



SIERRA CLUB

LOMA PRIETA CHAPTER

SAN MATEO, SANTA CLARA & SAN BENITO COUNTIES

April 23, 2019

Dixie Petty, California State Assembly, Committee Secretary (for Committee on Local Government Chair Aguilar-Curry)

Sent via email to: Dixie.Petty@asm.ca.gov

Dear Assembly Committee on Local Government Chair Aguilar-Curry,

The Sierra Club is the most enduring and influential grassroots environmental organization in the United States. Our 3.5+ million members and supporters defend everyone's right to a healthy world. Coyote Valley lies in the heart of the Loma Prieta Chapter with about 40,000 members and supporters. Conserving the valley's natural resources is one of our chapter's highest priorities.

We urge you to support AB 948, Coyote Valley Conservation Program, to help preserve this last undeveloped valley floor in Silicon Valley. Acknowledging Coyote Valley as an area of statewide significance for conservation will help directly serve nearly 2 million residents of the Santa Clara Valley by encouraging protection of their largest watershed and critical aquifer. It will help prevent flooding in San Jose. Moreover, Coyote Valley is one of the most important wildlife habitats and linkages in California, serving to connect the Santa Cruz and Mount Diablo mountain ranges. It is also important in San Jose's effort to meet California's Paris Agreement climate protection goals. And, it is vital to keep the agricultural industry in Santa Clara County viable.

Coyote Valley is beautiful and surrounded by rare serpentine wildflower and endangered bay checkerspot butterfly habitat to the east and oak studded savanna and woodlands to the west which contributes to its statewide recreational and agriculture tourism opportunities.

Please help move AB 948 through your committee.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter,

James Eggers

Executive Director, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter

CC jgarretson@openspaceauthority.org; roseryn.bhudsabourg@asm.ca.gov

sierraclub.org/loma-prieta ~ 3921 East Bayshore Road, Suite 204, Palo Alto, CA 94303