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Santa Clara County Historic Grants Program
C/O Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department
298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032

August 10, 2019

Re: Historic Grant for the Preservation of the Willow Glen Trestle & Its Parkland

Dear Madam or Sir,

I'm a lifelong resident of Santa Clara County and a San José resident who has mourned the loss of historic outdoor treasures and their parklands. I'm writing to ask you to do what is needed to preserve the Willow Glen Trestle and the wildlife and biota that surrounds it.

I respectfully request that you grant the San José Parks Foundation's Historic Grant application to research and document the History of the Willow Glen Trestle. This must be done to prevent the City of San José from destroying the trestle and disrupting and harming the animal and plant life that surrounds it. This research will end the City of San José's unreasonable contradiction of the State of California's finding that this Trestle is of historic importance.

I am writing to you on behalf of the twenty-five families who live on Chabrant Way in San José. We live close to the Three Creeks Trail and a 15-minute walk from the Willow Glen Trestle.

We Chabrant Way neighbors are from many countries and many of our United States. We are immigrants and the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of immigrants. We respectfully request and urge you to fund this project.

Have you been to the Trestle?

This hidden treasure is as beautiful as anything seen in Big Basin, Marin County or Big Sur. The City of San José wants to rip it out, which will be environmentally devastating to the biota, and replace the Trestle with something that will not last as well and looks awful, which will invite vandalism and neglect.

We have little in Santa Clara County that documents the era when we were the Valley of Hearts Delight, feeding our Nation the beautiful and healthy produce that came from our rich soil. This trestle and its current parkland setting honors the labor and efforts of those from many nations who came before us—the railway workers, those who worked our fields and those who worked at the many canneries that were located here during the 1920s through the 1970s.

A Historic Grant will prevent the erasing of precious parkland and wildlife, our County's proud history, and what is now the last historic evidence of the courage and contributions of the railroad workers, cannery workers and farmworkers whose labor was the engine that created today's Silicon Valley.

Thank you for your consideration and best regards,



Diane Solomon,
Member of the Friends of the Willow Glen Trestle;
Save Our Trails; History San José; the Preservation Action Council of San José;
and the co-founder of the Friends of Immigrant House (Mountain View, CA)