

September 17, 2018

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown State Capitol, Suite 1173 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re:

Request for your signature on SB 881 (Wieckowski), Flood control: County of Santa Clara:

South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project

## Dear Governor Brown:

I write on behalf of the City of Palo Alto to respectfully request your signature on SB 881 (Wieckowski), which authorizes the state to provide subvention funds to the Santa Clara Valley Water District for the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project. The State Flood Control Subventions Program reimburses local flood control agencies for the state's cost share of the cost of land, easements, and rights of way necessary for the construction of a flood protection project. SB 881 has many regional supporters ranging from business organizations to environmental groups to cities, and no opponents.

Importantly to Palo Alto, the project would provide flood protection to portions of our city. It would also restore wetlands and levees and provide improvements important to wildlife habitat in the south bay. In fact, the first phase of the Shoreline Project currently underway will restore 2,900 acres of former saltponds. The restoration will provide habitat for many species of mammals, fish, plants, and fowl, including some that are currently listed as endangered.

The Santa Clara Valley Water District is working with cities and state and federal agencies on this project to put in place lasting protections, and we support these efforts. We urge you to sign SB 881 into law and authorize the Shoreline Project to receive reimbursement for the state's cost share of the project.

Sincerely

Liz Kniss

Mayor, City of Palo Alto

CC: Senator Jerry Hill

Assemblyman Marc Berman

Palo Alto City Council and City Manager

Santa Clara Valley Water District