

Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA**  
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, EAST WING  
70 WEST HEDDING STREET, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95110 / (408) 299-2323  
FAX LINE (408) 295-6993

**DONALD F. GAGE**  
SUPERVISOR FIRST DISTRICT

March 10, 2004

Mr. Bob Power  
Bay Area Ridge Trail Council  
1007 General Kennedy Ave. Suite #3  
San Francisco, Ca. 94129

**RE: Coyote Creek Trail-Hellyer Gap Grant Application**

Dear Mr. Power,

I am pleased to support the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department's Coyote Creek Trail-Hellyer Gap grant application to the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. I believe this project will provide much-needed improvements where a marginal and/or makeshift trail currently exists. It will allow a safe and easy connection from the existing County Trail (which is designated part of the Ridge Trail Corridor) to City of San Jose trails to the north. Currently, the City is also involved in planning and improvements to their trail system; therefore, this project will have a compound benefit of advancing the Ridge Trail system further along this uncompleted trail corridor.

As you are probably well aware, trail use is a growing recreational pursuit amongst the many diverse communities in the Bay Area. Santa Clara County is no exception. As we heard consistently in our recent Strategic Plan process, trail recreation is one of the top activities desired by our park users.

In addition to providing a missing link for the Bay Area Ridge Trail and meeting user demand, the proposed project will allow individuals to connect with their communities and the outdoor environment. It will link parks, people, and communities. We urge you to approve grant funds for the Coyote Creek Trail—Hellyer Gap project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald F. Gage".

Donald F. Gage  
Supervisor, District One

## Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

Lawrence Lowell Ames  
1218 Willow St.  
San Jose, CA 95125  
March 12, 2004

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council  
Attn: Mr. Bob Power  
1007 General Kennedy Ave. Suite #3  
San Francisco, Ca. 94129

re: support for grant application for Coyote Creek Trail in Hellyer Park

Dear Mr. Powers,

I am writing in support of the grant application by the Santa Clara County Parks for a BARTC grant for the Coyote Creek Trail in Hellyer County Park.

I have served eight years now on the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Commission, voted to adopt the County Trails Master Plan of 1995, and served on San Jose's Coyote Creek Long Range Land Utilization Task Force before that. The Coyote Creek Trail is one of the major linking trails between the Bay Trail and the Ridge Trail, and serves as the Interim Alignment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail in the South Bay. Over the years, the Coyote Creek Trail has grown to its present state: a nearly continuous 17.5 mile long trail from near Tully Rd. in central San Jose down to near Anderson Dam in Morgan Hill. All that is missing is the short section in Hellyer Co. Park, which will connect the newly built San Jose section at Yerba Buena to the existing trail segment in Hellyer.

This is a much-appreciated trail: long, scenic, and serving sections of the valley that are otherwise lacking in recreational trails. I urge you to approve the grant application, and help complete this trail connection.

Thank you,

Lawrence Lowell Ames  
Santa Clara County Parks & Rec. Commissioner

## Exhibit 2: Letters of Support



*Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services*

March 11, 2004

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council  
Attn: Mr. Bob Power  
1007 General Kennedy Ave. Suite #3  
San Francisco, CA. 94129

SUBJECT: Coyote Creek Trail – Hellyer Gap

Dear Mr. Power:

I am writing in support of the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department's Coyote Creek Trail – Hellyer Gap grant application to the Bay Area Ridge Trail. We believe the project will provide needed improvements where marginal trail currently exists. This trail will allow a safer and easier connection from the existing County Trail (which is designated part of the Ridge Trail Corridor) to City of San Jose trails to the north.

Currently the City is also involved in planning and development of several sections of the Coyote Creek Trail. We anticipate that the entire alignment in San José will be completed in a 5 to 6 year time frame. Therefore, this project will have a compound benefit of advancing the Ridge Trail system to the south.

As you are probably well aware, trail use is a growing recreational pursuit amongst the many diverse communities in the Bay Area. Santa Clara County is no exception. As we heard consistently in our recent Strategic Plan process, trail recreation is one of the top activities desired by our park users.

In addition to providing a missing link for the Bay Trail and meeting user demand, the proposed project will allow individuals to connect with their communities and the outdoor environment. It will link parks, people, and communities.

