January 14, 2020

Morgan Hill Mayor and City Council
17555 Peak Avenue
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

RE: Item 13 - Consider resolution in support of preservation of Sargent Ranch/Juristac as open space

Dear Mayor Constantine and Councilmembers,

As a longtime advocate for preserving open space and tribal land, I respectfully urge you to vote in support of a resolution that preserves Sargent Ranch/Juristac and oppose any proposal for a sand and gravel mine operation. Although this project is outside of your jurisdiction, as it is for me, I think we can all agree that preserving our few remaining open spaces should be a priority for all elected officials in the County of Santa Clara. As public servants, we must take a stand together to protect our environment, wildlife, and indigenous land.

For thousands of years, the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band has held spiritual ceremonies on this 6,500-acre open space. This piece of land is also a critical landscape linkage between the Santa Cruz Mountains and Gabilan Mountains. Sand and gravel mining will not only tremendously disturb sacred indigenous land, but also detrimentally affect the migration corridor for mountain lions, badgers, and other wildlife.

Let us stand together to preserve our open space, indigenous land, and wildlife corridors by opposing the proposed sand and gravel mine project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

ASH KALRA