



October 3, 2019

Subject: Request for Waiver of the Revolving Door Prohibitions Policy

Mayor Sam Liccardo and San Jose City Council
c/o Toni Taber, City Clerk
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Honorable Mayor and Council:

As a former employee of the City of San Jose, working as a senior policy advisor to Mayor Liccardo, I am requesting a waiver of the Revolving Door Prohibitions policy as provided under Chapter 12.10.070 so that as the CEO of the Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits (SVCN), I can partner with the City of San Jose on the issues that are critically important to the City and its residents--affordable housing, homelessness, equity, open space and early education, food security and access, and the safety net.

I left the City on May 17, 2019, and started this new role on May 20. While at the Mayor's Office, I counseled the Mayor on policy related to homelessness, housing, land use, parks, community centers, audit, retirement services, and ballot measures, among others.

The City's Revolving Door ordinance prohibits me, for a period of two years after leaving City employment, from:

- Working on any legislative or administrative matter that was within my area of job responsibility at the City; or
- Working on any legislative or administrative matter which I worked on twelve months prior to leaving the City; or
- Representing anyone else on any matter before the City. See [SJMC § 12.10.030](#).

Exemption for "nonprofit organization" applies only to I.R.C. § 501 nonprofit organizations that have programs or projects which have received financial or other support from the City of San Jose within the last 5 years. [See SJMC § 12.10.020.E](#). SVCN has not received financial or other support from the City within the last 5 years.

SVCN represents well over 200 nonprofit organizations in Silicon Valley, the great majority of which provide human services to San José residents. As SVCN's CEO, I plan to help nonprofits build their capacity through training and consultation, thereby serving as a magnifier of the effectiveness of nonprofits, many of whom are the City's nonprofit partners and contractors.

I also plan to work with City departments and City elected officials on issues of common interest through consultation, referrals, and networking; and to help convene cross-sector players to address community issues, many of which the City currently prioritizes. SVCN often serves as the backbone entity in facilitating multi-sector collective impact approaches.

City Council may waive the Revolving Door Ordinance's two-year prohibition, but only if it is in the City's best interest and the waiver is consistent with the purpose of the Revolving Door Ordinance. (SJMC § 12.10.070.) The purposes of this chapter are:

- To assure the independence, impartiality and integrity of city and agency officials and designated employees in making governmental decisions and taking governmental actions.
- To prevent such former officials and designated employees from using their positions with the city or agency for personal gain.
- To prevent private for-profit business entities from obtaining a real or perceived unfair advantage in dealing with the city or agency by hiring former officials and designated employees.

Respectfully, I believe that these purposes are consistent with a waiver that would allow me to support nonprofits in furthering the City's enterprise priorities, such as homelessness and affordable housing. For example, I have spoken to a number of nonprofits who are interested in developing affordable housing on property they own or are interested in co-locating in affordable housing. In another example, a group of nonprofits are interested in addressing the City's dearth of commercial kitchen space, especially that available to nonprofits. I would like to facilitate and support the research and coordination required to address this challenge in a cross-sector manner. I am a salaried employee at SVCN and would receive no additional financial or other personal gain from a waiver.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kyra Kazantzis

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