

From: April Tang <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:02 AM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Sam Liccardo's Unconstitutional Attempt for a Power Grab

My name is April Tang and I live in North San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPd as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

From: Eva Chang <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:31 AM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Eva and I live in Sunnyvale.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

From: Nguyet Nguyen <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:35 AM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Nguyet Nguyen and I live in District 10 of San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

From: Madiha Khan <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 2:04 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Madiha Khan and I live in Cupertino.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Citizen

From: Liz Nguyen <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 3:03 AM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Elizabeth Nguyen and I live in District 4.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

**From:** Kristen Ruano <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 3:25 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

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[External Email]

My name is Kristen Ruano and I live in Willow Glen.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

Sincerely,  
Kristen Ruano

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

**From:** Adam Shpolyansky <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 3:29 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Concern About Power Grab

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[External Email]

My name is Adam Shpolyansky and I am a resident of Campbell and West San Jose. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there have not been many people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,

A high schooler and scared citizen,

Adam Shpolyansky

From: Janine Guiam <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 3:57 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Janine and I live in District 8.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen



From: Diana Pham <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:48 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Diana Pham and I live in South Bay Mobile Home Park.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
Diana Pham

**From:** Viet-Hung Nguyen <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:00 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Llicardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** I'd like to make a comment about the 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

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[External Email]

My name is Viet-Hung Nguyen and I live in Evergreen. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Llicardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Llicardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Llicardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted. Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

**From:** Daniela <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:31 AM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

[?]

[External Email]

My name is Daniela Moreno and I live in eastside san jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

**From:** Sarah Peters <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:43 AM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Sam

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[External Email]

My name is Sarah Peters and I live in Campbell, California. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPd as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted. Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

Sarah Peters, M.A., CCC-SLP #19816  
Director of Speech and Occupational Therapy  
Center for Speech, Occupational and Behavior Therapy  
Los Altos, Fremont, San Jose, CA  
Phone: (408) 972-2852  
Please visit our website at [www.cslot.com](http://www.cslot.com)

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**From:** Sarah Peters <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:44 AM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

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[External Email]

My name is Sarah Peters and I live in Campbell, California. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

**From:** Yan-Yin Choy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:45 AM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab



[External Email]

Dear San Jose City Council,

My name is Yan-Yin Choy and I live in district 3. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without an election. Voters must be given the opportunity to vote on whether they want Mayor Liccardo to serve an additional two years.

Furthermore, this proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there have been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San José. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process.

I ask that the San José City Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot. First, the San José City Council should convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendations for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City of San José faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The San José City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Mayor Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPd as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents and misconduct by the San José Police Department to justify why he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. The San Jose City Council heard hundreds of hours of testimony and received over 3,000 letters of public support for defunding the police, but chose to ignore it.

P.S. Mayor Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted. Shame on you for equating teachers to the police.



Alt Text: Screenshot of Twitter on June 27, 2020, on a thread about the [recent article](#) exposing retired and active duty SJPD officers mocking Muslims on Facebook.

Sajid A. Khan [@thesajidkhan](#) tweets: "That said, the unearthing of the cringeworthy, reprehensible, vicious views of these officers further illustrates and obviates to Mayor @sliccardo and the San Jose City Council the need to defund the San Jose Police Department."

Mayor Sam Liccardo (@sliccardo) replies: "And when teachers are caught saying vile things, do we defund the schools or fire the teachers responsible?"

Sincerely,  
Yan-Yin Choy,  
A Concerned Citizen

**From:** Le Nguyen <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:02 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

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[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers, The disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 and police brutality in communities of color have highlighted the urgent need to address systemic racism in San Jose and the obligation to include residents from these communities when creating city policy. By expanding the authority of the Mayor's office, the city would further exclude communities of color from having a voice at city hall. We have council members to speak on our behalf but their advocacy will not be enough against a Strong Mayor form of government. Many residents in my community work long hours, rely on public transportation, speak a language other than English, and may not have a computer or internet to keep up with City Council meetings -- but they vote for a councilmember to represent them and their interests at City Council. We voted you in to represent us, not to give in to the whims of a mayor who wants to extend his term by 2 years and have full control. Allowing the Mayor to make unilateral decisions and yield power over other councilmembers or departments indiscriminately would not only suppress the voice of our communities of color but skew the checks and balances of our local government. Please VOTE NO on the Mayor's, Vice Mayor's, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo and use your authority wisely. Thank you



**From:** Le Nguyen <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:02 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

?

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers, The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists. I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality. Thank you

**From:** Le Nguyen <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:03 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[?]

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers, The proposed change to the city charter would dramatically shift the way our local government runs and affects every single resident. Our voices should count but we are being shut out of this process as it's being rushed through without real and substantial community engagement. You have the current power to halt this proposal and allow for our voices to be heard. I ask the council to vote NO on the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo and instead work to convene the Charter Revision Commission and take the time necessary to genuinely engage a diverse coalition of community members across San Jose. We also want to vote on our next mayor and don't agree with automatically extending the current mayor's term. We as residents deserve a say in how our city is run and we won't have that opportunity if this proposal moves forward. We need you to VOTE NO WHILE YOUR VOTE STILL COUNTS! Thank you

**From:** Kate Fuell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:23 AM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

[?]

[External Email]

My name is Kate Fuell and I live in District 6.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is beyond alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen and TEACHER

From: Emma Humphries <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2020 12:29 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]> Sykes, Dave  
<[REDACTED]>

Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

[External Email]

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----

Hash: SHA512

My name is Emma Humphries and I live in the Martha Gardens neighborhood of District 3.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and

Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
Emma Humphries

**From:** Cat Uong <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:51 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

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[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality.

As a resident and voter of San Jose, I urge the Council to listen to your community during this trying time and demonstrate the democratic values that we are fighting so hard to keep in tact.

Thank you.

Cat

From: Jennifer Cayanan <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:04 AM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Jennifer Cayanan and I live in Downtown San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Cayanan  
A Concerned Citizen

From: Sweety Chen <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:10 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 and police brutality in communities of color have highlighted the urgent need to address systemic racism in San Jose and the obligation to include residents from these communities when creating city policy. By expanding the authority of the Mayor's office, the city would further exclude communities of color from having a voice at city hall. We have council members to speak on our behalf but their advocacy will not be enough against a Strong Mayor form of government. Many residents in my community work long hours, rely on public transportation, speak a language other than English, and may not have a computer or internet to keep up with City Council meetings -- but they vote for a councilmember to represent them and their interests at City Council. We voted you in to represent us, not to give in to the whims of a mayor who wants to extend his term by 2 years and have full control.

Allowing the Mayor to make unilateral decisions and yield power over other councilmembers or departments indiscriminately would not only suppress the voice of our communities of color but skew the checks and balances of our local government.

Please VOTE NO on the Mayor's, Vice Mayor's, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo and use your authority wisely.

Thank you

Simeone chien



**From:** Dara Sim <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:13 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

?

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality.

Thank you

**From:** Stephanie Chang <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:50 AM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab



[External Email]

My name is Stephanie Chang and I work in downtown San Jose. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that is alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor.

I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo is not the solution.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Chang

From: Joey Canas <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:43 AM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Joseph Canas and I live in district 3.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is quite alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPd as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

From: Valerie Doan <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:41 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Valerie Doan and I live in the Evergreen neighborhood in San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

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It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

From: Mahesh Bhavana <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:35 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Mahesh Bhavana and I live in District 6.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

**From:** Ken Pyle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** 6/30 council meeting, Agenda item 2.22 commissioner extensions.



