
FW: June 9, 2025 Council Meeting - Item 3.1 - Proposed Operating Budget

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 6/6/2025 2:03 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (197 KB)

Republic Urban Properties Support for Mayor's Budget 2025-26.pdf;

From: Michael Van Every <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 1:53 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Rocha, Vincent <Vincent.Rocha@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: June 9, 2025 Council Meeting - Item 3.1 - Proposed Operating Budget

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Madam Clerk:

Please circulate my attached support letter to the Mayor, Council and respective city staff.

Thank you,

MVE

Michael R. Van Every
President and Managing Partner
Republic Urban Properties LLC
www.republicfamilyofcompanies.com
1098 Lincoln Avenue #200
San Jose, CA 95125

[REDACTED]

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June 9, 2025

Mayor Mahan
San Jose City Councilmembers
200 East Santa Clara Street – 18th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Support for Mayor's Proposed Budget for 2025-26

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

As a San Jose business stakeholder, Republic Urban Properties would like to express our staunch support for the Mayor's June Budget Message for Fiscal Year 2025–2026. This proposed budget aligns closely with priorities important to the business community – spurring economic growth, accelerating housing development, addressing the homelessness crisis, and maintaining a safe, vibrant city – all while exercising prudent fiscal management. We commend the City's leadership for crafting a balanced, fiscally responsible plan that closes a significant deficit with minimal service impacts. This budget also sets aside reserves to buffer against future shortfalls. Equally important, the budget maintains critical services and invests in long-term solutions that will benefit our economy and quality of life.

We are particularly encouraged by key initiatives in the FY 2025–26 Budget Message that demonstrate this alignment with our community's needs:

- **Accelerating Housing Development:** We applaud the commitment of new resources to accelerate housing construction across all income levels. Notably, the budget allocates about **\$60 million** through a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to support affordable housing development. In collaboration with Santa Clara County and other partners, this infusion is expected to jumpstart construction of **approximately 760 new affordable homes** in the coming year – a significant step toward easing our housing shortage. By prioritizing housing production and removing barriers to development, the city is creating a more accessible, affordable market for our workforce and residents, which in turn supports local businesses.
- **Tackling Homelessness with Shelter and Prevention:** The budget makes robust investments to reduce homelessness, dedicating \$39.2 million to expand interim housing and supportive services – a move that will enable nearly 1,937 additional safe placements for unhoused residents in sanctioned housing, converted hotels, safe parking, and sanctioned encampment. It also wisely preserves funding for homelessness prevention (10% of Measure E real estate transfer tax revenues) to help at-risk individuals stay off the streets. This two-pronged approach – providing immediate shelter while addressing root causes – is exactly what our business community has called for to restore the health of our neighborhoods.
- **Catalyzing Economic Growth and Tourism:** The budget leverages upcoming opportunities to boost our local economy. As San José prepares to co-host world-class events in 2026 – including the FIFA World Cup, Super Bowl 60, and the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament – resources are being allocated to ensure visitors **"Fly, Stay, and Play"** in San José. This includes funding for unique fan experiences (such as watch parties and live entertainment) and improvements to downtown amenities in partnership with organizations like the San José Sports Authority. By capitalizing on these high-profile events, the city will drive tourism, patronage of local businesses, and positive exposure, benefiting our regional economy.
- **Making San José a Premier Business Destination:** Beyond the immediate boost of special events, the FY 2025–26 budget lays groundwork for long-term economic vitality. It funds planning for a new downtown sports and entertainment district and retains dedicated business outreach positions to strengthen key commercial corridors such as Story Road, East Village, and Alum Rock. These efforts aim to position San José as the region's premier destination for sports, entertainment, shopping, and –

Support Letter for Mayor's 2025-26 Budget

June 9, 2025

Page 2 of 2

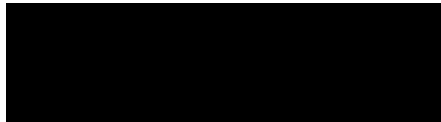
importantly – **business creation**. We are pleased to see the city not only supporting existing business districts, but also proactively cultivating an environment where new industries can thrive.

- **Enhancing a Clean and Safe City:** We appreciate the budget's focus on improving quality of life in our business districts and neighborhoods. It increases enforcement against blight and nuisances – from graffiti abatement to illegal dumping clean-ups – and holds negligent property owners accountable for code violations that harm the surrounding community. By funding additional Code Enforcement staff and initiatives (such as the “Vanlording” enforcement detailed in MBA #11), the City will be better equipped to address blighted properties and safety issues proactively. A cleaner, safer environment is crucial for businesses, encouraging customers to visit commercial areas and signaling that San José is on the rise. We are grateful that even in a tight budget year, these basic “back to basics” services remain a priority.

