

2001 Gateway Place, Suite 101E
 San Jose, California 95110
 (408)501-7864 svlg.org

CARL GUARDINO
 President & CEO

Board Officers:

GREG BECKER, Chair
 SVB Financial Group
 STEVE MULLIGAN, Vice Chair
 Western Digital Corporation
 RAQUEL GONZALEZ, Treasurer
 Bank of America
 TOM WERNER, Former Chair
 SunPower
 AART DE GEUS, Former Chair
 Synopsys
 STEVE BERGLUND, Former Chair
 Trimble Inc.
 BILL COLEMAN, Former Chair
 Veritas Technologies

Board Members:

MARTIN ANSTICE
 Lam Research
 SHELLYE ARCHAMBEAU
 MeticStream
 BOBBY BELL
 KLA-Tencor
 DAWN ET BEVERLEY
 Donnelley Financial Solutions
 GEORGE BLUMENTHAL
 University of California, Santa Cruz
 JOHN BOLAND
 KOED
 CARLA BORAGNO
 Genentech
 CHRIS BOYD
 Kaiser Permanente
 JOE BURTON
 Plantronics
 RAMI BRANTZKY
 Sapphire Ventures
 GARY BRIGGS
 Facebook
 KEVIN COLLINS
 Accenture
 LISA DANIELS
 KPMG
 CHRISTOPHER DAWES
 Lucile Packard
 Children's Hospital Stanford
 JENNY DEARBORN
 SAP
 MICHAEL ENGH, S.J.
 Santa Clara University
 TOM FALLON
 Infinera
 KEN GOLDMAN
 Hillspire
 DOUG GRAHAM
 Lockheed Martin
 LAURA GIUO
 IBM
 JAMES GUTIERREZ
 Insikt
 STEFAN HECK
 Nauto
 ERIC HOUSER
 Wells Fargo Bank
 AIDAN HUGHES
 ARUP
 JEFFREY JOHNSON
 San Francisco Chronicle
 TOM KEMP
 Centify
 AARIF KHAKOO
 AMGEN
 ERIC KUTCHER
 McKinsey & Company
 JOHN LEDEK
 BD Biosciences
 ENRIQUE LORES
 HP Inc.
 MATT MAHAN
 Brigade
 TARKAN MANER
 Nexenta
 KEN MCNEELY
 AT&T
 BEN MINICUCCI
 Alaska Airlines
 KEVIN MURAI
 Synnex
 MARY PAPAIZIAN
 San Jose State University
 JES PEDERSEN
 Weber Builders
 ANDY PIERCE
 Stryker Endoscopy
 KIM POLESE
 ClearStreet
 RYAN POPPLE
 Proterra
 BILL RUH
 GE
 SHARON RYAN
 Bay Area News Group
 RON SEGE
 Echelon
 DARREN SNELLGROVE
 Johnson & Johnson
 JEFF THOMAS
 Nasdaq
 JED YORK
 San Francisco 49ers

Established in 1978 by
 David Packard

Clerk of the Board
 Santa Clara Valley Water District
 5750 Almaden Expressway
 San Jose, California 95118

October 16, 2017

Re: Business Support for California Water Fix

Dear Chair Varela, Vice Chair Santos, and Santa Clara Valley Water District Directors,

We are writing you to urge your aye vote on WaterFix in order to help secure our water supplies now and well into the future.

California is the sixth largest economy in the world, and Silicon Valley is a primary driver of our state's job creation and growth. Yet our success, the envy of much of the world, is at risk unless we move to protect our water supply. As business and civic leaders in the South Bay, we cannot stress enough the need to secure safe, clean, affordable drinking water for the health and economic well being of our region. The Silicon Valley Leadership Group supports WaterFix and we respectfully request that you do so as well.

As you know, California WaterFix is the plan to update aging infrastructure that brings clean, reliable water to our communities from the Sierra Nevada Mountains through the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta. Nearly half of the water that serves 2 million people here in the region, including 200,000 daily commuters, comes from the Delta, and a quarter of that is used for groundwater recharge. This high quality water is also used to improve the quality of other local and imported water supplies, increasing the amount of safe drinking water available for communities throughout the region.

This fresh water is at risk of contamination from salt water due to rising sea levels associated with climate change, as well as an earthquake, which would easily liquefy the existing earthen levees in the Delta. WaterFix provides a solution – in fact, the only viable and detailed solution – to address these risks and shore up the water supply we, and most Californians, rely on.

This summer resulted in significant momentum for the project, with positive opinions from the federal government and project approval by the state. Now, after a decade of detailed analysis, planning and environmental review, and with over 70 percent of county residents supporting the project, it is up to you to commit to WaterFix.

