March 15, 2024

The Honorable Michael S Regan
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

RE: Climate Pollution Reduction Grant – Commitment and Support for the Public Facilities Resiliency Implementation Project

Dear Mr.Regan,

I am writing to express my strong support for the coalition application led by Silicon Valley Clean Energy, in partnership with the Cities of San José, Sunnyvale, Morgan Hill, and Cupertino, for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program: Implementation Grants General Competition for the *Public Facility Resiliency Implementation Project (PFRIP)*.

PFRIP will be a transformative project that will achieve significant greenhouse gas reductions countywide, drive green market equipment and workforce demand, inject vitality and climate awareness into our community, and accelerate adoption of climate adaptation measures in Santa Clara County.

Through a regional coalition, PFRIP will construct major decarbonization and resiliency projects at 59 countywide public facilities located in EPA-recognized disadvantaged communities, including electric infrastructure retrofits and creating resiliency centers with electric vehicle (EV) charging and coupled solar/battery storage, or microgrids. The project will benefit low income and disadvantaged communities in the Bay Area through electrifying and fortifying critical facilities such as community shelters and fire stations that serve our communities' most urgent needs during emergencies as first responders or cooling and heating centers, gathering/family reunification spaces and shelters for those without traditional homes or access to personal emergency equipment like generators.

The project includes related equity analysis, performance evaluation, community engagement and workforce development activities that will create opportunities for job training and engage and empower local citizens in the climate adaptation process.

I encourage EPA funds to be invested in this meaningful work.

Sincerely,

Estefanía Pihen
Program Director
Climate Action Pathways for Schools