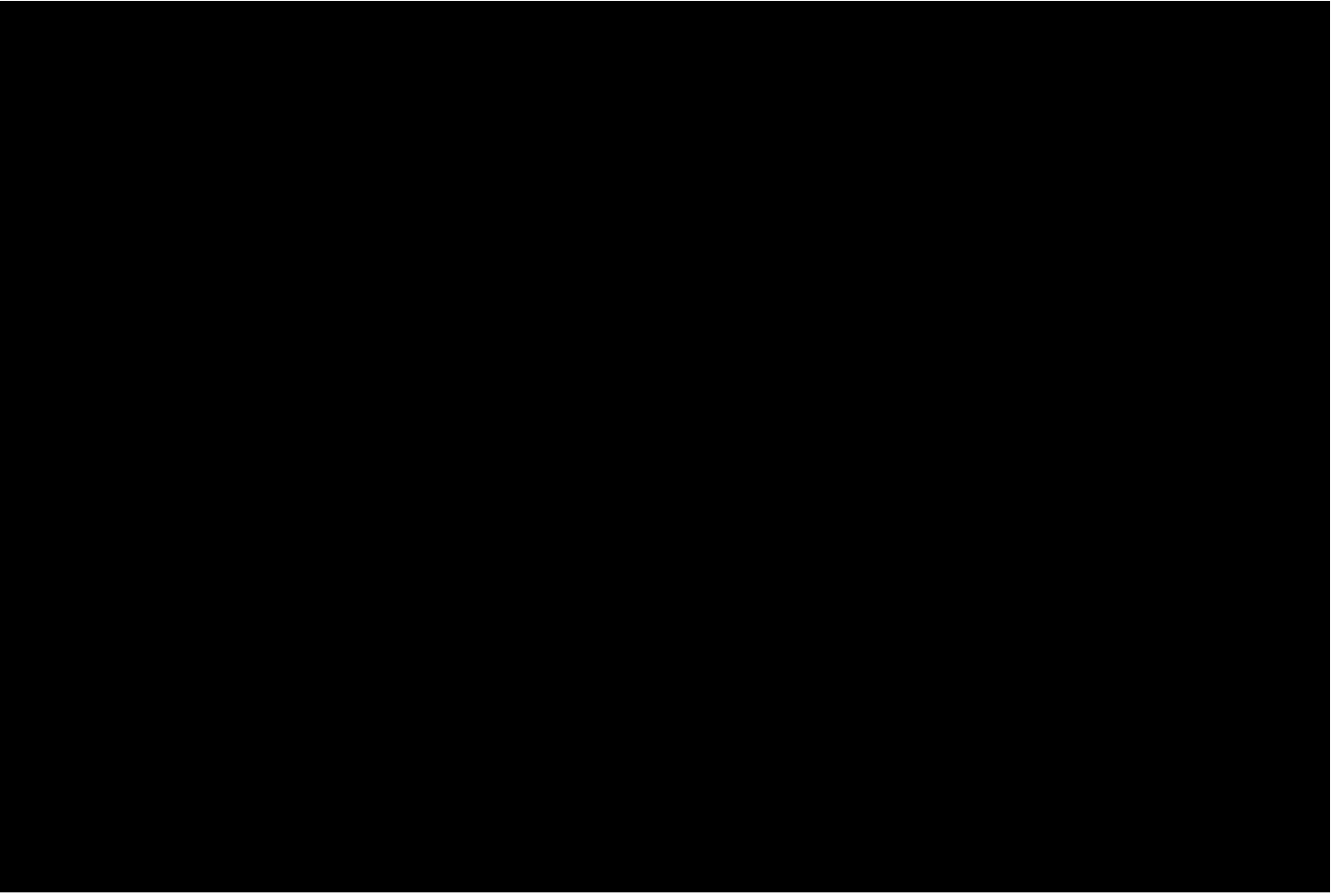
In sum, the Mayor's 2025–26 Budget Message aligns city resources with our community's most pressing needs in a way that fosters economic growth and enhances livability. As stakeholders dedicated to local economic development, housing solutions, and public-private collaboration, we are encouraged to see a budget that reflects these values. The thoughtful investments in this plan – from housing and homelessness programs to business and infrastructure initiatives – will undoubtedly yield a stronger, more inclusive economy and a healthier community in the years to come.

For these reasons, I wholeheartedly support the Mayor's Budget Message for FY 2025–2026 and respectfully urge the City Council to approve it. By adopting this budget, San José will affirm its commitment to an inclusive economic recovery and a higher quality of life for all residents.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Van Every
President and Managing Partner



From: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 9:13 AM

To: Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Fw: Mayor's June Budget 25-26

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? Your [feedback](#) is appreciated!

From: Khoa Pham [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 8:33 AM

To: Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Salas, Carl <Carl.Salas@sanjoseca.gov>; Arreola, Kiara <Kiara.Arreola@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Dang, Tara <Tara.Dang@sanjoseca.gov>; Rocha, Vincent <Vincent.Rocha@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Mayor's June Budget 25-26

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Story Rd Business Association

June 6, 2025

City of San Jose
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose, Ca 95113

RE: Mayor's June Budget 25-26

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council,

We'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous support of our local business corridors through the recent District 7 funding allocation—specifically the \$5,000 dedicated to supporting the setup and logistics needed to activate our corridor for a FIFA watch party. Investments like these not only bring people together through shared cultural moments, but also drive foot traffic, support small businesses, and reinforce the vibrancy of our commercial districts.

With over 250 businesses in the area, your commitment to fostering inclusive, thriving corridors is truly making a difference. This investment uplifts the cultural identity and economic resilience of neighborhoods like Vietnam Town—an important and dynamic part of San José's diverse landscape.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to creating opportunities that strengthen our neighborhoods and empower local communities. We deeply appreciate your partnership and look forward to continuing this important work together.

Paul Pham
President, Story Rd. Business Association

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FW: June 9 Public Hearing, Proposed City Budget, public comment

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 6/6/2025 12:06 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Wendy Chou [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 11:53 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: June 9 Public Hearing, Proposed City Budget, public comment

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Councilmembers and City Manager Maguire,

As someone who works in San Jose, I urge you to prioritize and fully fund San Jose's climate programs that reduce climate warming pollution.

Every dollar spent on climate initiatives now will grow the green economy and shape San Jose into a healthier, less polluted, and more resilient city — with big benefits for the city's residents. Put simply: it's pay now or pay later, where the escalating costs of damages (or even potential loss of life, as we have recently seen in southern California) from wildfire, flooding, and dangerous heat extremes demand that we put real effort into slowing climate change and shrinking these impacts as much as we can.

We already have in hand proven technologies, such as heat pumps, that are not experimental but require city resources to implement widely for residents. San Jose has already been a leader in requiring larger buildings to track and improve energy performance; let's continue to build on this success, not retreat.

Eroding federal support puts the spotlight on cities like San Jose, who carry a responsibility to make progress on climate action.

