STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0115



February 11, 2022

Ms. Janet Wagner, CEO Sutter Health Mills-Peninsula 1501 Trousdale Ave Burlingame, CA 94010

**SUBJECT:** Re-opening of the Mack E. Mickelson Therapeutic Pool

Dear Ms. Wagner:

We write in continued support of Sutter Health re-opening the Mack E. Mickelson Pool located in San Mateo.

As we have both discussed with you, since last summer when the Michelson Therapy Pool's closure was announced, numerous constituents have contacted our offices with deep concerns about the lack of access to the pool. We have heard from those diagnosed with chronic pain, arthritis, and other conditions about the pool's importance to their health and well-being. Many told us about the pain relief they found after visiting the Mickelson Therapy Pool. This heated pool, a rarity on the Peninsula, is used by people all over the Bay Area looking for respite from their pain and other health issues. Some even indicated they moved to San Mateo to be closer to the pool. While other pool options have been suggested, these are not feasible alternatives given distance, accessibility and mobility issues.

San Mateo County's population continues to age and the need for rehabilitative facilities will only increase. The community recognized the importance of water therapy decades ago, and financially supported the construction of the Mickelson Therapy Pool as a local asset. We believe there is an opportunity to explore collaborative options that honor the wishes of the donors to ensure a vital community resource remains accessible, and Sutter Health must be a willing partner.

Sutter Health has demonstrated its commitment to San Mateo County since its arrival, offering support in numerous ways, and we hope it will recognize the community benefit of re-opening the Mack E. Mickelson Therapeutic Pool facilities in service to our Peninsula constituents and its patients.

Yours sincerely,

cc:

Speaker Pro Tempore, 22<sup>nd</sup> District

JOSH BECKER
Senator, 13<sup>th</sup> District

Lindsay Reike, Warm Water Wellness and Save The/Our Mickelson Pool (STOMP) Leah Cowan, Manager, Government Affairs, Sutter Health