[External Email]

Following up on my 6/16/20 email, which doesn't seem to appear in the public record, I continue to recommend extending the terms to June 30, 2021, for those commissioners who are scheduled to term out on June 30, 2020.

The referenced memo extends the current commissioner terms by six months from June 30, 2020, to December 31, 2020.

The referenced SJ Commissions have not met since the COVID-19 shelter in place order. The date for the commissions to reconvene has not been announced. When the commissions reconvene, there will be considerable planning necessary for dealing with the effects of COVID-19 in those areas of the SJ Commissions responsibility.

It is important to have experienced commissioners in place to deal with these issues and that they have enough time to deal with them before the end of their respective terms.

In Community,

Ken Pyle  
D1 Airport Commissioner (comments in this email are mine)

--

Ken Pyle  
Managing Editor

**From:** Marie T. Nguyen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:28 AM  
**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 3.10; NO on Potential Ballot Measure to Amend the City Charter

?

[External Email]

As an East San Jose native and D5 resident, I am asking our council to vote NO on the potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter. Mayor Liccardo's initiative to place a ballot initiative to change the City Charter undermines public participation in city processes. It is unethical, irresponsible, and undemocratic. Mayor Liccardo's tone deaf response to the racial injustices, discrimination, and police brutality have been underwhelming and disappointing to say the least.

The City and its residents deserve accountability and transparency. I ask that you consider convening a Charter Review Commission to review and put forth a recommendation on the best form of government for the City of San Jose. The decision to amend the City Charter in such a detrimental way with such short timing and improper public review would have long-term consequences for all of our residents.

As our elected officials, it is your responsibility and duty to represent your residents that will better their quality of life. Any charter changes that increases the current executive power will eliminate the necessary checks and balances. **I demand that you vote NO on the Mayor's initiative and engage meaningful public participation on any city charter revisions that involve changes to the City's form of government.**

Sincerely,  
Marie T. Nguyễn

**From:** Dara Sim <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:14 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

?

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality.

Thank you

--

Dara V. Sim



From: Aricka <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:15 AM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment -

[External Email]

My name is Aricka Arana O'Hara and I am a lifelong San Jose resident and I live in district 2. I'm a medical social worker and Community advocate.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

Aricka Arana O'Hara

From: Alisha Sinha <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:20 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Recent Council Meeting

My name is Alisha Sinha and I live in Evergreen.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPd as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,

Alisha



From: Diane Pham <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:35 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 and police brutality in communities of color have highlighted the urgent need to address systemic racism in San Jose and the obligation to include residents from these communities when creating city policy. By expanding the authority of the Mayor's office, the city would further exclude communities of color from having a voice at city hall. We have council members to speak on our behalf but their advocacy will not be enough against a Strong Mayor form of government. Many residents in my community work long hours, rely on public transportation, speak a language other than English, and may not have a computer or internet to keep up with City Council meetings -- but they vote for a councilmember to represent them and their interests at City Council. We voted you in to represent us, not to give in to the whims of a mayor who wants to extend his term by 2 years and have full control.

Allowing the Mayor to make unilateral decisions and yield power over other councilmembers or departments indiscriminately would not only suppress the voice of our communities of color but skew the checks and balances of our local government.

As a San Jose native, and passionate member of our community, I encourage you to please VOTE NO on the Mayor's, Vice Mayor's, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo and use your authority wisely.

Thank you,  
Diane Pham

**From:** Melissa-Ann Nievera-Lozano <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 11:44 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

?

[External Email]

My name is Melissa-Ann Nievera-Lozano and I live in District 3.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPd as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Citizen

Melissa-Ann Nievera-Lozano

**From:** TJ Andaya <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 11:48 AM

**To:** Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

?

[External Email]

My name is Timothy Andaya and I live in District 2 of San Jose. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members. It has been noted that there have been an embarrassingly low number of persons of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted. Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

From: Yareli Rivera <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:52 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Monica Rivera and I live in Willow Glen in San José California.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen



From: shaili divatia <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:55 AM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Shaili Divatia and I live in San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
Shaili

From: Victor Padilla <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:58 AM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: June 30 2020 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

My name is Joey and I live in West San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

- Victor

**From:** Serena Alvarez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 12:01 PM  
**To:** Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Dolores Huerta <[REDACTED]> Paul Chavez <[REDACTED]> Stephen Pitti <[REDACTED]> Raymond Rast <[REDACTED]> Sylvia Alvarez <[REDACTED]> Michelle Pelayo <[REDACTED]> Salud Barragan <[REDACTED]> Sykes, Dave <[REDACTED]> Wilcox, Leland <[REDACTED]> Zarate, Sarah <[REDACTED]> Rios, Angel <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Item 3.10 Potential Ballot Measure to Amend the City Charter



[External Email]

Dear San Jose City Council Members,

**LULAC District 14 submits this strong opposition to Item 3.10 and pleads for you to vote NO.**

**An historic vote, it must be cast in sight of leaders in Mexican-American Civil Rights history, copied here.**

**MYTH:** Racial inequities, systemic racism, and structural violence made undeniably evident by the COVID-19 pandemic and the racial unrest unleashed from suppression by the murder of George Floyd are unresolvable under council-manager governance and would be better addressed by charter reforms creating a stronger mayor.

**Facts:**

Given that there has only been **one person of color to ever hold the office of mayor in San Jose**, the net effect of moving even greater power into that office **will be to promote historical white supremacy and further reduce the representation of communities of color in San Jose by people of color.**

**MYTH:** Mayor-Council model is more desirable because it's "modern" and other "large" cities use this model.

**Facts:**

Of the 10 largest cities in the U.S., **4 of the 5** near our population size are **Council-Manager:**

- 6 Phoenix** (1.6 million)
- 7 San Antonio** (1.5 million)
- 9 Dallas** (1.4 million)
- 10 San Jose** (~1 million)

**Plus other growing cities:**

- Austin** (~1 million) with similar demographics, industry, and similar mix of urban, suburban, rural)
- Charlotte** (900K)

**MYTH:** Council-Manager is a "failed, out-dated" model that cannot be successful.

**Facts:**

Learn more through resources provided by the International City/County Management Association:

<https://icma.org/council-manager-form-government-resources>

To begin, view the ICMA Public Education Video re Council-Manager Governance (2:21 min):

<https://icma.org/multimedia/local-government-works-council-manager-form-government>

Video concludes with following facts:

- **IBM Report found council-manager cities are 10% more efficient than mayor-council cities**
- **Historically, nearly 2/3 of municipalities with Moody's AAA rating are council-manager**
- **Majority of National Civic League *All America City* award recipients are council-manager**

**MYTH:** Placing a measure on the ballot to amend the city charter happen without preceding public input processes is not a problem and has been done before multiple times.

#### **Facts:**

The proposed changes are significant and have not involved public engagement. A major change to the nature of our city governance, particularly with a substantial impact on district representation through council members, must be preceded by a substantial process for community engagement.

The proposed amendment grants to the office of the mayor the power to silence diverse council members and their representation of people of color. It would unequivocally diminish the voices of people of color, who would find their council members' power reduced, replaced most likely consistent with history by the solitary voice of a stronger white mayor.

The proposed charter amendment is nothing less than a power grab in response to the public outcry related to white supremacy in this valley and nation, supported by the very corporate interests that benefit from the white supremacy yet again exposed by scholarly research last week, rightly named a *Silicon Valley Pain Index*.