Most of all I urge you to heed the voices of our youth, who have so much promise, yet are forced to bear the burden of our environmental inertia. They are asking for climate protection and climate investment. Your decisions will affect their futures.

Please do not decrease funding for vital climate programs like Climate Smart San Jose.

Thank you for your dedicated service to San Jose and its residents.

Sincerely,

Wendy Chou, Ph.D.

Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet

Coalition and Project Senior Manager

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FW: Letter of Support for Mayor's FY 26–27 Budget

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 6/6/2025 10:58 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (152 KB)

Letter of Support for Mayor's FY 26-27 Budget.pdf;

From: Alonzo Lopez <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 10:56 AM

To: Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Rocha, Vincent <Vincent.Rocha@sanjoseca.gov>; Dang, Tara <Tara.Dang@sanjoseca.gov>; Salas, Carl <Carl.Salas@sanjoseca.gov>; Arreola, Kiara <Kiara.Arreola@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Letter of Support for Mayor's FY 26–27 Budget

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Hello,

Please see the attached letter

Thank you

Alonzo Lopez



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June 6, 2025

City of San Jose
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose, Ca 95113

RE: Mayor's June Budget 25-26

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council,

Thank you for your continued commitment to our local business corridors. We truly appreciate the recent District 3 funding allocations, including \$100,000 to support the Downtown Streets Team and \$10,000 dedicated to activation efforts and economic development in San José.

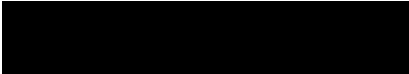
Calle Willow is home to a profound Latino community that prides itself on genuine culture and food. Located south of downtown, our infrastructure is set to allow us to do activities such as closing our streets and allowing our community to enjoy the space.

Your investment is helping breathe new life into these vital community spaces. From supporting small businesses to creating more welcoming and engaging environments, this funding is a crucial step toward building stronger, more connected neighborhoods. Our streets have never been cleaner!

We deeply appreciate your leadership and dedication to uplifting our local economy. Your continued advocacy ensures that our diverse communities have the resources they need to grow, thrive, and succeed.

Thank you once again for your commitment to San Jose's future.

Alonzo Lopez



President, Calle Willow

FW: Support for Mayor's June Budget, CSS

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 6/6/2025 11:21 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (192 KB)

LoS city Budget CSS 6.9.25.pdf;

From: Nathan Ulsh [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 11:18 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Re: Support for Mayor's June Budget, CSS

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Dear Mayor and City Council,

Please see attached our letter of support for the Mayor's June Budget. We appreciate the city staff's dedication to our neighborhoods and business districts as well as the council's leadership in prioritizing our small business community.

Cordially,

Nathan Ulsh | Partner

Community Strong Strategies, LLC



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June 6, 2025

City of San Jose
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose, Ca 95113

RE: Support for Mayor's June Budget 25-2026

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council,

Over the last few years, in partnership with OEDCA, our organization has been working very diligently to support and build capacity for several Neighborhood Business Districts (NBD) in San José. We are supportive of the Mayor's June Budget message and council's direction to continue supporting our small business community as this will aid significant economic opportunities such as activation and events, clean and safe efforts, and beautification in our business corridors – specifically our cultural districts.

The City of San José is very diverse – with over 58,000 small businesses, many of which are immigrant owned, and home to over 160,000 Vietnamese in which is the largest population of any city in the U.S. outside of Vietnam itself, our city has very rich cultures. During the pandemic, with the support of many non-profit partners, the city played a crucial role for our small business community and non-English speaking community by providing the proper resources to keep their businesses from shuttering.

As we emerge from the pandemic, we have an opportunity to harness economic development in a new light in which NBDs will continue providing services to their adjacent neighborhoods as the return-to-office has yet to fully materialize. In fact, many of our residents and families are looking for activities to do that are within their neighborhood districts and to support local businesses. Our team will continue working with several NBDs, to activate the neighborhood districts, through successful fundraising efforts and co-production of events, such as the successful inaugural Story Rd. Night Market last year.

That said, in 2025-2026 NBDs will continue cultural events and activations via Superbowl, NCAA, and FIFA World Cup as we anticipate additional block and watch parties. Activations, combined with clean and safe NBDs, will enable an inviting environment for families from San José as well as regional visitors. We are excited to continue facilitating (public/private) partnerships with our city and other partners and to connect additional resources to our NBDs, enhancing our community's beautification and activation efforts.

We appreciate the city staff's dedication to our neighborhoods and business districts as well as the council's leadership in prioritizing our small business community.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of Nathan Ulsh.

Nathan Ulsh
Partner, Community Strong Strategies

Fw: Budget Hearing 2025-2026, June 9, 2025, regarding Monterey Corridor Study.

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 6/6/2025 11:38 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (2 MB)

2025.06.06 Ltr to Mayor-City Council re Agenda Item - Monterey Corridor Study.doc.pdf;

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

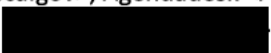
Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? Your [feedback](#) is appreciated!

From: Mary Anne Rojas 

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 11:30 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Norm Matteoni ; Frimann, Nora <Nora.Frimann@sanjoseca.gov>; Burton, Chris <Christopher.Burton@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Budget Hearing 2025-2026, June 9, 2025, regarding Monterey Corridor Study.

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from maryanne@matteoni.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mayor Mahan, All Council Members and Clerk,

Attached please find Mr. Matteoni's letter to you regarding Item June 9, 2025, Budget hearing, City Council Agenda concerning the Monterey Corridor Study.

Clerk, please post to Monday's agenda.

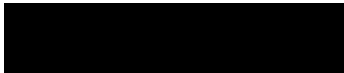
If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks so much.

