

Promoting trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all

Cupertino City Council 10300 Torre Avenue Cupertino CA 95014

SUBJECT: Support for Regnart Creek Trail (Item 25 on 8/21/18 Council Agenda)

August 17, 2018

Dear members of the Cupertino City Council:

Save Our Trails: Connecting Santa Clara County Communities is a California Not-for-Profit Corporation whose mission is "To promote trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all." On behalf of Save Our Trails, I am writing to express our support for the Cupertino's proposed Regnart Creek Trail.

In particular I want to express our support for recommendations by city staff to approve the Feasibility Study and fund continued work on this trail, as detailed in Agenda Item 25 for the forthcoming August 21 Council Meeting.

A trail will provide a safe route for children to get to school and to city parks. It will provide an essential link in the city's bicycle network, as set forth in the city's 2016 Bicycle Transportation Plan.

Furthermore, by opening up the area to the public, a trail will act as a strong deterrent to illicit or anti-social behavior which would otherwise be hidden from public view.

Judging by the experience of other cities, we feel confident that the fears of neighbors will prove to be unfounded and that the surrounding neighborhoods will come to view this trail as a valued resource.

I want to also point out that this is a crucial early step in the implementation of the 2016 Bicycle Transportation Plan. Nearly every part of this plan has nearby residents who are likely to raise concerns. If the Council accedes to the worst (and probably overblown) fears of residents on this project, what does it say about the ability of the city to implement the remaining parts of the plan?

Save Our Trails therefore strongly recommends that the City of Cupertino proceed to design and build the trail as planned.

Sincerely,

Bill Rankin

Bell Parkin

President, Save Our Trails; Web: www.saveourtrails-scc.org