We **demand** that Council swiftly **reject** Item 3.10 as it will vastly deepen the racial divide in this city and grossly harm the representation of communities of color.

**A compromise among special interests that compromises constituent voices is unacceptable.**

#### **VOTE NO on Item 3.10**

/s/ Serena Alvarez, Esq., Executive Director, *The Salvador E. Alvarez Institute for Non-Violence* and District Director and State Board Member, *California League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) District 14* (Member, Council #3090 Santa Clara)

/s/ Sylvia Alvarez, J.D.  
Senior Latinx Fellow, *The Salvador E. Alvarez Institute for Non-Violence*,  
Former Trustee, *Evergreen Elementary School District Board of Trustees* (2002-2018), and  
Deputy Director, *California LULAC District 14* (Member, Council #3270 Meadowfair)

/s/ Michelle Pelayo-Osorio, M.P.A.  
Senior Latinx Fellow, *The Salvador E. Alvarez Institute for Non-Violence*, and  
State Board Member/Deputy Director for Women, *California LULAC* (Member, Council #3262 Silicon Valley Young Professionals)

/s/ Salud Barragan  
Senior Latinx Fellow, *The Salvador E. Alvarez Institute for Non-Violence*,  
Former Community Assistant, *Katherine Smith School* (95122), and  
Council President, *California LULAC Council #3270 Meadowfair*

**From:** Karl Nguyen <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 12:00 PM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

?

[External Email]

My name is Karl Nguyen and I live in Parkview in San Jose. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,

Karl Nguyen  
A Concerned Citizen

From: Victoria Fox <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:16 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Please help! Emergency!

My name is Victoria Fox and I live in district 3.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPd as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Citizen

From: Shirley Duong <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:25 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality.

Thank you,  
Shirley

From: Vicky Ho <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:33 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality.

Thank you



From: Vicky Ho <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:33 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 and police brutality in communities of color have highlighted the urgent need to address systemic racism in San Jose and the obligation to include residents from these communities when creating city policy. By expanding the authority of the Mayor's office, the city would further exclude communities of color from having a voice at city hall. We have council members to speak on our behalf but their advocacy will not be enough against a Strong Mayor form of government. Many residents in my community work long hours, rely on public transportation, speak a language other than English, and may not have a computer or internet to keep up with City Council meetings -- but they vote for a councilmember to represent them and their interests at City Council. We voted you in to represent us, not to give in to the whims of a mayor who wants to extend his term by 2 years and have full control.

Allowing the Mayor to make unilateral decisions and yield power over other councilmembers or departments indiscriminately would not only suppress the voice of our communities of color but skew the checks and balances of our local government.

Please VOTE NO on the Mayor's, Vice Mayor's, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo and use your authority wisely.

Thank you

From: Vicky Ho <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:33 PM  
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The proposed change to the city charter would dramatically shift the way our local government runs and affects every single resident. Our voices should count but we are being shut out of this process as it's being rushed through without real and substantial community engagement. You have the current power to halt this proposal and allow for our voices to be heard.

I ask the council to vote NO on the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo and instead work to convene the Charter Revision Commission and take the time necessary to genuinely engage a diverse coalition of community members across San Jose. We also want to vote on our next mayor and don't agree with automatically extending the current mayor's term. We as residents deserve a say in how our city is run and we won't have that opportunity if this proposal moves forward. We need you to VOTE NO WHILE YOUR VOTE STILL COUNTS!

Thank you

**From:** Viveka <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 12:40 PM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]>  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Item 3.1: Support the Arenas Proposal

?

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council, I am writing to share my support for Councilmember Arenas' memorandum. Now is the time for change in our electoral system to improve representation of our communities and reduce the influence of money in politics. In order to best represent the people of San Jose, we need these campaign finance reforms and changing all councilmember elections to the presidential year to improve voter turnout will only improve the number of voices in our city that are heard and represented. Allowing for a two year term to bridge the gap is the most fair way to ensure representation on Council still meets the communities needs. With the passage of the needed electoral reform that will build a more representative City Council, we can then begin the a discussion that address any potential need for changes to the Council-Manager system and the Mayoral powers. Sincerely, [Name, Council District]

From: Brian Parkman <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 12:46 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality.

Thank you

Brian Parkman

From: Serena <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:02 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: NO on Strong Mayor Proposal, YES on Councilmember Arenas' Memo

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. The Council needs to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality.

Instead, VOTE YES ON COUNCILMEMBER ARENAS' MEMO which would:

- Convene the City Charter Commission;
- Move all Council elections to presidential years while creating a special 2-year term for the Mayor to implement this change; and
- Refer the campaign finance reforms proposed to the San José Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.

Thank you

Serena Alvarez

District 6 resident

From: Serena <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:02 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam  
<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: NO on Strong Mayor Proposal, YES on Councilmember Arenas' Memo

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 and police brutality in communities of color have highlighted the urgent need to address systemic racism in San Jose and the obligation to include residents from these communities when creating city policy. By expanding the authority of the Mayor's office, the city would further exclude communities of color from having a voice at city hall. We have council members to speak on our behalf but their advocacy will not be enough against a Strong Mayor form of government. Many residents in my community work long hours, rely on public transportation, speak a language other than English, and may not have a computer or internet to keep up with City Council meetings -- but they vote for a councilmember to represent them and their interests at City Council. We voted you in to represent us not to give in to the whims of a mayor who wants to extend his term by 2 years and full control.

Allowing the Mayor to make unilateral decisions and yield power over other councilmembers or departments indiscriminately would not only suppress the voice of our communities of color but skew the checks and balances of our local government.

Please VOTE NO on the Mayor's, Vice Mayor's, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo and use your authority wisely. Instead, VOTE YES ON COUNCILMEMBER ARENAS' MEMO which would:

- Convene the City Charter Commission;
- Move all Council elections to presidential years while creating a special 2-year term for the Mayor to implement this change; and
- Refer the campaign finance reforms proposed to the San José Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.

Thank you

Serena Alvarez

District 6 resident

From: Serena <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:01 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie

<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul

<[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena

<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya

<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam

<[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]>

Subject: NO on Strong Mayor Proposal, YES on Councilmember Arenas' Memo

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The proposed change to the city charter would dramatically shift the way our local government runs and affects every single resident. Our voices should count but we are being shut out of this process as it's being rushed through without real and substantial community engagement. You have the current power to halt this proposal and allow for our voices to be heard.

I ask the council to vote NO on the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo. Instead, VOTE YES ON COUNCILMEMBER ARENAS' MEMO which would:

- Convene the City Charter Commission;
- Move all Council elections to presidential years while creating a special 2-year term for the Mayor to implement this change; and
- Refer the campaign finance reforms proposed to the San José Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.

The Council needs to take the time necessary to genuinely engage a diverse coalition of community members across San Jose. We as residents deserve a say in how our city is run and we won't have that opportunity if this proposal moves forward. We need you to VOTE NO WHILE YOUR VOTE STILL COUNTS!