Mary Anne Rojas



Mary Anne Rojas
Legal Assistant
848 The Alameda
San Jose, California 95126



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Norman E. Matteoni

Peggy M. O'Laughlin

Bradley M. Matteoni

Barton G. Hechtman

Gerry Houlihan

June 6, 2025

Via email to City Clerk for Monday's Agenda:

Mayor Matt Mahan
City Council Members
City Hall
200 E Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Budget Hearing 2025-2026, June 9, 2025, regarding **Monterey
Corridor Study**

Dear Mayor Mahan and Council Members:

I write on behalf of the owners on the east side of the Monterey Corridor, the study for which is recommended terminated. First, the Council in its approval of the update of the General Plan in 2021 recognized the distinct character of the properties along the east side of Monterey Road from those in the Coyote Valley. (See Memorandum from Mayor, November 12, 2021.)

As you know there are multiple uses, such as golf course, RV parks, equipment and truck storage yards, a charter school, cell tower, industrial buildings, interspersed with small former agricultural parcels along the corridor. Coyote Village is within this area, as is PG&E facilities. Agricultural viability reports were submitted to the Council at that time, advising that these parcels were not economically viable for agriculture. Portions of the corridor are unincorporated but other parts extending to Morgan Hill are within the City limits and pay municipal taxes for services that are not delivered. The Council



848 The Alameda
San Jose, CA 95126
ph. 408.293.4300
fax. 408.293.4004
www.matteoni.com

followed the carve out of these lands with the call for a study. The budget for that study was approved in February 2022.

After 2.5 years that study stalled at the point of scoping the environmental review in early 2025. The owners advocated a broader range of potential uses, but the staff would not go beyond potential uses compatible with agriculture and open space, the counter distinction of which originally justified the study. Rather than providing performance standards for development under an overlay zone for the corridor, the studies potential uses were limited to those that served agriculture. There were no alternatives. Even assuming there is agricultural viability in the Coyote Valley, there was no provision of uses for farm equipment service, food warehouses and processing, transportation services for agriculture. Those satellite uses disappeared from Santa Clara County by the 1970's. Moreover, green houses that relocated from North County upon development to serve high tech in the 1970-80s have vanished from Coyote Valley.

The majority of the parcels along the corridor are less than 10 acres in size and thus not consistent with the 40-acre minimum of the zoning. Thus, the uses proposed through the study were self-defeating, intended to retain the existing non-use of the properties. The property owners can only conclude that any viable use is being suppressed for the purpose of forcing the sale to open space, as happened in the 1970's with the purchase of their lands for the Coyote Creek Park Chain. Even private recreational uses were limited. And, Coyote Creek Golf Club, a private recreational facility serving the public, was not analyzed for expanded recreational uses similar to other courses.

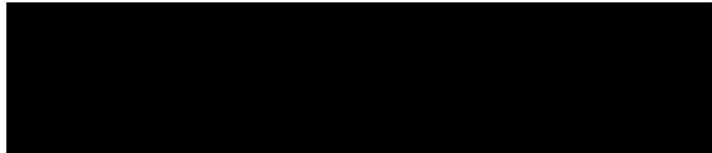
The proposed budget recommends a termination of the study, leaving the issue of the distinct character of the eastside corridor unaddressed. These properties deserved special study in 2021 and that has not been satisfied. There must be continued examination of economically viable uses for these properties. They are not in the hands of developers. Families like the Sasos and Filice have owned and cared for the properties for generations. Their properties have contributed to the Coyote Creek Park Chain. They were promised municipal services upon annexation. That was never delivered, but they pay their taxes to the City every year.

Mayor Matt Mahan
& City Council Members

June 6, 2025
Page 3

There was frustration from both sides over the study; and the issues remain unresolved. The owners understand the budget limitations the city is facing, but a mechanism to address the proper land use of the corridor needs to be identified.

Very truly yours,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

NORMAN E. MATTEONI

NEM:mar

cc: Nora Frimann
Chris Burton
Ken Saso
Sean Hu
Vic LoBue
Joe Filice
Kelly Yueng

FW: Public Comment for Item 3.1 on June 9th meeting

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 6/6/2025 12:11 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (159 KB)

2025.06 Budget Letter to Council.pdf;

From: Dawn Coppin [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 12:05 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Public Comment for Item 3.1 on June 9th meeting

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Please see attached.

Dawn Coppin, PhD (she/her)

Chief Executive Officer

San José Public Library Foundation

Tax ID: 77-0142379

P.O. Box 611540, San Jose, CA 95161-1540

O: 408.808.2174 | C: 323.252.9894 | www.sjplf.org



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San José Public Library Foundation

June 6, 2025

Honorable Mayor Mahan and San José City Council,

On behalf of the San José Public Library Foundation's Board of Directors, I am writing to express our strong disappointment that the City Manager's Proposed FY25-26 Operating Budget calls for the elimination of all staff positions dedicated to the Friend, Family, and Neighbor Caregiver Support Network (FFN). For the past four years, FFN has provided training, certifications, resources, and community connections to 594 unduplicated adults who care for nearly 2,000 young children in 34 zip codes throughout San José. By supporting the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and others who care for our city's preschoolers, FFN empowers San José's most vulnerable communities to address critical opportunity and resource gaps, improving educational outcomes.

The proposed elimination of FFN is even more vexing because it will roll back the progress made possible by the 2020 adoption of City Education Policy 0-30, and the 2024 adoption of the Children and Youth Services Master Plan. Cutting FFN staff sends the message that, despite past actions, City Council is not fully committed to ensuring that all children enter kindergarten prepared to succeed. Our children and families should not have to pay the price for past fiscal mismanagement.

Thankfully, Councilmember Campos has put forth Budget Document 45. The data presented in this document clearly demonstrates the critical need for early childhood education support in San José, where 63% of children enter kindergarten not fully ready to learn. The Library's FFN program reaches children and caregivers in all City Council districts with an emphasis on supporting vulnerable communities including children with disabilities, low-income households, and others who face disproportionate educational challenges.