The Zone 7 Water District in Alameda recently voted to move forward and support the project, as did Metropolitan Water District and various other water agencies. Unfortunately, the large agricultural Westlands Water District opted out of the current financing plan. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't move forward locally. Ultimately, Santa Clara County Water District should vote to approve a "user-based" financing plan that ensures we only pay for the water we get. We believe that is still possible despite the Westlands decision.

We applaud the Water District for its work to double down on water recycling and conservation. But even this, we believe, will not be sufficient to meet the region's future needs without WaterFix to help secure a baseline level of high quality water.

While others may push back on the plan, we urge you to focus on the fact that there is no other practicable, comprehensive and economically viable plan to supply the volume of water our region needs. While we support investing in local water supply projects, we believe the Delta will continue – for quite some time – to be an important source of water for our region.

As community leaders we are also very conscious of the fact that access to safe, affordable drinking water is a social justice issue. It is important to us that our communities continue to have access to affordable water that they need to thrive. While we respect the fact that WaterFix is not inexpensive, we believe it is important to invest in the continued security and economic vitality of our region. And what could be more vital than water?

As with any large public works project, we understand that there are concerns about potential cost overruns. However, we believe the cost of doing nothing is far costlier to the businesses, people and the environment. As you know, the project is among the most affordable sources of water for our region; WaterFix is estimated to be two to four times cheaper than other local sources of clean drinking water.

We also understand there are concerns about the environmental health of the Delta. WaterFix, with its advanced fish screens and its science-based design, makes use of the best current technology to help protect vulnerable fish populations in the Delta. By moving the points of water diversions, and utilizing advanced screens to protect vulnerable species, the project will help restore more natural river flows and benefit fish.

Businesses have made this region their home, bringing innovation and jobs, but the sustained growth and economic success of the region — the envy of the world — will be cut short without a major investment in our water infrastructure. We believe that in order to protect our economy and way of life, we need to invest in new water infrastructure, just as we did in the 1960s.

Rejecting this project will be a perpetuation of the status quo that is already failing the Delta. We believe that WaterFix is what's needed to secure our future and we respectfully request that you support the project as well.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our staff lead, Mike Mielke, Sr. Vice President of Environment & Energy at 408-501-7858 or mmielke@svlg.org.

We deeply appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Carl Guardino
President & CEO
Silicon Valley Leadership Group

Dan Gordon
COO
Gordon Biersch
Brewing



Aart de Geus
Founder & CEO
Synopsis



Suresh Babu
Tiquant Inc.



Tom Kemp
Co-Founder & CEO
Centrify



Russell Spektor
Executive Vice
President
Direct Resource
Management, Inc.



Lou Ramondetta
President
Surplus Service



William Hadaya
President
WMH



Sonu Ratra
President
Akraya



Hannah Gordon
General Counsel
San Francisco 49ers



Kevin Murai
President & CEO
Synnex Corp



Paul F. Gentzkow
President & CEO
Robert Half



Matt Mahan
CEO
Brigade Media



Bill Coleman
CEO
Veritas Technologies
LLC



Ty Walrod
Co-Founder & CEO
Bright Funds



Celeste Volz Ford
CEO
Stellar Solutions, Inc.



Chris Larsen
Executive Chairman
Ripple



Jenny Dearborn
CLO
SAP



Dawnet Beverley
SVP & Managing Director
Donnelley Financial



Michael R. Van Every
President & CEO
Republic Urban Properties



Shellye Archambeau
CEO
MetricStream



Chris Metzger
SVP / Division Manager
Mott MacDonald



Rami Rahim
CEO
Juniper Networks



Ned Finkle
VP
NVIDIA



Zachary F. Bookman
CEO
OpenGov



Bob Kieve
President
Empire Broadcasting
Corp



Raul Vazquez
CEO
Opportun



Guy Gecht
CEO
EFI



Andy Coan
President & CEO
Splice



Rob Steinberg
Chairman
Steinberg



Marc van den Berg
Partner
DBL Partners



Jordan Epstein
CEO
Stroll Health



Carl Guardino
President & CEO
Silicon Valley
Leadership Group



Kari Saragusa
Senior Advisor
Lehigh Hanson



Mark Adams
CEO
Lumileds



Jerry Mix
President
Finelite



Manish Tandon
CEO
CSS Corp



Tom Hayse
President & CEO
ETM Electromatic Inc.



Najat Badriyeh
President & CEO
Naprotek, Inc.



Andy Pierce
President
Stryker Endoscopy



Pedro Espinoza
Founder & CEO
SmileyGo Corp.