Thank you

Serena Alvarez

District 6 resident

**From:** Robert Gonzalez <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** June 29, 2020 at 7:12:00 PM PDT

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]> "Liccardo, Sam" <[REDACTED]> "Jones, Chappie" <[REDACTED]> "Jimenez, Sergio" <[REDACTED]> "Peralez, Raul" <[REDACTED]> "Diep, Lan" <[REDACTED]> "Carrasco, Magdalena" <[REDACTED]> "Davis, Dev" <[REDACTED]> "Esparza, Maya" <[REDACTED]> "Arenas, Sylvia" <[REDACTED]> "Foley, Pam" <[REDACTED]> "Khamis, Johnny" <[REDACTED]> "Schmanek, Gloria" <[REDACTED]> "Taber, Toni" <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - S(VO)am Liccardo's Power Grab

[External Email]

My name is Bobby González and I'm a resident in District 3. I've lived in San José for 27 years in Districts 2, 3, 5, and 8.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. There has been no community engagement as City Manager Dave Sykes has stated, and one meeting in July isn't sufficient. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office. Mayor Liccardo believes that conversations in a few coffee gatherings should be guiding city policy rather than listening to all constituents. Waiting until 2022 for him to term out is already too much time.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. In addition, Mayor Liccardo's position on adding police officers, or reforming at a minimum, is inconsistent with caring for our communities of color.

I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot. It's unfortunate that the proposal to move the mayoral election to the year of a presidential election didn't garner enough signatures, but it should not be used as a vehicle to push the Silicon Valley Organization (SVO) and Mayor Liccardo's power grab across the goal line.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars for Equity during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember



and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. He has had plenty of time to seek meaningful reform, but he is merely reacting at this point.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Citizen

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you deleted. What an awful analogy. Your Twitter game has been off in the past few months, and your Facebook videos aren't making up for it.

Norman Kline <[REDACTED]>  
Mon 6/29/2020 11:39 AM

## **Support for Strong Mayor 'Lite' proposal**

Dear City Council Members,

This letter is in support of the 'Strong Mayor Lite' memo issued by the Mayor and supported by several council members.

I have been a supporter of the Strong Mayor model for many years, long before any current local or national issues have come to bear. I grew up in Downtown San Jose in a non-privileged family and I have public policy experience in both small and large cities.

The 1972 Charter Committee Report was generated from leaders across the community. They came to the conclusion that a Strong Mayor form of government was appropriate for San Jose at that time of only 500,000 people; we now have 1 million residents.

There is also a confusion about recent trends. Although Oakland began the transition to Strong Mayor in 1998, the completion was not confirmed until the next decade. San Diego transitioned to Strong Mayor in two steps starting in 2004 and ending in 2010.

In other words, this is not a sudden knee-jerk reaction to any current event and the trend to Strong Mayor in California is real. The City of San Jose is today the ONLY large city in California without the Strong Mayor form of government.

Last, what are we trying to solve? The Mayor's memo covers much of it, but there are so many examples in San Jose that a quick reaction could have made a significant difference. There are also inter-government issues that San Jose falls short when competing with large cities or agencies. The stories of San Jose getting the 'short-stick' are many and have real economic impact. A leader who can react quickly in situations can clearly help.

Last, this is not a liberal vs. conservative nor a social justice issue. Somehow San Francisco, Oakland and LA, with strong Mayor Systems, are not considered the bastions of conservative right wing racist white politics. Nor will San Jose be considered such if we enact the proposed measure.

So, let's get the facts correct and have a good debate on the issue. As a former Mayor of a smaller city and former Chair of your own Planning Commission, I am familiar with the benefit of both types of government models. The Manager/Council model is great for smaller to medium size cities, but it has major shortcomings in very large ones; which has been written about extensively.

I've enclosed a copy of the 1972 Charter Review Committee Recommendations. They did a very good job at that time.

Sincerely,

Norman Kline

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

R E P O R T

PRESENTED  
TO THE CITY COUNCIL ON

JUL 5, 1972

CITY CLERK  
CITY OF SAN JOSE

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

JUNE, 1972

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

R E P O R T

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

JUNE, 1972

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

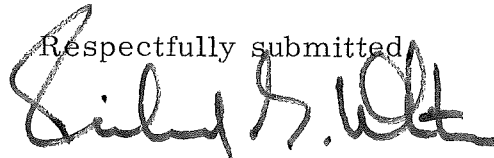
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NOTE

Over the many months of our Committee's deliberations, our meetings were attended by many citizens. Although not all members were able to participate throughout the long process of review, many regularly attended meetings which were held as often as once a week during the latter stages of our study. As Chairman, I want to express my sincere thanks to each Committee member for his or her unselfish commitment to improving our community and the procedures by which it is governed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard G. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

RICHARD G. WHITE  
CHAIRMAN

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

CITY OF SAN JOSE

Richard G. White  
RICHARD G. WHITE, CHAIRMAN

Barbara Cassin  
BARBARA CASSIN, SECRETARY

Vernon R. Whitlock

George Castro

Laura M. Ryden

Leonard G. Marks

David L. Zuffi

Jack R. [unclear]

Edward F. [unclear]

Patricia K. [unclear]

James D. [unclear]

James [unclear]

Luis A. Roldan

Ray Rodriguez

Thomas W. Riise

Robert A. Weeks

Debra K. [unclear]

Gail McCoy

David R. Armstrong

William B. [unclear]

Emily Snyder

## CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

### INTRODUCTION:

At the request of the Mayor and City Council during the early fall of 1971, this Committee was formed under the auspices of the San Jose Citizens Community Improvement Committee. At its initial meeting of October 21, 1971, Attorney Richard G. White was elected Chairman and Barbara Cassin was elected Secretary. Committee membership was open to all citizens of the City of San Jose through December 15, 1971. Each of C.C.I.C.'s member organizations was asked to send participating delegates to our meetings and the general public was invited to participate in announcements made in the press and at the 1971 Goals Forum.

The Report that follows is the end product of innumerable man-hours of study, fact finding, taking of testimony, discussion and, finally, the polling of a consensus. Although there were few points in the Committee's study when there was unanimity of opinion on any single issue, the final poll of Committee members on various alternatives resulted in a strong consensus on each of the major recommendations which follow.

The Committee is indebted to the Mayor, the members of the Council and the City Manager's Office for their support and generous assistance throughout this Committee's review of the Charter. Special thanks should be allocated to Mr. Harry Kevorkian of the City Attorney's Office for his regular attendance and technical assistance at the Committee's meetings. Additionally, members of the City Clerk's Office and other City staff members have given generously of their time to assist this Committee in its study.

After devoting several months of considerable time and effort, the Committee naturally hopes that the Council and the citizens of San Jose will recognize the merits of its recommendations. The Committee has thoroughly appreciated the opportunity to have served San Jose in what we consider an important aspect of its growth and development.

### WORK OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Committee initially spent considerable time identifying issues for study. It is not an exaggeration to state that there were few areas of municipal government that were not proposed as prospective subjects for study and change by Charter Revision. The Committee was divided into subcommittees to study the subjects of form of city government, compensation of elected officials, districting, municipal taxing powers, special funds for parks and open space, civil service requirements, police, fire and transportation commissions among many others. It soon became apparent that the process of Charter Review can only effectively be done on on-going basis, and it must be recognized that this is an express recommendation of the Committee. Liaison contact with other cities' charter study organizations indicates that a complete review of the Charter is a job effectively undertaken only over a period of years. Acknowledging



the time limitations for this Committee's Report, the group directed its attention to the identification of priority areas for Charter Revision. Preliminary Reports of each subcommittee were presented and the consensus opinion was that the Committee should direct its efforts to an in depth study of the following areas:

FORM OF CITY GOVERNMENT  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMPENSATION  
COUNCIL DISTRICTING  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MODIFICATIONS

Testimony in these areas was taken from the Mayor and Councilmen, previous Mayors and Councilmen, the City Manager, Commissioners, City personnel, elected officials and city personnel from other cities, educators and other experts in the field of public administration. The work of sister cities charter review groups and published articles and texts were also studied by the Committee. In short, the Committee considered numerous sources of relevant information as a basis for its determinations.