We strongly urge City Council to modify the City Manager's Proposed 25-26 Operating Budget to reallocate \$498,106 to sustain the FFN program through the approval of Budget Document 45. Given ongoing federal funding reductions affecting early childhood programs, maintaining local support for early learning environments is not just beneficial but essential for ensuring that all San José children, regardless of their zip code or family income, will be set up for lifelong success.

Yours sincerely, .



Chief Executive Officer

FW: Mayor's FY 25-26 Budget

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 6/6/2025 12:49 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (164 KB)

CSJ-Budget-Japantown-060625.pdf;

From: Tamiko Rast <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 12:40 PM

To: Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Rocha, Vincent <Vincent.Rocha@sanjoseca.gov>; Dang, Tara <Tara.Dang@sanjoseca.gov>; Salas, Carl <Carl.Salas@sanjoseca.gov>; Arreola, Kiara <Kiara.Arreola@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Mayor's FY 25-26 Budget

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For your consideration! Thank you very much.

Regards,
Tamiko Rast

President, Japantown Business Association (JBA)

JBA web: japantownsanjose.org

www.jtown.org

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JAPANTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

565 N. 6th Street, Suite G. San Jose, CA 95112. phone (408) 298-4303. info@japantownsanjose.org

June 6, 2025

City of San José
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Mayor's June Budget, FY 25-26

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council,

On behalf of the Japantown Business Association Board, I'd like to sincerely thank you for your generous support of activation and economic development efforts in our city. We especially appreciate your leadership in securing funding for our business corridors – including the District 3 allocations of \$100K for the Downtown Streets Team – and \$10K for activation and economic development.

The funding will go a long way in continuing programs in Japantown, such as the Japantown Farmer's Market and San Jose Taiko's Halloween, supporting local entrepreneurs, and fostering inclusive, welcoming environments where families and neighbors can gather, thrive, and grow.

This financial commitment will help allow the Japantown Farmer's Market to subsidize the booth vendor fees of all of our Certified Agricultural Producers for its entire six-month season. Our agricultural vendors, primarily family members from small minority-owned farms, drive from as far away as Orosi and Fresno to provide our community with fresh fruits and vegetables. Our event is 100% volunteer-run, managed, and operated by members of our community, so sponsorships go a very long way in supporting the market.

San Jose Taiko's annual Halloween is enjoyed by over a thousand locals – young children to teenagers and their parents and families – and the City's investment helps provide safety for the street closure permits and San Jose Police Department support. This event is one of our favorites, always mentioned by young children as the most memorable part of their year.

Japantown holds a unique place in San Jose's cultural and historical fabric, and your support ensures that its small businesses and community spirit continue to flourish alongside other key business corridors throughout the city.

Thank you for your continued advocacy, thoughtful leadership, and dedication to the economic and cultural vitality of San Jose.

Best,



Tamiko Rast
President, Japantown Business Association



Fw: Support Letter for the 2025–2026 Mayor’s Budget

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Fri 6/6/2025 2:21 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (253 KB)
Mayors Budget Support Letter.pdf;

From: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 11:09 AM
To: Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Fw: Support Letter for the 2025–2026 Mayor’s Budget

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José
200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113
Main: 408-535-1260
Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? Your [feedback](#) is appreciated!

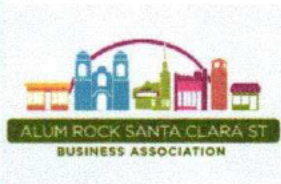
From: Helen Masamori <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 11:05 AM
To: Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Rocha, Vincent <Vincent.Rocha@sanjoseca.gov>; Dang, Tara <Tara.Dang@sanjoseca.gov>; Salas, Carl <Carl.Salas@sanjoseca.gov>; Arreola, Kiara <Kiara.Arreola@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: Connie Alvarez <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Support Letter for the 2025–2026 Mayor’s Budget

[**External Email.** Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

Dear All,
Please find the attached letter expressing our support for the Mayor’s proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2025–2026.

This letter underscores our commitment to the initiatives outlined in the budget and our collective efforts to ensure its successful implementation.

Best regards,
Helen Masamori
Co-President, Santa Clara Alum Rock Business Association
[REDACTED]



June 6, 2025

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
City of San Jose
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Mahan, Council Member Ortiz, and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Alum Rock Santa Clara Street Business Association (ARSCSBA), we would like to express our support for City Council Policy 6-4 regarding signs on City-owned land and for the approval of freeway digital billboards at your June 17, 2025, meeting.

The ARSCSBA board and our members have long awaited the direct and indirect benefits associated with the 2019 RFP process and the 2023 selection of freeway digital billboard locations.

In addition to the anticipated revenue for the City, we are particularly supportive of the removal of static printed billboards citywide—especially the two locations along Alum Rock Avenue proposed by Clear Channel Outdoor. We also welcome the community messaging opportunities these digital billboards can offer, which we believe will uplift East San José residents and businesses, raise awareness of major events, and help spotlight the Entertainment Zone identified by Councilmember Ortiz.

While we support the changes proposed, we respectfully emphasize the importance of ensuring that any future modifications—whether removals or additions of billboard infrastructure—are made thoughtfully and in a way that clearly benefits the surrounding community and stakeholders. We believe Clear Channel Outdoor bears a significant responsibility to conduct thorough and transparent outreach before implementing any future changes. This includes proactive engagement with local business owners, residents, and community organizations to ensure that such decisions reflect the priorities and values of those most directly impacted.

Finally, we thank City staff for their efforts in advancing this process and ensuring that community benefits remain at the forefront of implementation.

Sincerely,


Helen Masamori
Co-President, Alum Rock Santa Clara Street Business Association

FW: 150 Signatures: Preserve Climate Smart Funding!

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 6/6/2025 2:53 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (71 KB)

fully-fund-san-joses-climate-response_signatures_202506060918.pdf;

From: SVYCA San José Team [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 2:40 PM

To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Webmaster Manager <webmaster.manager@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: 150 Signatures: Preserve Climate Smart Funding!

