

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY, FINANCE AND STRATEGIC SUPPORT COMMITTEE  
AND MEETING OF THE WHOLE**

**SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021**

*Consistent with AB 361 and City of San Jose Resolution No. 79485 and Resolution No. 80237, this meeting will not be physically open to the public and the Committee Members will be teleconferencing from remote locations. Public comments were accepted via eComment, email, by phone/Webinar or online.*

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

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Raul Peralez, Chair; Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, Vice Chair; Vice Mayor Chappie Jones, Councilmembers Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, and Councilmember Matt Mahan, Members.

**ABSENT:** All Present.

**STAFF:** Assistant City Manager, Lee Wilcox; Senior Deputy City Attorney Rosa Tsongtaatarii; Paul Pereira, Mayor's Office; City Clerk Toni Taber, and Deputy City Clerk Ruth Krantz.

**(b) Review of Work Plan**

Councilmember Raul Peralez requested hearing out of order, #2 first, then #1, 3, and 4.

Public Comments: (1) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to making our streets safe and the need for prevention. (2) Caller '5140' spoke to poor response times for police and fire and unsafe streets.

Action. Upon motion by Councilmember Matt Mahan, seconded by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas and carried unanimously, the Work Plan, with revised hearing order, was accepted. (4-0-1. Absent: Arenas.)

**(c) Consent Calendar**

**1. Bi-Monthly Financial Report for July/August 2021. (City Manager - Budget/Finance)**

Public Comments: (1) Blair Beekman suggested planning be an open conversation. (2) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to preparedness and need for forethought. (3) Caller '5140' advised better preparedness by the City.

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**(c) Consent Calendar (Cont'd.)**

Councilmember Matt Mahan asked about interpretation of data on private sector construction activity. Budget Director Jim Shannon responded to questions.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Matt Mahan, seconded by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, and carried unanimously, the Bi-Monthly Financial Report on actual revenues and expenditures as compared to the 2021-2022 Budget for the two months ending August 2021 was accepted. (5-0.)

**REPORTS TO COMMITTEE**

**1. Personal Care Business Compliance Initiative Follow-Up Report. (Police)**

Lieutenant Brian Spears offered a presentation.

Public Comments: (1) Tessa Woodmansee spoke on anonymity being built into the community, that land use issues affect this issue. (2) Speaker '5140' offered criticism of the PD.

Lieutenant Brian Spears and Police Chief Anthony Mata responded to questions.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Matt Mahan, and carried unanimously, the follow-up report on the Personal Care Business Compliance Initiative with respect to the status of illicit massage businesses was accepted. (5-0.)

**2. Fire Department Emergency Response Times Performance Annual Report. (Fire)**  
*(item heard first)*

Fire Engineer Chad Goytia and John Healy, Deputy Fire Chief provided the presentation and responded to questions. Robert Sapien, Jr., Fire Chief responded to questions.

Public Comments: (1) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to traffic calming techniques. (2) Caller '5140' complained about response times. (3) Blair Beekman spoke to planning and community safety.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Matt Mahan, seconded by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas and carried unanimously, the annual report on Fire Department emergency response times performance metrics and progress on response time performance improvement strategies through the end of 2020-2021 was accepted. (5-0.)

**3. Fire Department Sworn Staffing Levels Annual Report. (Fire)**

Robert Sapien, Jr., Fire Chief provided a presentation and responded to questions.

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### 3. (Cont'd.)

Public Comments: (1) Tessa Woodmansee asked that firefighters wear masks and adhere to COVID safety practices. (2) Blair Beekman suggested sharing tech between agencies, such as chemical detection equipment. (3) Caller '5140' complained of too much overtime used.

Councilmember Raul Peralez asked for staff to return to the Committee with more information, such as growth in densification similar to analysis done with Measure T to determine a way to start funding high growth areas/new stations within the next five years, asking that staff work with budget office to come up with an analyses of the timeline, expected attrition rates and growth rate for densification, ultimately for Council review, allowing a more strategic conversation before next budget is due.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Matt Mahan and carried unanimously, the annual report on Fire Department sworn staffing levels for 2020-2021, including filled and vacant position status, the use of relief staffing and overtime to maintain daily staffing levels, and a comparison of San José's apparatus staffing models to other comparable and surrounding agencies was accepted, including information to be provided by staff as outlined by Councilmember Raul Peralez to allow a more strategic conversation before the next budget is due. (5-0.)

*Councilmember Sergio Jimenez hosted the remainder of the meeting due to Councilmember Raul Peralez having technical difficulties.*

### 4. Park Ranger Program Annual Report. (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)

Avi Yotam, Deputy Director of Parks, and Pam Helmke, Supervising Park Ranger provided a presentation.

Public Comments: (1) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to controlled burns and the environment. (2) Blair Beekman spoke to good practices. (3) Speaker '5140' offered criticism of the park police.

Staff and Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Neil Rufino responded to questions.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Matt Mahan and carried unanimously, the annual report on the Park Ranger Program for 2020-2021 was accepted. (5-0.)

### OPEN FORUM

1. Caller '5140' expressed criticism of the park police.
2. Tessa Woodmansee offered ideas for the resiliency corps.
3. Blair Beekman spoke to open public policy and subsidy ideas.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Sergio Jimenez adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

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Councilmember Raul Peralez, Chair  
Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee

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