The Committee concluded its work over a series of meetings at which alternative proposals for revision were considered and the Committee was finally polled with respect to these alternatives. The consensus of this poll is reflected in the recommendations that follow.

#### HISTORY OF THE CHARTER:

Urban growth and its accompanying problems are widespread and it is axiomatic that this circumstance will not substantially change in the predictable future. Whether one is appalled or enthused by this fact we must acknowledge that San Jose exemplifies this condition. However, it must be recognized that San Jose can be distinguished from most other urban growth areas by its relatively recent entry into the category of "Big Cities", consequently, unencumbered by traditional political entities and methods. San Jose's status must be described as dynamic, and therefore most susceptible to change.

Historically, San Jose has a tradition of change consistent with its everchanging circumstances. In 1916, it adopted the Council-Manager form of government, only eight years after the introduction of that form of government in this country. Thirty years later, the then City Manager was removed from office and a unique "vote of confidence" provision was made applicable to future City Managers. This Charter provision required the City Manager to appear on the ballot every two years to allow the electorate to decide whether he would be retained for another two year term. The first City Manager under this new concept resigned citing how the political nature of the office diminished his ability to fulfill the administrative responsibilities of the office.

In 1966, the electorate adopted a new Charter which designated the Mayor as the political leader of the City and removed the "vote of confidence" requirement for the City Manager. The Mayor was elected at large, but his duties were generally unspecified by the Charter with the exception that he was to preside at City Council meetings.

The administrative power of the City Manager was not reduced significantly by this revision although his office was removed from a position of direct accountability to the citizenry.

The cornerstone of the democratic society is the opportunity of the electorate to participate in the review of the basic concepts and processes of government. In cities employing home rule, the Charter is the document which must be examined when the circumstances of change in a city dictate a re-evaluation of the machinery of municipal government. In San Jose, the basic concept of Council-Manager form of government remains significantly unchanged. The basic decisions affecting us today were made in 1916. As will be obvious by the review of the recommendations that follow, the Committee believes that the City of San Jose is confronted with an obvious need to re-evaluate its form of government and the basic concepts upon which it was founded.

A City which is undergoing rapid growth in every conceivable sense cannot expect the governmental machinery created for much earlier periods and a much different community to function comfortably and efficiently. A basic premise underlying the recommendations of this report is that a government must adapt to meet changes which have occurred in the past and which may be expected in the future.

The recommendations of the Committee are as follows:

I. FORM OF GOVERNMENT - SUMMARY AND COMMENT

A. The Mayor shall be the chief executive officer of the City. He shall be responsible in his executive capacity for the administration of city affairs placed in his charge by or under the Charter and shall be excluded from the City Council. The Mayor shall be responsible, in conjunction with the City Manager's office, for the formation of the annual budget, subject to confirmation by the majority vote of the Council. The Mayor shall present to the Council, in conjunction with the annual budget, a proposed program of administration of the City for the forthcoming fiscal year in the form of a State of the City message.

COMMENT: The Committee believes that the primary challenge to municipal government in San Jose is the provision of responsible and responsive leadership in coordinating diverse community interests into the development of meaningful policy goals for the City. The complexity of government in these times of rapid growth and change, requires that a City of over a half-million persons be provided with firm, vigorous political leadership and direction. We believe that this kind of leadership can be provided only by the chief elected official, chosen by a majority of the voters of the entire city, and accountable to the entire city. This recommendation seeks to advance this goal by strengthening the policy leadership role of the Mayor on both a local and Federal level. In order for the spirit of leadership to be realized, it is essential that there be coordination of administration and over-all policy planning. This can best be provided by an elected chief executive officer.

B. The Mayor shall select/appoint a Chief Administrative Officer, subject to confirmation by the Council, who shall be responsible for the appointment of department heads and all unclassified personnel, with the exception of those appointments to be made by the Mayor to his own staff. The C.A.O. has supervisory and coordinative powers over the departments whose heads he appoints.

COMMENT: The Committee recommends a system of government which builds on the best of the past while adapting to the challenges and problems of future growth and change which occurs inevitably with passing time. We sought to blend the advantages of professional administration through the council-manager system with leadership in city policy-making firmly placed in the hands of an official elected by the citizenry and responsive to the views of all segments of the community. The Committee recognizes the value and need of professional administration and wishes to continue this in our City. Also, it is recognized that the mayor's office with its new duties and responsibilities is a very large and involved position. Thus, we recommend that the Mayor appoint an able, professionally experienced administrator to appoint and supervise the heads of various departments, prepare the budget, and direct City personnel. It is the administrator's task to correlate the various departments in the important routines of day-to-day administration, to give technical and professional advice to the Mayor, and hence to free the Mayor for his other two major jobs. These are serving as ceremonial head of the City and providing broad over-all policy leadership.

C. The Mayor shall have the power to veto Council legislation subject to override by a two-thirds majority vote of the Council. If the Mayor fails to exercise his veto within fifteen (15) days of the enactment of legislation, such legislation shall become law. If the Mayor exercises his veto, Council shall have a specified period, not to exceed sixty (60) days, during which it may override said veto by a two-thirds vote. The power to veto shall not be delegated by the Mayor.

COMMENT: In order for the Mayor to be strong and the executive head of the City, the Committee recognized the need to give the Mayor a tool to assure protection of his over-all planning function. The tool provided was the veto. It is essential to a strong Mayor approach to city government and consistent with the democratic tradition of checks and balances.

D. There shall be established an Executive Staff of the Mayor's Office and appointments and removal therefrom shall be within the sole discretion of the Mayor. The Mayor's Office shall be authorized up to five unclassified assistants plus a secretary. The Mayor may be authorized additional unclassified assistants by a two-thirds vote of the Council.

COMMENT: If the Mayor is to give the kind of leadership envisioned in recommendations above, he must be given the assistance needed to operate effectively. As the City continues to grow, so will demands upon the Mayor, and the Committee believes it is good practice to permit further staff increases as they may be deemed necessary by the majority of the City Council. Because of the policy aspects of much of his responsibility, it is important that the Mayor be permitted to choose assistants in whom he has personal confidence and who may represent varying segments of the community.

E. The Mayor shall make all appointments to all Commissions, Boards and Committees, except the Civil Service and Planning Commissions, subject to ratification by majority vote of the Council. Appointments to the Civil Service and Planning Commission shall be made by majority vote of the Council.

COMMENT: The Committee recommends that the Mayor be given the power to appoint all Commissions, Boards and Committees. However, it was recognized that the Civil Service and Planning Commissions were important checks and balances by the legislative body against the chief executive. Thus, we recommend that these two Commissions continue to be selected by the Council.

F. The term of the Mayor shall be four (4) years and he shall be elected at large.

G. The Mayor's duties shall be full time. However, he shall not be expected to divest himself of all other business interests nor shall he be expected to serve exclusively full time.

COMMENT: The City of San Jose requires, even under the present form of government, full time executive administration. It is implicit in our earlier recommendations that the Mayor serve as chief executive officer of the City and that the duties of the Mayor's office will be significantly increased. The citizens of San Jose have a right to expect a full time commitment from their Mayor. However, it is unrealistic not to recognize that even strong and courageous political leadership by future mayors may well be attended by short term tenure. The best qualified candidates will not be attracted to run for this extremely important office if they are required to divest themselves from the security of all outside business interests.