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]

[Learn why this is important](#)

Dear City Councilmembers and Mayor Mahan,

150 of your constituents have joined numerous community organizations in urging that Climate Smart's budget be maintained at at least last year's level and indeed be increased in light of the extreme urgency that this crisis requires.

We call on you to put forward a memorandum at the June 10th City Council meeting reinstating one-time funding allocated to Climate Smart which has been removed in the Proposed Operating Budget.

Below are the petition and signatures. The petition was launched by the San José Team of Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, a group of 20+ high school students from across the city advocating for a liveable climate future. It was co-sponsored by Climate Action California, Acterra, Green Foothills, Mothers Out Front SV, 350 Silicon Valley, and Elders Climate Action.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you prioritize climate action in the final City Budget.

Sincerely,
San José Youth Climate Action Team

San José Mayor Mahan and City Council,

158 people have signed a petition on Action Network telling you to Fully Fund San José's Climate Response!.

Here is the petition they signed:

Dear San José Mayor Mahan and City Council,

The urgency of addressing climate change has never been more clear. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global temperatures are rising, and the window for preventing irreversible damage is closing extremely quickly. In San José, we have seen firsthand the devastating effects of climate change. Wildfires have often scorched surrounding regions, while extreme heat waves strain our infrastructure and endanger vulnerable residents, particularly those who are unhoused or who live in buildings with no cooling. Prolonged droughts threaten our water supply and the natural ecosystem that surrounds us. These changes in our climate are not just statistics; they are genuine impacts on our community, health, economy, and environment.

As we strive to combat these challenges, programs like Climate Smart San José are vital to ensuring a sustainable future. A 32% decrease in year-on-year funding for Climate Smart during the 2024-2025 fiscal year was a step backward on the long path of progress toward our 2030 carbon neutrality goals. These budget cuts were a false economy. Studies are clear that the financial cost of rapid decarbonization right now is dwarfed by the economic damages we will suffer if the climate crisis is allowed to progress. Now it is the time to invest more, not less, in initiatives that protect our city, its residents, and its future generations.

We, the students of the San José Youth Climate Action Team and our partners throughout the City, urge the San José City Council to increase the one-time 2025-26 fiscal year funding for Climate Smart San José and to establish permanent annual funding. Further, we ask that the Council consider increasing Environmental Services Department or Energy Department staff to support the vital work of Climate Smart San José towards our city's 2030 carbon neutrality goal. We also urge the Council to accelerate public outreach programs and collaboration with community-based organizations to effectively carry out Climate Smart's goals and empower all residents to adopt climate-friendly technologies and practices and to take action in our communities. We acknowledge the budget shortfall that the City of San José is currently facing, but climate funding must remain a key priority in this year's decisions.

Maintaining support and resources for Climate Smart San José is critical to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 and mitigating our city's environmental impact. Climate change is harming our city right now, and things will continue to worsen until we take dramatic action. To protect our future and prevent further harm, the city must intensify its climate action efforts. Fully implementing the Climate Smart San José Plan will deliver significant co-benefits, including cleaner air, safer streets, more beautiful and liveable neighborhoods, and medium and long-term cost savings.

San José has made notable progress, such as founding San José Clean Energy which has increased our proportion of clean electricity, requiring EV charging access in most new apartment buildings, and starting electrification rebate programs. These measures set a strong foundation for reducing emissions and promoting sustainable development. However,

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As one of the largest U.S. cities to commit to carbon neutrality by 2030, and ranked the sixth greenest city in the nation, San José is a leader in climate action. Still, we currently devote far less funding to climate action than other comparable cities like San Diego and Portland. As the capital of Silicon Valley and an epicenter of innovation, other cities look to San José’s lead. The ripple effects of our decisions are profound and will add up to significant effects. Reducing support for Climate Smart would send the precise wrong message to other cities and hinder collective progress in tackling climate change. Instead, San José must continue to lead by example, demonstrating that bold investments in sustainability are possible, necessary, and effective.

It must be noted that this is in the context of extreme backsliding on climate efforts at a national level. It is the responsibility of our local governments to step up and take action.

By increasing funding and support for Climate Smart San José, we can put our city on a path toward achieving our climate goals while serving as a leading example for other cities to follow. San José has the potential to be a model of climate action, but that future depends on our commitment today. Let’s ensure that the necessary resources are in place to make this goal a reality.

Mayor Mahan and City Council, please remember, you are the last generation of leaders who has the power to halt the most catastrophic effects of the climate crisis on our present and our future. We are counting on you.

You can view each petition signer and the comments they left you below.

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San José Youth Climate Action Team

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We need to do all that we can to slow climate change.

65. Sarah Adkar (*ZIP code: 94536*)

66. Brandon Lin (*ZIP code: 94010*)

67. Michelle Pasillas (*ZIP code: 95117*)

68. Zoe Hanshaw (*ZIP code: 94062*)

69. Nathan Albano (*ZIP code: 95120*)

70. Jon Zack (*ZIP code: 95008*)

71. Felicia Gershberg (*ZIP code: 94087*)

San José's climate action (and inaction) affects your neighbors, too, like me and my family in Sunnyvale!

72. Barbara Hamel (*ZIP code: 94086*)

73. Ian MacLeod (*ZIP code: 95124*)

74. Eve Lindsay (*ZIP code: 95112*)

75. Aarini Kasturi (*ZIP code: 95129*)

76. Stacy Brobst (*ZIP code: 95035*)

77. Gillian Claus (*ZIP code: 95124*)

78. Max Claus (*ZIP code: 95124*)

I recently graduated with a B.S.c in Marine Biology and am committed to conservation and to supporting the healthy functioning of our global ecosystems and feel that San Jose has the potential to be a leader in combatting climate change.

