



August 24, 2022

SENT VIA: EMAIL

Amy Bailey, Program Manager  
Riverine Stewardship Program  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT:** Letter of Support for City of Santa Rosa Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Project - Phase 3, Design and Construction

**MEMBER AGENCIES**

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Sebastopol
- City of Ukiah
- County of Mendocino
- County of Sonoma
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

**ANDY RODGERS**

Executive Director

300 Seminary Avenue  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
(707) 508-3670

[info@rrwatershed.org](mailto:info@rrwatershed.org)  
[www.rrwatershed.org](http://www.rrwatershed.org)

Dear Ms. Bailey:

On behalf of the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA), I am writing to express support of the City of Santa Rosa's Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Project - Phase 3, Design and Construction, request for approximately \$6.4 million.

RRWA formed in 2003 and is a coalition of 10 cities, counties, and agencies within the 1,485 square mile Russian River watershed that work together for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement.

The City of Santa Rosa's Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Project aims to restore 1.3 miles of channelized creek in three connecting phases. The requested funding would allow the City to complete design, construction, and education and outreach for the Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Project - Phase 3. This project would expand flood capacity of the channel to provide 100-year flood protection and provide open space within an underserved, ethnically diverse community. Phase 3 construction would also install natural meanders to decrease water velocity and erosion and create woody in-stream habitat structures to promote the reestablishment of pools and riffles and provide habitat for fish and wildlife.

Notably, Phase 3 will continue to energize the community to support Colgan Creek by working with local elementary schools and nearby Elsie Allen High School to conduct habitat assessments throughout the restoration reaches. The project will also continue to provide education to the general community via planting events, stewardship events, and interpretative signage in both English and Spanish and help the community to connect with the City's and Sonoma Water's Creek Stewardship Program.

This request represents an important creek restoration and flood control project that will benefit the Southwest Santa Rosa community and the entire Russian River watershed.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me at [cleanwater@rrwatershed.org](mailto:cleanwater@rrwatershed.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Andy Rodgers, RRWA Executive Director