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Craige Edgerton assumes leadership post at Silicon Valley Land Conservancy

Veteran land use expert brought on to lead nonprofit at critical time

Craige Edgerton has been appointed executive director of the Silicon Valley Land Conservancy, formerly called the Land Trust of Santa Clara County.

Don Gralnek, president of the conservancy, announced that the selection of a new leader comes at a time when the conservancy is actively attempting to save vast parcels of land in Santa Clara County, either through agricultural and open space easements or outright purchases.

“As the Silicon Valley Land Conservancy steps up its activity and becomes more deeply involved in land preservation, Edgerton’s experience will be a welcome asset,” Gralnek said. “His expertise in land management will take us a long way toward working out the complicated land exchange and purchase arrangements that lie ahead.”



Edgerton brings a wealth of knowledge to the Conservancy. A 10-year financial consultant at Wells Fargo Investments, he serves the 7th District on the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, which covers Evergreen, and has been elected board president for three of his five years with the agency.

Currently, Edgerton serves on the Coyote Valley Specific Plan Task Force. Previously, he was active in the Greenbelt Alliance and the 2020 General Plan for the City of San Jose.

Edgerton’s strong background in land use provides a crucial asset for his new post. “Craige’s passionate about open space acquisitions,” said Silicon Valley Land Conservancy board member Eric Brandenburg. “He’s the right person for the right job at the right time.”

Added Edgerton, “With growing pressures to develop land everywhere, there are community-oriented people working hard to preserve precious tracts for future generations. I’m delighted to be a part of that effort.”

About the Silicon Valley Land Conservancy

The Silicon Valley Land Conservancy, formerly the Land Trust for Santa Clara County, is dedicated to saving open space, wildlife habitats and watersheds from development. The Land Conservancy acquires, administers and protects easements to safeguard agricultural and range land permanently.

The Land Conservancy convenes environmentalists, farmers and developers to work on the same side on issues

that traditionally have pitted them against one another, whether protecting endangered species, preserving farmland or managing public open space.

To date, the Land Conservancy has preserved much more than 1,000 acres by paying for strategic agricultural easements. This approach, using easements rather than public purchase, keeps the property on the tax rolls. For more information, go to www.siliconvalleylc.org