

Lisa M. Gillmor

## **Council Members**

Dominic J. Caserta Debi Davis Patrick Kolstad Patricia M. Mahan Teresa O'Neill Kathy Watanabe

August 31, 2017

John Kristick
Executive Director
2026 United Bid Committee
420 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Mr. Kristick,

The City of Santa Clara would like to declare its strong interest in being a host city for the 2026 World Cup. In the event that North America is selected by FIFA to continue in the selection process, I am pleased to confirm that the City of Santa Clara/Levi's Stadium will submit a proposal to host one or more matches of the 2026 World Cup.

There is no better place than this new stadium and surrounding South Bay venues to host soccer. Home to luxury hotels, world-class training facilities, and year-round sunshine, the U.S. Men's National Team held its training camp for the 2014 FIFA World Cup in this very region. International soccer powers Manchester United, FC Barcelona, Liverpool FC and AC Milan have all trained here in our region over the last couple of years.

Santa Clara's Levi's Stadium near California's Great America theme park and the Santa Clara Convention Center provides easy access to public transportation, highways, and the San Jose, Oakland and San Francisco International Airports. We are a world-class city with a high-tech venue that is ready for the opportunity to host this premier event. We unequivocally support this bid and look forward to welcoming you to our beautiful city.

On behalf of the City, thank you for giving us the opportunity to participate in this exciting process. We wish the United Bid Committee the best of luck and look forward to submitting our proposal.

Sincerely.

Lisa Gillmor

Mayor

City of Santa Clara