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January 8, 2021

Valley Water **Board of Directors** 5750 Almaden Expressway San Jose, CA 95188

Dear Board of Directors,

As you are aware, the City of Morgan Hill has partnered with Valley Water for decades on the Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project. The City is very appreciative of the Phase 1 work south of the City. This work is a huge achievement. Approval to move forward with Phase 2A of the Project will continue to move the City towards the desperately needed flood protection for our community. The Morgan Hill City Council and staff fully support moving forward with this project and are committed to supporting Valley Water in this endeavor.

While the City understands that Phase 2B of the Project will be required to provide the needed flood control to the City, continuing the progress by moving forward with Phase 2A is a step in the right direction. The staff at Valley Water have made outstanding progress on the Project in the recent years and with permits and designs ready we must keep the project moving forward. The City has jointly planned its Hale Avenue Extension with the Project to allow staging and construction work for the Project to occur ahead of the Hale Avenue Construction. Delay would cause significant expense increases for Valley Water as the Hale Avenue work must continue.

The City of Morgan Hill urges the Board of Directors to approve the staff recommendation to fund the Project and begin construction on Phase 2A as quickly as possible. The City further recommends that funding for Phase 2B be prioritized in the near term, as completion of this long-awaited project is finally in reach.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rich Constantine, Mayor

CC: Morgan Hill City Council

> Christina Turner, City Manager Chris Ghione, Public Services Director