



Access and Use of Neighborhood Blight Reduction Programs: BeautifySJ Can Continue and Expand Its Equity Efforts

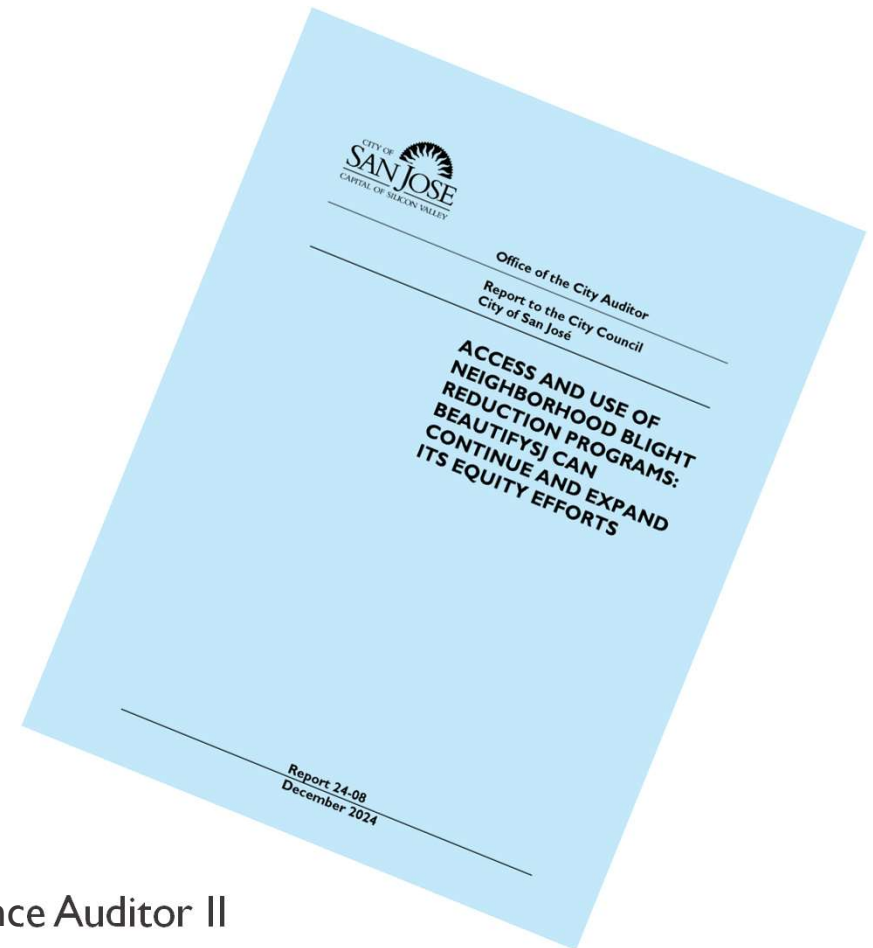
A Report from the City Auditor
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<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/auditor>

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Neighborhood Services & Education Committee, December 12, 2024

Agenda Item (d)5



Background

The BeautifySJ Neighborhood Blight Reduction and Beautification programs support residents through services such as:

- Graffiti removal
- Removing and Preventing Illegal Dumping (RAPID)
- BeautifySJ grants (including neighborhood association engagement and support)
- Neighborhood litter removal, neighborhood beautification (including dumpster days), and volunteer events



BEAUTIFYSJ GRANT PROGRAM

El programa de subvención BeautifySJ proporciona fondos (desde \$300 hasta \$5,000) para los esfuerzos de limpieza del vecindario, proyectos de embellecimiento y oportunidades de participación del vecindario en San José.

Proyectos De Embellecimiento

Todos los proyectos de embellecimiento deben ser en propiedad pública

- ▶ Adoptar Un Parque
- ▶ Paisajismo
- ▶ Zonas De Jardín
- ▶ Limpieza Del Vecindario
- ▶ Plantación

Calidad De Vida Del Vecindario Y Eventos O Proyectos De Construcción De La Organización Del Vecindario

- ▶ Eventos Liderados Por El Vecindario
- ▶ Apoyo De La Organización Del Vecindario
- ▶ Evento Voluntario De Un Día En Un Parque

Eventos Y Actividades De Apoyo Y Desarrollo De Capacidades En El Vecindario

- ▶ Difusión Y Comunicación Del Grupo Vecinal
- ▶ Desarrollo De Capacidades

CÓMO APLICAR?

La solicitud de la subvención de BeautifySJ estará disponible a través de WebGrants: grants.sanjoseca.gov



Finding I: Priority Communities Have Received The Same or Higher Levels of Service From Neighborhood Blight Reduction Programs.

- Priority communities received a higher proportion of BeautifySJ grants and dumpster days than other communities.
- There was no discernable difference in timeliness of graffiti removal or illegal dumping responses across neighborhoods.
- BeautifySJ can maintain and review disaggregated program data to ensure continued equitable access and use of its services.
- Language translations can be improved across different City platforms, and PRNS can expand access to volunteer events by providing accessibility information.

Recommendations: The Administration, ITD, and PRNS should:

- Maintain and review disaggregated data on BeautifySJ services to ensure continued equitable service delivery.
- Improve translation options and guidance for SJ311 and the grant and volunteer websites.
- Include accessibility statements for volunteer events.



Conclusion

This report has 6 recommendations.

We would like to thank the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department, the Information Technology Department, the Finance Department, and the Office of Racial and Social Equity for their time and insight during the audit process.

The audit report is available at www.sanjoseca.gov/auditor

Audit staff: Brittney Harvey, Michael O’Connell Jr., Adrian Perez, & Peter Childs (Stanford in Government fellow)