



02/11/2022

San Jose City Council
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95111

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones, and Councilmembers Arenas, Carrasco, Cohen, Davis, Esparza, Foley, Jimenez, Mahan, and Peralez,

Re: 2/15 Agenda Item 8.3- Proposed Changes to the Allocation and Category Names of Measure E Real Property Transfer Taxes.

With the passage of Measure E in 2020, the city of San Jose has an ongoing local funding source to provide much needed resources to various housing solutions. As the housing crisis continues to impact residents throughout the city, it is of utmost importance that we identify opportunities to make significant strides in addressing various housing challenges affecting our communities.

As we begin to discuss potential changes in spending allocation for Measure E funds, we would like to take a moment to remind everyone of the deep thought that went into the original spending plan so that Measure E funds could support each solution accordingly. From homeless prevention, to production and preservation of affordable housing, all of these priorities are critical towards addressing the numerous housing challenges facing us today. We acknowledge that since the passage of Measure E in 2020, new challenges have risen. We commend city staff for their recommendation so that new work can be appropriately funded, while existing initiatives still have adequate resources to continue to move forward. We would recommend the following modification be added to staff's recommendation:

- **No less than 10% of overall funding be allocated specifically for homeless prevention and rental assistance for the funding tranche under (b)4 (homeless**

support programs including prevention and rental assistance, shelter construction and operations).

This modification is critical to ensuring that funding for homeless prevention and rental assistance does not get taken away for other uses. Homeless prevention and rental assistance have always been a crucial resource for families at risk of eviction, the COVID-19 pandemic has further amplified that reality. It is of utmost importance that as we consider alternative uses of funds from Measure E, that we do not put any existing priorities in a vulnerable position. We look forward to ongoing local funding sources such as Measure E to continue to support all housing solutions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Loving, CEO, Destination Home

Regina Williams, Executive Director, Silicon Valley@Home

Jeffrey Buchanan, Policy Director, Working Partnerships USA

Andrea Portillo, Organizing and Policy Manager, SOMOS Mayfair

Nadia Aziz, Housing Directing Attorney, Law Foundation of Silicon Valley



*Because everyone
should have a home.*

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Monday, Feb. 14, 2022

Mayor Sam Liccardo
City of San Jose Councilmembers
City of San Jose
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Liccardo and San Jose Councilmembers;

On behalf of the Abode Services, its board and staff, I am writing to express our support for the City of San Jose Housing Department's recommendation on the allocation for Measure E funds. We found the Feb. 3 memo from Jacky Morales-Ferrand and Jim Shannon to the City Council to be reasonable and representative of the allocation priorities necessary to effectively and efficiently reach the goals included in the community plan to end homelessness.

Abode Services is currently engaged in a continuum of impact on the local homeless crisis in San Jose. We operate interim/emergency sites like the SureStay Hotel, Evans Lane, and Pedro Street. We provide rental assistance for chronic homeless individuals and rapid housing for families. We own and are developing five housing permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects while providing services at multiple other PSH sites in San Jose. Because of our broad range of services and housing opportunities in San Jose, we have developed a deep and unique perspective into what works and does not work to address homelessness in San Jose. It is out of this perspective that we fully support city staff recommendations. Our experience tells us that in order to make progress on homelessness in San Jose, we need to focus on investing in long-term options while providing some emergency solutions to those who are unhoused and then struggle with the resulting poor quality of life issues.

How government addresses homelessness must not come out of an analysis that demands sacrificing quality longer term solutions like PSH with innovative but rarely sustainable short-term solutions. Permanent supportive housing is worth the investment for it provides a quality and sustainability that unhoused people and the rest of the community deserve. Many cities fail to get this balance right because there is so much political pressure to address the immediate crisis that these cities fail to invest in the solutions that take time and patience to put into place. We applaud the city's balanced approach to addressing homelessness represented in the above-reference memo.

**Abode Services believes
everyone should have a home**

Every day we provide
housing and services to
homeless people in our
community while working to
end the cycle of homelessness

Thank you for your leadership on the community plan to end homelessness. Abode Services is proud to be positioned to partner with you to grow the impact on homelessness in San Jose. Please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached at lichicoine@abodeservices.org

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Louis Chicoine
Abode Services, CEO

Cc: Jacky Morales-Ferrand

February 15 Council Agenda Item 8.3 Propose Changes To E Funds

Aurelia Sanchez <[REDACTED]>

Tue 2/15/2022 7:23 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

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Hello Mayor and Council members,

Please consider increase funding to the Homeless Prevention And Rental Assistance program. I strongly feel preventing evictions and acting beforehand for families and individuals is so important. Consider this as acting before tragedy strikes and this program should include homeowners and residents who are not legal residents as long as they have a tax ID number.

There are times when residents who are in the higher income brackets have events happen that can impact their lives and income and special consideration needs to be extended to these individuals in our city. Our city should be a pioneer in helping people stay in their homes and in our city.

Best,
Aurelia Sanchez

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