



**MINUTES OF THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021**

*Consistent with the California Governor's Executive Order No. N-29-20, Resolution No. 79450 from the City of San José and the Santa Clara County Health Officer's March 16, 2020 Shelter in Place Order, the City Council meeting was not physically open to the public. Public comments were accepted via eComment, email, by phone/Webinar or online.*

The Committee meeting was teleconferenced from remote locations and convened at 1:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, Chair; Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, Vice Chair; Councilmember Maya Esparza, and Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, Members.

**ABSENT:** Cohen.

**STAFF:** Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr.; Deputy City Attorney Chris Alexander; Paul Pereira, Mayor's Executive Officer; City Clerk Toni Taber, and Deputy City Clerk Ruth Krantz.

**(D) REPORTS TO COMMITTEE**

**(1) Citywide Residential Anti-Displacement Strategy Quarterly Status Report. (Housing)**

Deputy Director of Housing, Ragan Henninger and Josh Ishimastu, Housing Senior Development Officer presented the report.

Public Comments: (1) Paul Soto offered appreciation for the report, the need to advocate for those who have the greatest need, and spoke against SOMOS participation and to the integrity of the South Bay Land Trust. (2) Blair Beekman spoke to county eviction moratorium protocols and need for subsidy programs. (3) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to mistreatment of Native Americans with their lands having been taken, suggesting land be given back to the community for growing food.

Deputy Director of Housing, Ragan Henninger responded to questions.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, seconded by Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco and carried unanimously, the verbal quarterly status report on the Citywide Residential Anti-Displacement Strategy was accepted. (4-0-1. Absent: Cohen.)

**(2) Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Project Quarterly Status Report. (PRNS)**

Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Nicolle Burnham presented a verbal report.

Public Comments: (1) Paul Soto opined that the proposed structure is a symbol of domination and expressed criticism of the project. Councilmember Sylvia Arenas noted that this project is not being funded by the City of San José but noted the workload being handled by City staff. (2) Blair Beekman spoke to the learning process involved.

Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr. noted separation of the role of the City's staff, consideration of the process, and thanked Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Nicolle Burnham for her work.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Raul Peralez, seconded by Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco and carried unanimously, the quarterly status report on the proposed Urban Confluence Silicon Valley Project proposed at Arena Green was accepted.

(4-0-1. Absent: Cohen.)

**(3) Timelines for Identifying Improvements to Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together (BEST) Grant Program Oversight and Accountability, and the Community Crisis Response Protocol. (PRNS)**

PRNS Administrative Officer, David DeLong presented a report on the timelines for identifying improvements to Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together (BEST) Grant Program oversight and accountability, and the Community Crisis Response Protocol.

(1) Paul Soto explained why he introduces himself as being from the Horseshoe and asked to examine the socio-economic conditions responsible for gang violence. (2) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to virtualization of meetings, the climate crisis and living without waste and fossil fuels. (3) Nick Kuwada, Policy Director, SVCN, offered support for the Community Crisis Response Protocol.

Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr. clarified criteria regarding ARP funds and other funding strings. David DeLong and Interim Program Manager, Petra Rigüero spoke to work with needs of school districts, prioritization and addition of these sites in the subject contracts.

David DeLong indicated this could return to the NSE meeting during the November timeframe with a review of the RFQ before its release in January.

Councilmember Maya Esparza agreed it should return to the NSE Committee since all partners must be allowed adequate time for input.

Interim Deputy Director, Andrea Flores Shelton offered additional information on outside funding and enhancing the footprint.

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Councilmember Sylvia Arenas recommended a crisis response plan examining trends of crimes that impact women, such as sexual assault and integration of a gender-specific crisis plan. She suggested a joint county meeting to maximize our resources.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Maya Esparza, seconded by Councilmember Raul Peralez and carried unanimously, the Work Plan was accepted, with RFQ requirements to be brought back to the NSE Committee before the January 22 for adequate review and include integrating a gender-specific crisis plan and consideration of a joint county meeting. (4-0-1. Absent: Cohen.)

#### **(4) Neighborhood Center Partner Program Status Report. (PRNS)**

Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Neil Rufino introduced Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Maria De Leon, who offered the presentation along with Petra Rigüero, Interim Program Manager and Pauline Khek, Recreation Supervisor.

Public Comments: Paul Soto spoke to San José's history of redlining.

Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr. and Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Neil Rufino responded to questions regarding community center reuse and identifying a long-term funding strategy.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Maya Esparza, seconded by Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco and carried unanimously, the status report on the Neighborhood Center Partner Program (formerly the Community Center Reuse Program), including Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and current partner activities was accepted. (4-0-1. Absent: Cohen.)

#### **(C) CONSENT CALENDAR**

None provided.

#### **OPEN FORUM**

1. Tessa Woodmansee spoke to merits of home schooling and reconnecting mother to the child as educator and a thematic curriculum of agriculture.
2. Blair Beekman spoke to reimagining and equity and sharing with the BEST program. He thanked Councilmember Sylvia Arenas for her comments on affordable housing during yesterday's council meeting and Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco's comments on Reid Hillview Airport during a radio broadcast.
3. Paul Soto spoke on advocacy for women and the need to focus on human lives and offered criticism of the corruption of money.
4. Caller "5140" asked that the fountain at the Rose Garden be fixed, noting the Park Services needs more money. He complained about the bike lanes on 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.

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Councilmember Sylvia Arenas  
Neighborhood Services and Education Committee

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