

RESOLUTION NO. 21-9037

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA
IN SUPPORT OF THE EFFORTS OF THE AMAH MUTSUN
TRIBAL BAND TO PRESERVE SARGENT RANCH/JURISTAC AS
OPEN SPACE**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clara is located within the ancestral lands of Tamyen-speaking Ohlone peoples, whose descendants today belong to the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band and other tribal nations;

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clara supports the efforts of the Indigenous peoples of our region to heal from historical trauma, regain access to their sacred cultural heritage sites and restore their cultural and spiritual traditions;

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, within an area known as Juristac to the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band;

WHEREAS, the protection of culturally sensitive resources and natural open space areas is an important objective as set forth in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);

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

WHEREAS, the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band maintains that the 320 acres of proposed mining pits, overburden piles, roads, and processing facilities would irreparably harm Mutsun cultural resources, landscape features, and the spiritual integrity of Juristac;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band has taken a unanimous stand in opposition to the Sargent Quarry Project and is requesting the support of surrounding communities in efforts to protect their sacred grounds;

WHEREAS, Sargent Ranch/Juristac is an open space area of exceptional regional significance and habitat value as recognized by the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency, the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, and regional conservation organizations, and is of such significance as to bring benefit to the City of Santa Clara as well as the region as a whole;

WHEREAS, the Sargent Ranch area is identified in the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Conservation Plan and other regional habitat connectivity studies as a critically important wildlife corridor linking the Santa Cruz Mountains, Gabilan Mountains, and Diablo Range; the City of Santa Clara's 2010-2035 General Plan names the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Conservation Plan as part of the City's vision of regional land use and transportation planning and coordination [6.2.2];

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clara aspires to advance leadership in sustainability through initiatives and efforts that include support for regional open space and habitat preservation, protection of air and water quality, and the dedication of public trails;

WHEREAS, as demonstrated by the City of Santa Clara's efforts to preserve and steward the 40-acre Ulistac Natural Area, a historic Tamyen Ohlone cultural site located within city limits, the City supports the protection and preservation of Indigenous cultural heritage sites;

WHEREAS, it is a goal of the City of Santa Clara, as outlined in the 2010-2035 General Plan, to protect and preserve cultural resources, as well as archaeological sites [5.6.3-G 1]; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clara supports the rights of Indigenous peoples to access, maintain, and protect their religious and cultural sites, as enshrined in Article 12 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the City Council of the City of Santa Clara supports the efforts of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band to preserve Sargent Ranch/Juristac as open space in perpetuity and to regain access to their cultural and spiritual sites at Juristac.

//

2. That the City Council of the City of Santa Clara urges the County of Santa Clara to deny approval of permits for the proposed Sargent Quarry Project.

3. Effective date. This resolution shall become effective immediately.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF HELD ON THE 14TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2021, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COUNCILORS: Becker, Chahal, Hardy, Jain, Park, and Watanabe, and Mayor Gillmor

NOES: COUNCILORS: None

ABSENT: COUNCILORS: None

ABSTAINED: COUNCILORS: None

ATTEST: _____



NORA PIMENTEL, MMC
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
CITY OF SANTA CLARA

Attachments incorporated by reference: None