## II. COUNCIL REPRESENTATION - SUMMARY AND COMMENT

A. The City shall be divided into an odd number of districts of equal population with each district being represented by one member of the Council. The City Council members shall be nominated and elected by districts.

COMMENT: In a city as large and diverse as San Jose it has become difficult under the present system for voters to expect Council consideration for ideas and proposals which may be of interest to groups in a particular district, but which may be opposed by the voters of the city as a whole. District elections would encourage that a Council member bring before the Council all proposals favored by a significant number of his constituents. This would increase the input of innovative ideas, would encourage greater consideration of the specific problems, needs and goals of particular parts of the city, and would broaden the representative character of the Council.

A large number of citizens perceive that San Jose's historically large minority population has not been provided meaningful participation or representation under the present system. It is imperative that these citizens have confidence in the responsiveness of San Jose's government and in their ability to affect its policy decisions through participation in the democratic processes. It is the Committee's opinion that district representation would increase such participation.

The Committee feels that gerrymandering of district lines can negate the many advantages sought under district representation. Thus, we recommend that language be placed in the Charter to the effect that, insofar as possible, the districting process shall not divide whole communities be they along ethnic, socio-economic, cultural or historical patterns.

Although the Committee endorses the pure district form of district representation on the Council as outlined above, there was considerable minority support for an alternative form of district representation. This alternative will allow for the nomination of a representative from each district and require that the two nominees from each district receiving the greatest number of votes at the primary election stand for election by the city-wide voters at an "at-large" general election.

B. The number of Council districts need not necessarily remain static at seven (7). Should a staff study indicate that an increase in the number of districts is required for consistent districting along ethnic, socio-economic, cultural and historical patterns, the number of Council seats and districts may be increased.

C. The Council shall elect its own presiding officer and his term of office shall be two (2) years.

D. The term of City Councilmen shall be four (4) years and their election shall be staggered.

E. City elections shall consist of a primary election in September and a general election in November. City officials will take office in January of the next succeeding year.

F. City elections shall be held in odd numbered years so as not to coincide with State or National elections.

COMMENT: The Committee strongly feels that holding City elections simultaneously with State and National elections severely hampers public discussion of local issues and candidates and that this is not sufficiently offset by consideration of either convenience or cost of combined elections.

G. It is anticipated that a Councilman's duties will be full time. However, Councilmen shall not be expected to divest themselves of all other business interests nor shall they be expected to serve exclusively full time.

COMMENT: The City of San Jose requires full time leadership and should expect from its elected officials a concomitant commitment. While Councilmen shall be expected to devote their full time and efforts to City affairs, it must be recognized that even courageous political leadership is sometimes attended by short-termed tenure and the best qualified candidates will not be attracted to Council positions if they are required to divest themselves from the security of all outside business interests.

### III. MAYOR AND COUNCIL SALARIES - SUMMARY AND COMMENT

A. A Salary Review Commission shall be appointed by the Civil Service Commission to make recommendations biennially to the City Council concerning the salaries to be paid to the Mayor and the City Council.

B. The City Council shall not be permitted to establish salaries in excess of the amounts thus recommended.

C. The ordinance setting salaries shall not be effective for ninety (90) days.

D. The adoption of salary changes shall be subject to referendum.

COMMENT: The Committee recognizes that the present salaries of both Mayor and Council members are inadequate. They are also vastly disproportionate to the efforts and abilities that the electorate of this community should demand of its elected officials. However, the Committee believes that it is unwise to put specific salary figures into a Charter. Salaries so determined may be adequate at the time they are established, but it is difficult to make adjustments to meet changed workloads or economic conditions. The offices of Mayor and Councilmen in the City of San Jose today require full time attention, while the present salary levels remain set for a smaller city with lesser demands upon the Mayor and Council members.

The salaries of Councilmen and the Mayor should be determined by an independent salary commission to be appointed by the Civil Service Commission for that specific purpose alone. The Council, as the elected representatives of the citizens, could then act within the limits of that recommendation. Additionally, it is the specific recommendation of this Committee that the salary of the Mayor be at all times greater than that set for Councilmen.

Councilmen shall be eligible to receive increased salaries only following the next election for which any member of the Council stands for election. A further safeguard against excessive salaries is provided by making the ordinance changing these salaries subject to referendum and requiring that a ninety (90) day period elapse before such an ordinance shall become effective.

#### IV. CIVIL SERVICE - SUMMARY AND COMMENT

A. Personnel Department: Section 807 of the Charter shall be renumbered Section 808 and shall create an independent Personnel Department, the duties of which shall include:

1. The administration of culturally fair evaluations related to job openings.
2. The establishment of trainee programs to attract persons with minimal qualifications and potential for development from among the disadvantaged, handicapped, and returning veterans.
3. The adoption and administration of Civil Service rules.

COMMENT: One of the tasks of responsive public administrative management is the recruitment, hiring, and promoting of personnel. To elect an individual as the city's chief executive while separating these important functions from his responsibility is both unfair to him and to the public who elected him. The chief executive must be able to determine the personnel needs of the city and, under merit principles, to meet these needs.

It is sound administrative practice, as well as politically fair play, that the chief executive be given greater authority over the personnel function if we are to charge him with the ultimate responsibility of administering the city's affairs. To assign the powers and responsibilities of quasi-legislative, quasi-judicial, and quasi-administrative personnel functions to a multiple member commission, as our present system provides, is to reduce the effectiveness, responsiveness, and accountability of our personnel system.

Certainly the personnel function is vital to the quality of the public service. However, it is doubtful whether this function, any more

than other functions for which the chief executive is being held responsible by the electorate, should be independent of his control. In a number of jurisdictions where the personnel function is centered in a personnel department under the supervision of a personnel director appointed by, and accountable to the chief executive, the results have been most favorable. In fact, it has been successfully proven that it is entirely feasible to accomplish such an integration and centralization of the personnel function without suffering a return to past problems. Under such an integrated personnel structure, management is centralized and quick and decisive action is facilitated. There is no delay in matters until a part-time independent civil service commission can meet, and no inaction because of divided counsel or inability to agree.

B. Commission member's terms will be four (4) years with a limitation to two (2) consecutive terms. (Section 1001)

COMMENT: The Committee recognized the need to involve more citizens to participate in our government and proposed to shorten the terms of office from six to four years. It is recommended that citizen participation be increased and encouraged in this manner.

C. Duties of Civil Service Commission: Present charter Section 1001(f) shall have deleted from it subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4). A paragraph shall be added in their place providing for the hearing of appeals of all City employees with decisions binding on all parties and testimony under oath. This provision would seek to limit the Civil Service Commission's duties to determining whether the Personnel Department was properly administering Civil Service rules.

COMMENT: The Committee decided that the present practice of a part-time Civil Service Commission was not compatible with responsible personnel management. The Personnel Director should be held accountable for the results of his department with an appeal agency separated from the Personnel Department.

In most jurisdictions, the traditional Civil Service Commission is no longer necessary. There still remains--perhaps now more than ever before--an urgent need to involve the citizen in the workings of government. In respect to public personnel administration, it is felt that such a need can be met in part by the continuation of the citizen personnel appeal board. The board, although devoid of any legislative or administrative function connected with the jurisdiction's personnel administration, can still serve a valuable purpose as an employee appeal board. This modification clearly establishes the judicial function of the Civil Service Commission.



D. Merit Principle: Section 1100 of the Charter shall be revised to read: "All appointment and promotions to positions in the classified service shall be made on the basis of merit and fitness, demonstrated by culturally fair evaluations, on-the-job performance, and/or other evidence of competence in accordance with this Charter." This specific language is only meant to express the spirit of the Committee's recommendation and does not purport to be semantically unalterable.

