



CITY OF MILPITAS

OFFICE OF MAYOR RICH TRAN

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April 20, 2021

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Member, California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5158
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 271 (R. Rivas) Best Value Authorization for Anderson Dam Project -- SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Rivas,

On behalf of the City of Milpitas, I would like to express our strong support for your bill, AB 271, which will help ensure the expert removal and replacement of the Leroy Anderson Dam and Reservoir. Located in the hills above Silicon Valley, this dam has been determined by dam safety officials to be vulnerable to damage during a 6.6 magnitude earthquake and failure with a 7.25 quake. The failure of Anderson Dam at full capacity would result in catastrophic losses of life and property, inundating an area that includes many of the cities comprising the San Jose metropolitan area and southward to Monterey Bay. The human and economic costs would be felt across California and the nation.

AB 271 authorizes the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (Anderson Project) to use the "best value" method of contractor selection. A project of this size and importance should be awarded to the most qualified contractors offering the best value, and not necessarily to the lowest bidder. In matters of public safety, expert construction is of critical importance.

In addition to protecting a major metropolitan area from catastrophe, the \$576 million Anderson Project will protect Silicon Valley businesses from inundation and destruction, and it will create 5,400 good paying jobs with an economic impact multiplied across the California economy. Recovering from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic may take years, and the Anderson Project will create thousands of jobs that will bolster the California economy for years to come.

The City of Milpitas thanks you for authoring AB 271 and urges your colleagues in the Legislature to support, and the Governor to sign, this critically important bill to protect the people of Silicon Valley from the devastating impacts of dam failure during an earthquake.

Sincerely,

Rich Tran
Mayor

C:
Milpitas City Council
Steve McHarris, City Manager
Ashwini Kantak, Assistant City Manager
Walter C. Rossmann, Deputy City Manager
Steve Erickson, City Engineer/Director of Engineering