant to the Measure.

2. Additional Allocation Criteria and Community Benefits

The Santa Clara Open Space Authority shall ensure that the revenue generated by the Measure is spent in the most efficient and effective manner possible, consistent with serving the public interest and in accordance with existing law and this Plan.

- a. The Santa Clara Open Space Authority shall make all final decisions regarding implementation of the Plan and funding for any specific high priority projects. The Board shall give priority to projects within its jurisdiction that meet multiple objectives of the *Santa Clara Valley Greenprint*, including one or more of the following objectives:
 - i. Have a significant positive effect on the health of land, water, and wildlife habitat, safety and quality of life for OSA residents.
 - ii. Provide for geographic distribution of projects across OSA's jurisdiction.
 - iii. Increase impact by leveraging state and federal resources as well as public/private partnerships.
 - iv. Strengthen connections between communities and open space through regionally-significant trails and transit access.
 - v. Benefit the economy and sustainability of the region by investing in nature-based infrastructure and local workforce development.
 - vi. Engage youth and young adults in local workforce development and assist them in gaining skills and experience related to protection and stewardship of the natural environment, wildlife, water resources and agricultural lands.
- b. The Board shall conduct one or more public meetings annually to gain public input on selection of project grants to expend revenues generated by the Measure.
- c. The Santa Clara County Open Space Authority may accumulate revenue over multiple years so that sufficient funding is available for larger and long-term projects. All interest income shall be used for the purposes identified in this Plan.
- d. No more than 5% of the revenue generated by this measure and provided to the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority may be used for administrative expenses.
- e. Costs of performing or contracting for project related work shall be paid from the revenues of the measure allocated to the appropriate purpose and project.
- f. An annual independent audit shall be conducted to assure that the revenues expended by the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority under this Plan are necessary and reasonable in carrying out its responsibilities under this Plan.

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- g. To the extent permitted by law, up to one-tenth of one percent (0.1 %) of the gross proceeds of the parcel tax shall be made available for the Oversight Committee's activities.
- h. Parcel tax proceeds are intended to augment annual support for the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority and do not substitute for individual city or County obligations. Monies from this program may not go to a city's or the County's "General Fund."