COMMENT: In the quest for persons who are the best qualified for particular positions in the public service, the personnel director should be free to utilize any combination of selection criteria; such as education and experience, any written, oral, or performance test of capacity, knowledge, manual skills, training period or physical fitness. The personnel director must take special precautions to ascertain that all tests or selection methods, as nearly as possible, are culture fair and that such tests are validated. A test can be judged valid if a direct relationship can be shown between test results and job performance. The Committee notes that this has not been accomplished under the divided system that exists in this City today.

E. Classified and Unclassified Personnel: Subsection (a) and (3) of Section 1101 of the Charter shall be revised to provide that the Mayor, City Manager, and their staffs, each Department Head and up to but not exceeding ten percent (10%) of each department shall be designated as unclassified personnel. (Unclassified personnel shall not include clerical personnel.)

COMMENT: In order for the spirit of a merit system to be realized, it is essential that the majority of the positions in the public service be classified. Conversely, it is equally important that certain positions be exempted from the provisions of this act. Key policy-determining officials, such as department heads and agency heads, must be acutely sensitive to the program objectives of the chief elected officials. As a result, those persons should serve at the pleasure of the chief executive rather than be under the provisions of the merit system.

The selection of key policy-determining officials by the chief executive does not constitute spoils, but rather it helps to guarantee to the public that the election official will have the help, in terms of sympathetic staff, to implement his platform. It is extremely unlikely that the elected official will appoint persons of questionable ability to policy-determining positions. The risks of such a move could be unfulfilled promises which would turn up to haunt the official at the next election.

The Committee determined that each department has different needs for specific numbers of unclassified employees and, therefore, limited the maximum in any department to ten percent (10%), although the percentage may be less than ten percent (10%) in any department.

F. Mandatory Separation from Service: The mandatory age for separation from service is recommended to be reduced to 55 for firemen and policemen and 65 for all other City employees. (Section 1108).

COMMENT: The Committee felt that the physical capabilities of emergency forces should be maintained at high levels. The existing mandatory retirement age of 65 for fire and police personnel should be reduced to age 55.

In the non-emergency departments, it is recommended that the present mandatory retirement age of 70 be reduced to age 65.

#### INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS

The present City Charter provides for the transfer of personnel in the event of annexation of other public agencies or in the event of consolidation of cities.

City Charter Section 800 (b) provides for intergovernmental agreements but does not enable the personnel to be transferred to the City of San Jose.

It is the understanding of the Committee that financial intergovernmental relationships are being studied by a separate C.C.I.C. Committee on Finance. It is our recommendation that the City Charter be amended so as to provide enabling legislation for the transfer of personnel from public agencies in the event of such intergovernmental contracts.



P.O. Box 5374  
San Jose, CA 95150  
[www.lwvsjsc.org](http://www.lwvsjsc.org)  
June 29, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and San Jose City Council Members  
cc: San Jose City Clerk

Re: Strong Mayor Initiative, **Item 3.10**, June 30, 2020 City Council meeting

The League of Women Voters of San Jose/Santa Clara urges the City Council to carefully consider the impact of putting the "Inclusion, Accountability, and Better Government Reforms" on the November 2020 ballot.

We have two major concerns about this measure and its timing:

- *Process.* Changing the power structure of the relationship between the mayor, city council, and city manager might turn out to be in the best interests of the residents of our city, but it is a major change to the City Charter. We are concerned that this process bypasses the Charter Review Commission by asking it to review the measure after it is presented to the voters for a vote. **Ask the Charter Review Commission to review the proposed measure now before it is placed on the ballot.**
- *Transparency and Public Participation.* The League supports active participation by the public in government which requires officials to provide broadly publicized and convenient opportunities for public participation. The League believes that government bodies protect the public's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions and hold open meetings.

Public access to meetings and to information about government business is just as crucial in times of crisis as in any other time. **We believe that major decisions with reduced opportunities for public input should not be made if these decisions can be reasonably postponed.** We do not see the urgency even in this time of COVID-19.

The two important points above do not deal with the substance of the proposed measure. We studied and adopted a position last updated in 1986, which **supports the Council/Manager form of government in the City Charter.** Our membership voted on June 6 to review and potentially update this position because we wanted to study this important issue in an unbiased manner given today's realities. We also have positions on campaign finance and electoral processes. If this measure goes forward on June 30, we will evaluate the approved language to decide whether we will support, oppose, or abstain based on our current positions.

We believe that ballot measures should be limited to a single subject. This proposed measure has three subjects. While we recognize the real cost involved with submitting even one

measure, this is often very confusing to voters who may favor one or two subjects, but not all three. In the past, we have declined to endorse measures for this reason.

Let us work together to keep our government strong.

Respectfully submitted,

***Carol M. Watts***

Carol Watts, President  
League of Women Voters of San Jose/Santa Clara



Mayor Liccardo and City Council  
City of San Jose  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

June 30, 2020

**RE: Item 3.10 CITY CHARTER INITIATIVE**

Honorable Mayor Liccardo and City Council Members,

Focused on making San Jose the best city in the country to start and grow a local business, the Business San Jose Chamber PAC is the only San Jose-based organization focused exclusively on improving the business climate for small and medium enterprises, and the only one 100% founded and run by local businesspeople.

**We write to you today to express our support for the POTENTIAL BALLOT MEASURE TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER.**

As San Jose continues to grow, so must its form of government. San Jose's outdated form of government will only continue to hold us back from holding our local leaders accountable to us, the voters. Whether in a crisis or not, having a leader who can quickly respond to issues arising in our community is critical for many reasons, including quickly improving services and address departmental issues in an expedited manner.

Additionally, the Business San Jose Chamber PAC supports clear and unilateral campaign finance reform that applies equally to all, not only those that we do not agree with. Silencing only those that don't agree with us, as proposed in a similar initiative, does not provide true accountability and reform as is clear in Mayor Liccardo's proposal.

We believe that at this time the City should move forward with this initiative and lead San Jose into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Business San Jose Chamber PAC stands ready to work with you on this initiative.

Sincerely,

*Tracey*

Tracey Infantino

**Business San Jose Chamber PAC Board of Trustees**

Tracey Infantino \* Jeff Cristina \* Phil Boyce \* Dan Bozzuto \* Nicole Goehring \* Steve Lopes  
Suzanne Salata \* Jan Schneider \* Bernie Vogel \* John Davis \* Jim Campagna



# LiUNA! LOCAL 270

*Feel the Power*

Friday, June 26, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor Liccardo and City Councilmembers  
City of San Jose  
200 E Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter

Dear Honorable Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

I write to you in my official capacity as Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer of Laborers International Union of North America, Local Union No. 270 (Laborers Local 270).

Laborers Local 270 represents approximately 7000 construction and maintenance workers who live and work in and around the City of San Jose. It is on behalf of these hard working men and women that I write this letter in support of a potential ballot measure to amend the city charter.

We are in support of changing the Mayor's seat to align with the Presidential term and extending his term two additional years. Thus, ensuring more participation as voter turnout is higher in a presidential term and more people of color tend to vote on the presidential election.

Let us give constituents peace of mind, by supporting a campaign finance reform and gift ban. Adding provisions will ensure the Mayor and Councilmembers recuse themselves from any vote with a direct impact on an interest group that has contributed to that candidate. Such as political contributions and gifts from any contractors or lobbyist to candidates.

