



## North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District

*An independent special district of the State of California*

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April 9, 2026

The Honorable Otto Lee, President  
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors  
70 West Hedding Street, 10th Floor, East Wing  
San Jose, CA 95110

**Re: Recommendation for Appointment to the Board of Directors of the North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District**

Dear President Lee:

This letter provides the Board of Directors for the North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District's (NSCRCD or District) recommendation to fill the unscheduled Director vacancy created by the mid-term resignation of Gail Bautista. We appreciate the opportunity to coordinate with your office, consistent with the procedures we established with the County of Santa Clara in 2024, including the opportunity for us to interview candidates and provide our recommendations.

On April 2, 2026, during the open session of its regular board meeting, the NSCRCD Board interviewed the two candidates, Leah Stern and Paulina Ozuna Chavez, who had submitted applications for the unscheduled vacancy. The Board was impressed by both candidates and believes they are each qualified to serve and would bring exceptional value to the District and its constituents.

Following discussion, the Board voted to recommend Leah Stern as the lead candidate to serve as a Director on the Board since her qualifications and experience more closely matched the mission of NSCRCD. The Board also agreed that the District would benefit from both candidates' continued involvement and hopes each will be willing to share their time, energy, and talents with the District going forward.

If you have any questions regarding the NSCRCD Board's recommendation, please reach out to District Manager at [smoreno@gcrsd.org](mailto:smoreno@gcrsd.org).

Sincerely,

Frank Maitski  
NSCRCD Board President

cc: Emily Pachoud, Supervisor Lee's Office  
Lesley Clark, Office of the Clerk of the Board  
Leah Stern  
Paulina Ozuna Chavez