

RESOLUTION NO. 20-002

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF MORGAN HILL IN SUPPORT OF THE
PRESERVATION OF SARGENT RANCH/JURISTAC AS
OPEN SPACE**

WHEREAS, the lands now populated by the City of Morgan Hill are within the ancestral homeland of Mutsun-speaking indigenous people; and

WHEREAS, Mutsun descendants, today represented by the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, are working diligently to restore their indigenous practices, regain stewardship of their lands, and heal from historical trauma; and

WHEREAS, the Debt Acquisition Company of America, doing business as Sargent Ranch Management Company, has applied to the County of Santa Clara for a conditional use permit for a proposed sand and gravel mining operation with aggregate processing facilities on approximately 320 acres of Sargent Ranch, an area known as *Juristac* to the Amah Mutsun; and

WHEREAS, Juristac is the location of numerous ceremonial and sacred sites, comprising a landscape of immense historical, cultural and spiritual importance to the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band; and

WHEREAS the Amah Mutsun maintain that the proposed mining pits, overburden piles, roads, and processing facilities would irreparably harm Mutsun cultural resources, landscape features, and the spiritual integrity of Juristac; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band has taken a unanimous stand in opposition to the Sargent Quarry Project and is seeking the support of the citizens of Santa Clara County in efforts to protect their sacred grounds; and

WHEREAS, Sargent Ranch/Sargent Hills is an open space area of unique regional significance as recognized by the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency, the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, and regional conservation organizations; and

WHEREAS, Sargent Ranch is identified in the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan and in regional habitat connectivity studies as a critical landscape linkage between the Santa Cruz Mountains and Gabilan Mountains; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the City of Morgan Hill as outlined in the 2035 General Plan to work towards preservation of open space areas in the South County [NRE-1.4] in coordination with Santa Clara County [NRE-1.5]; and

WHEREAS, priorities of the City Council of the City Morgan Hill include preserving our community history, enhancing diversity and inclusiveness, protecting the environment, and advancing regional initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Morgan Hill supports the rights of indigenous peoples to maintain and protect their religious and cultural sites, as enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Morgan Hill is committed to taking seriously the needs and perspectives of members of our community who have historically been disenfranchised;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Morgan Hill urges the County of Santa Clara to preserve the entirety of the Sargent Ranch lands as open space.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Morgan Hill at its meeting held on this 15th day of January 2020 by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	Yvonne Martinez Beltran, Rene Spring, John McKay, Larry Carr, Rich Constantine
NOES:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None
ABSTAIN:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	None

APPROVED:



RICH CONSTANTINE, Mayor

ATTEST:



IRMA TORREZ, City Clerk

∞ CERTIFICATION ∞

I, Irma Torrez, City Clerk of the City of Morgan Hill, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 20-002, adopted by the City Council at the meeting held on the 15th day of January 2020.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL.

DATE: 1/30/20



Irma Torrez, CITY CLERK