79. Julianna Silva (*ZIP code: 95123*)

80. William DeVincenzi (*ZIP code: 95135*)

- 81. JL Angell** (*ZIP code: 95672*)
- 82. Stan Fitzgerald** (*ZIP code: 94618*)
- 83. Ree Whitford** (*ZIP code: 91607-3052*)
- 84. Ann Thryft** (*ZIP code: 95006*)
- 85. Jeremy Spencer** (*ZIP code: 94044-3318*)
- 86. Giovannina Fazio** (*ZIP code: 94601*)
- 87. Shell Cleave** (*ZIP code: 94019*)
- 88. David Baca** (*ZIP code: 94720*)
Green New Deal !!
- 89. David Warner** (*ZIP code: 23235*)
- 90. steven atneosne** (*ZIP code: 94306*)
- 91. Holly Miller** (*ZIP code: 95037*)
- 92. Marilyn Smith** (*ZIP code: 95127*)
- 93. Brian Haberly** (*ZIP code: 95112*)
- 94. Jenny Green** (*ZIP code: 95124*)
- 95. Annelise Bazar** (*ZIP code: 95110*)
- 96. thalia lubin** (*ZIP code: 94062*)
- 97. Laura Overmann** (*ZIP code: 94010-5141*)
- 98. Beth Darlington** (*ZIP code: 12604*)
- 99. Avroh Shah** (*ZIP code: 94303*)
- 100. Lauren Murdock** (*ZIP code: 93110*)
- 101. Liana Lang** (*ZIP code: 18661*)

102. Ann Dorsey (*ZIP code: 91325*)

103. Renee Klein (*ZIP code: 90292*)

104. Siena Watson (*ZIP code: 95124*)

105. Miriam Martin (*ZIP code: 95127*)

Climate change is an urgent issue! Please put funds into finding solutions!

106. Serena Myjer (*ZIP code: 95125*)

107. Jennifer Cohen (*ZIP code: 95008*)

108. Kolumban Boesch (*ZIP code: 95126*)

The city of San Jose must take actions to mitigate climate change. Fully fund San Jose's climate response!!

109. Lisa Adolph (*ZIP code: 95120*)

110. Maria Aranda (*ZIP code: 95148*)

111. Thomas Carlino (*ZIP code: 95117-4202*)

112. Doug Musto (*ZIP code: 95127*)

113. alison carpenter (*ZIP code: 95118*)

Alison Carpenter

114. Alia Merla (*ZIP code: 95123*)

115. Shannon Loucks (*ZIP code: 97498*)

116. Julie Wiltshire (*ZIP code: 95112*)

117. Eve Moran (*ZIP code: 95125*)

118. Deborah St Julien (*ZIP code: 95136*)

119. Rev Rowan Fairgrove (*ZIP code: 95112*)

120. catalina tirado-gonzalez (*ZIP code: 95138*)

121. Ina Roy (*ZIP code: 94089*)

Please make sure to keep our budget for the climate (and add to it!), since the FedGov is doing its best to destroy everything in the environment we depend on.

122. Bobbi Diamond (*ZIP code: 94086*)

123. Nana Lehtinen (*ZIP code: 95125*)

124. Derek Benedict (*ZIP code: 90250*)

125. Yonas Bekele (*ZIP code: 94550*)

126. Amy T (*ZIP code: 95123*)

127. Bonnie Arbuckle (*ZIP code: 95367*)

128. Debra Reynolds (*ZIP code: 95128*)

129. Nicolas Catabelle (*ZIP code: 95136*)

130. Melissa Blum (*ZIP code: 95126*)

131. Jacob Kosiba (*ZIP code: 94303*)

132. Ihab Awad (*ZIP code: 95126*)

133. Em McGuiness (*ZIP code: 95128*)

134. Zoe Gingrich (*ZIP code: 94087*)

135. Stacy Braslau-Schneck (*ZIP code: 95125-2925*)

We need this more than ever!

136. paola bueno (*ZIP code: 95126*)

137. Vivek Sharma (*ZIP code: 95148*)

138. John Oda (*ZIP code: 94115*)

139. Gregory Stevens (*ZIP code: 94121*)

140. Lucas Filshill (*ZIP code: 94086*)

141. jeffer razai (*ZIP code: 95121*)

142. Nora Carino (*ZIP code: 95148*)

143. Jenna Mu (*ZIP code: 95030*)

144. Chelsea Lee (*ZIP code: 95014*)

145. Al Park (*ZIP code: 95111*)

146. Phil Bobel (*ZIP code: 94301*)

147. Dennis Murphy (*ZIP code: 94062*)

148. Lauren Weston (*ZIP code: 94303*)

149. Meghan Lynch (*ZIP code: 95070*)

FW: Public Comment for Agenda Packet Jun 9 Budget Hearing and Jun 10 Council Meeting Item 3.8

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 6/9/2025 9:54 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (81 KB)
fully-fund-san-joses-climate-response_signatures_202506090440.pdf;

From: SVYCA San José Team <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 9:47 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Public Comment for Agenda Packet Jun 9 Budget Hearing and Jun 10 Council Meeting Item 3.8

[**External Email.** Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)
Please include this petition in the above specified meeting agenda packet. Thank you very much.

-San José Youth Climate Action Team

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191 people have signed a petition on Action Network telling you to Fully Fund San José's Climate Response!.

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66. Brandon Lin (*ZIP code: 94010*)

67. Michelle Pasillas (*ZIP code: 95117*)

68. Zoe Hanshew (*ZIP code: 94062*)

69. Nathan Albano (*ZIP code: 95120*)

70. Jon Zack (*ZIP code: 95008*)

71. Felicia Gershberg (*ZIP code: 94087*)

San José's climate action (and inaction) affects your neighbors, too, like me and my family in Sunnyvale!