We ask the council to support this memo and allow the constituents to cast their vote on a measure to amend the city charter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Enrique Arguello  
Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer

*Affiliated with the Laborers' International Union of North America serving  
Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey Counties*

**ENRIQUE ARGUELLO**  
Business Manager  
Secretary-Treasurer

**LUIS ARGUELLO**  
Assistant Business Manager  
Executive Board

**FERNANDO AMBRIZ**  
President

**HECTOR HEREDIA**  
Vice-President

**JUAN SOTO**  
Recording Secretary

**RENE CAMACHO**  
Executive Board

**GILBERTO RIVERA**  
Executive Board

2195 Fortune Drive  
San Jose, CA 95131  
(408) 297-2620 Office  
(408) 297-6374 Fax

640 Eaton Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062  
(831) 475-7058 Office  
(831) 475-1767 Fax

117 Pajaro Street  
Salinas, CA 93901  
(831) 422-7077 Office  
(831) 422-5627 Fax



**From:** Robert Gonzalez [mailto:████████████████████]

**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:05 PM

**To:** Diep, Lan <████████████████████> City Clerk <████████████████████>

**Cc:** Liccardo, Sam <████████████████████> Jones, Chappie <████████████████████> Peralez, Raul

<████████████████████> Esparza, Maya <████████████████████> Carrasco, Magdalena

<████████████████████> Davis, Dev <████████████████████> Arenas, Sylvia

<████████████████████> Khamis, Johnny <████████████████████> Taber, Toni

<████████████████████> Foley, Pam <████████████████████> Schmanek, Gloria

<████████████████████>

**Subject:** 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - David Cohen

[External Email]

You've chosen to ignore constituents on defunding SJPd, you thought there were more pressing needs than Equity, and it looks like you want to give Sam Liccardo a free 2 years and more power. I look forward to David Cohen replacing you.

**Lan Diep - 2019 Mercury News -**

It's great that San Jose City Council unanimously created an Office of Racial Equity last night, but just a year ago, the proposal to do so was seen by our current council member as "politicizing the budget."



MERCURYNEWS.COM

**Opinion: Don't politicize, San Jose's budget – pass it**

Councilmembers proposal for an Equity Fund can be better spent on more...



Mayor Liccardo and City Council  
City of San Jose  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

June 30, 2020

**RE: Item 3.10 CITY CHARTER INITIATIVE**

Honorable Mayor Liccardo and City Council Members,

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Additionally, the Business San Jose Chamber PAC supports clear and unilateral campaign finance reform that applies equally to all, not only those that we do not agree with. Silencing only those that don't agree with us, as proposed in a similar initiative, does not provide true accountability and reform as is clear in Mayor Liccardo's proposal.

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Sincerely,

*Tracey*

Tracey Infantino

**Business San Jose Chamber PAC Board of Trustees**

Tracey Infantino \* Jeff Cristina \* Phil Boyce \* Dan Bozzuto \* Nicole Goehring \* Steve Lopes  
Suzanne Salata \* Jan Schneider \* Bernie Vogel \* John Davis \* Jim Campagna



**From:** Robert Gonzalez <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:07 AM

**To:** Taber, Toni <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Sykes, Dave <[REDACTED]> Reed, Jim <[REDACTED]> Pereira, Paul <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Khamis, Johnny <[REDACTED]> Diep, Lan <[REDACTED]> McGarrity, Patrick <[REDACTED]> Groen, Mary Anne <[REDACTED]> Ramos, Christina M <[REDACTED]> Gomez, David <[REDACTED]> Herbert, Frances <[REDACTED]> Quintero, Andres <[REDACTED]> Hughes, Scott <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Public Comment for Agenda Item 3.10 for 6/30/20 Council Item - Equity

[?]

[External Email]

Here's a small sample of the names that have spoken for and against the Strong Mayor proposal. It only represents about 3 of the 6 PDFs, but it includes the 2 that had mostly "For Strong Mayor" letters. The remaining 3 PDFs that I have not included are largely against the strong mayor proposal.

Take a look at the names that are in support of the strong mayor proposal. Are a bunch of white men deciding for our city? Are they the ones whose voices carry the most weight? This is reflective of everything that's wrong in our country. This is how we got here. Take a look at the diversity represented in the against column.

Sam Liccardo - you kneeled and said Black Lives Matter, you go to cafecitas with madres, but that's all a front until you make decisions that are truly representative of our diverse city, not just the businessmen and developers that support you.

[?]

<b>For Strong Mayor</b>	<b>Against Strong Mayor</b>
Norman Kline	Serena Alvarez
Bill Harrington	Hai Chang
David Buchholz	Jill Alter
Daniel Glaessl	April Tang
Mike Benkert	Eva Chang
The Silicon Valley Organization	Nguyet Nguyen
Frank Deturris	Madiha Khan
Mathew Mahood	Liz Nguyen
Neil Collins	Kristen Ruano
Jerry Strangis	Adam Shpolyansky
Rick Smith	Janine Guiam
Michael Turpin	Diana Pham
Dyland Boldt	Viet-Hung Nguyen
Steven Meneses	Daniela Moreno

Marc Parkinson	Sarah Peters
Joel Graham	Yan-Yin Choy
Rick Beatty	Le Nguyen
Patrick Adair	Emma Humphries
Liann Walborsky	Cat Uong
Terrence Reilly	Jennifer Cayanan
Lalia Neira	Sweetie Chen
Casey Quisol	Dara Sim
Nathan Perez	Stephanie Chang
Jane Santos	Joey Canas
Monique Ross	Marie Nguyen
Huong Truong	Dara Sim
Monquie Nou	Alisha Sinha
Lieu Bach	Diane Pham
Ryan Yamamoto	Melissa-Ann Nievera-Lozano
Lisa Riggs	TJ Andaya
Bettie Owen	Victor Padilla
San Jose Downtown Association	Karl Nguyen
Association of Realtors	Victoria Fox
Jarrod Jenkins	Shirley Duong
Plumbers and Pipefitters Union	Vicky Ho
Electrical Workers Union	Viveka
Laborer's International Union	Brian Parkman
	Serena Alvarez
	Robert Gonzalez
	Blanca Alvarado
	Hau Ngo
	Cheyenne Cary
	Ana Lopez
	Maricela Magana
	Nick Hill
	Taylor Chase
	Falcon Bigney
	Alyssa Galvan
	Rachel Matus deLahunta
	Linda MacLeod
	Monica Mallon
	Angelique S.
	Craig Ferguson
	Brenda Lopez
	Veronica Amador
	Kyle Pengosro

	Samantha Lu
	Melissa Ortiz
	Sarah Brockmeyer
	Samuel Harry Goldestein
	Krystal Franco
	Kathileen Tran
	Zayra Huerta
	Emanuel Rivera
	Isaac Lara
	Sahit Kavukuntla
	Mutasim Yassin
	Stephanie Do
	Priscilla Espinoza
	Johnny
	Breanna Williams
	Zain Ahmed
	Aria Panisi
	Kayla Nicholson
	Tiffany Do
	Staeci Morita
	Evette Tapia
	Joann Le
	Chiara Mattioli
	Stacey Hoelsing
	Kevin Boockholdt
	Michael Palacios
	Arihan Shah
	Samara Stone
	Chris Ellis
	Christ Gonzales
	Jessica Guzman
	Isabel Gonzalez
	Jordan Almaguer
	Jessica Pham
	Brennon Moore
	Daniela Cortez
	Jessica Pham
	Beverly Hong
	Kimberly Chong
	Ariana Kempis
	Zayra Galindo Lopez
	Courtney Hill