We urge you to approve grant funds for the Coyote Creek Trail – Hellyer Gap Project. I can be reached at (408) 794-1302 if you have any questions regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

/s/

Yves Zsutty  
Program Manager

0403006

## Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

Dangkhwa T. Vo  
18610 Serra Avenida  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037  
March 11, 2004

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council  
Attn: Mr. Bob Power  
1007 General Kennedy Ave. Suite #3  
San Francisco, Ca. 94129

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT - GRANT APPLICATIONS FROM THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Dear Bob,

I am writing in support of the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department's grant applications to the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council for the following projects: 1) Sanborn County Park Trail Master Plan; 2) the Coyote Creek Parkway – Hellyer Gap; and 3) the Penitencia Creek County Park – I-680 Undercrossing Improvements.

- 1) Sanborn County Park Trail Master Plan – The project will provide needed planning to implement a key missing link in part of the Ridge Trail already dedicated on either side of the park. It will allow for a nearly 6-mile continuous trail connection between Castle Rock Park to the north and St. Joseph Hill OSP and Lexington Reservoir County Park to the south. As a park user, I can definitely see how users can benefit from a continuous trail linking these areas to provide a wholesome family experience.
- 2) Coyote Creek Parkway – Hellyer Gap – The project will provide much needed improvements where a marginal/makeshift or no trail currently exists. It will allow safe and easy connection from the existing County Trail (which is designated part of the Ridge Trail Corridor) to City of San Jose trails to the North. It will also provide designated crossings for trail users where none existed. Currently, the City is also involved in planning and improvements to their trail system; therefore, this project will have a compound benefit of advancing the Ridge Trail system further along this uncompleted trail corridor.
- 3) Penitencia Creek County Park – I-680 Undercrossing Improvements – The project will provide much needed improvements to address the recurring floodings of the trail at the Interstate 680 undercrossing. The trail, which is designated part of the Ridge Trail Corridor, is flooded due to winter storms or water release by the Santa Clara Valley Water District during other months. In addition to the flooding, silt deposits create safety problems for all trail users as well. The trail is closed to the public when there is flooding and silt, thus limiting access to the Ridge Trail corridor by a heavily populated area of County and City residents. The VTA has also recently completed its Capitol light-rail extension project and has a station at the easterly end of the trail on Capitol Avenue. Once the light rail station opens, commuters on the westerly side of 680 will be able to access light rail via this trail and usage will be increased significantly.

Throughout the Strategic Planning process, a consistent theme emerged from all communities and various user groups - trail recreation. These projects will address the trail recreation theme, bridging the gaps in the Ridge Trail Corridor, and will link parks, people, and communities together.

Your approval of these grant applications would bring tremendous benefits to the residents of Santa Clara County, in particular, and to the entire Bay Area residents, in general.

Sincerely,



Dangkhwa T. Vo

## Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

March 11, 2004  
**Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers**  
P.O. Box 1723  
Campbell, CA 95009-1723  
www.romp.org



Paul Nam  
19863 Portal Plaza  
Cupertino CA 95014  
408-446-3745

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council  
1007 General Kennedy Ave., Suite #3  
San Francisco CA 94129  
Attn: Holly Van Houten, Executive Director  
Re: SCCO Parks and Recreation Dept Grant Application  
Coyote Creek Trail - Hellyer Gap

As the President and representative of ROMP, Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers, I am writing in support of the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department's Coyote Creek Trail - Hellyer Gap grant application to the Bay Area Ridge Trail. We believe the project will provide needed improvements where a marginal/makeshift or no trail currently exists. It will allow safe and easy connection from the existing County Trail (which is designated part of the Ridge Trail Corridor) to City of San Jose trails to the North. Currently the City is also involved in planning and improvements to their trail system; therefore, this project will have a compound benefit of advancing the Ridge Trail system further along this uncompleted trail corridor.

ROMP partners with the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition and advocates the creation and maintenance of functional urban trail connections for everyday commuter use.

As you are probably well aware, trail use is a growing recreational pursuit amongst the many diverse communities in the Bay Area. Santa Clara County is no exception. ROMP participated in the County Strategic Trails planning process advocating for more multi-use trails like the Ridge Trail.

In addition to providing a missing link for the Bay Trail and meeting user demand, the proposed project will allow individuals to connect with their communities and the outdoor environment. It will like parks, people, and communities. We urge you to approve grant funds for the Coyote Creek Trail - Hellyer Gap project.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Nam".

Paul Nam, President ROMP