

July 19, 2016

Dear STARS Administrator:

This is a letter of affirmation confirming that the information submitted by San José State University on behalf of the collaborative project between the University and the City of San José's Environmental Services Department is an accurate account of our shared work in promoting sustainability.

The program is unique in that it brings together a trio of partners—the University, the City, and neighborhood residents— to meet shared goals for environmental protection. Additionally, it makes use of a new smartphone application that enables field research assistants to quickly and accurately catalog site characteristics and take photos. Among other illegal dumping programs in major metropolitan areas, no other programs that we know of are using this collaborative, technology-based framework and applying it to better identify neighborhood-specific strategies that will work best for different communities.

To find out more, I encourage you to read the following articles about the project written in *The Mercury News*, *Government Technology*, and *Waste Dive*.

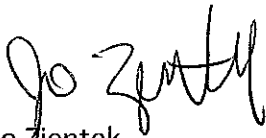
<http://blogs.mercurynews.com/super-bowl/category/news/page/3/>

<http://www.govtech.com/data/San-Jose-Calif-Launches-Innovative-Geospatial-Cleanup-App-to-Prepare-for-Super-Bowl-50.html>

<http://www.wastedive.com/news/san-jose-tackles-illegal-dumping-with-the-help-of-geospatial-technology/413568/>

Please feel free to contact me if you would like more detailed information on the project or other related projects planned for the coming years.

Sincerely,



Jo Zientek
Deputy Director
Integrated Waste Management Division