72. Barbara Hamel (*ZIP code: 94086*)

73. Ian MacLeod (*ZIP code: 95124*)

74. Eve Lindsay (*ZIP code: 95112*)

75. Aarini Kasturi (*ZIP code: 95129*)

76. Stacy Brobst (*ZIP code: 95035*)

77. Gillian Claus (*ZIP code: 95124*)

78. Max Claus (*ZIP code: 95124*)

I recently graduated with a B.S.c in Marine Biology and am committed to conservation and to supporting the healthy functioning of our global ecosystems and feel that San Jose has the potential to be a leader in combatting climate change.

79. Julianna Silva (*ZIP code: 95123*)

80. William DeVincenzi (*ZIP code: 95135*)

81. **JL Angell** (*ZIP code: 95672*)
82. **Stan Fitzgerald** (*ZIP code: 94618*)
83. **Ree Whitford** (*ZIP code: 91607-3052*)
84. **Ann Thryft** (*ZIP code: 95006*)
85. **Jeremy Spencer** (*ZIP code: 94044-3318*)
86. **Giovannina Fazio** (*ZIP code: 94601*)
87. **Shell Cleave** (*ZIP code: 94019*)
88. **David Baca** (*ZIP code: 94720*)
Green New Deal !!
89. **David Warner** (*ZIP code: 23235*)
90. **steven atneosne** (*ZIP code: 94306*)
91. **Holly Miller** (*ZIP code: 95037*)
92. **Marilynn Smith** (*ZIP code: 95127*)
93. **Brian Haberly** (*ZIP code: 95112*)
94. **Jenny Green** (*ZIP code: 95124*)
95. **Annelise Bazar** (*ZIP code: 95110*)
96. **thalia lubin** (*ZIP code: 94062*)
97. **Laura Overmann** (*ZIP code: 94010-5141*)
98. **Beth Darlington** (*ZIP code: 12604*)
99. **Avroh Shah** (*ZIP code: 94303*)
100. **Lauren Murdock** (*ZIP code: 93110*)
101. **Liana Lang** (*ZIP code: 18661*)

102. Ann Dorsey (*ZIP code: 91325*)

103. Renee Klein (*ZIP code: 90292*)

104. Siena Watson (*ZIP code: 95124*)

105. Miriam Martin (*ZIP code: 95127*)

Climate change is an urgent issue! Please put funds into finding solutions!

106. Serena Myjer (*ZIP code: 95125*)

107. Jennifer Cohen (*ZIP code: 95008*)

108. Kolumban Boesch (*ZIP code: 95126*)

The city of San Jose must take actions to mitigate climate change. Fully fund San Jose's climate response!!

109. Lisa Adolph (*ZIP code: 95120*)

110. Maria Aranda (*ZIP code: 95148*)

111. Thomas Carlino (*ZIP code: 95117-4202*)

112. Doug Musto (*ZIP code: 95127*)

113. alison carpenter (*ZIP code: 95118*)

Alison Carpenter

114. Alia Merla (*ZIP code: 95123*)

115. Shannon Loucks (*ZIP code: 97498*)

116. Julie Wiltshire (*ZIP code: 95112*)

117. Eve Moran (*ZIP code: 95125*)

118. Deborah St Julien (*ZIP code: 95136*)

119. Rev Rowan Fairgrove (*ZIP code: 95112*)

120. catalina tirado-gonzalez (*ZIP code: 95138*)

121. Ina Roy (*ZIP code: 94089*)

Please make sure to keep our budget for the climate (and add to it!), since the FedGov is doing its best to destroy everything in the environment we depend on.

122. Bobbi Diamond (*ZIP code: 94086*)

123. Nana Lehtinen (*ZIP code: 95125*)

124. Derek Benedict (*ZIP code: 90250*)

125. Yonas Bekele (*ZIP code: 94550*)

126. Amy T (*ZIP code: 95123*)

127. Bonnie Arbuckle (*ZIP code: 95367*)

128. Debra Reynolds (*ZIP code: 95128*)

129. Nicolas Catabelle (*ZIP code: 95136*)

130. Melissa Blum (*ZIP code: 95126*)

131. Jacob Kosiba (*ZIP code: 94303*)

132. Ihab Awad (*ZIP code: 95126*)

133. Em McGuiness (*ZIP code: 95128*)

134. Zoe Gingrich (*ZIP code: 94087*)

135. Stacy Braslau-Schneck (*ZIP code: 95125-2925*)

We need this more than ever!

136. paola bueno (*ZIP code: 95126*)

137. Vivek Sharma (*ZIP code: 95148*)

138. John Oda (*ZIP code: 94115*)

139. Gregory Stevens (*ZIP code: 94121*)

140. Lucas Filshill (*ZIP code: 94086*)

- 141. jeffer razai** (*ZIP code: 95121*)
- 142. Nora Carino** (*ZIP code: 95148*)
- 143. Jenna Mu** (*ZIP code: 95030*)
- 144. Chelsea Lee** (*ZIP code: 95014*)
- 145. Al Park** (*ZIP code: 95111*)
- 146. Phil Bobel** (*ZIP code: 94301*)
- 147. Dennis Murphy** (*ZIP code: 94062*)
- 148. Lauren Weston** (*ZIP code: 94303*)
- 149. Meghan Lynch** (*ZIP code: 95070*)
- 150. Mary Helen Doherty** (*ZIP code: 95112*)
Thank you Mani for sharing this with me.
- 151. Nikola Konecny** (*ZIP code: 95126-2815*)
- 152. Annette McMillan** (*ZIP code: 95121*)
- 153. Maya Konecna** (*ZIP code: 95126*)
- 154. Nathan Lee** (*ZIP code: 95014*)
- 155. Toto Vu-Duc** (*ZIP code: 95076*)
- 156. Hellas Lee** (*ZIP code: 95054*)
- 157. Sarah Romano** (*ZIP code: 94556*)
- 158. Joanna Tang** (*ZIP code: 94306*)
- 159. Lenore Delgado** (*ZIP code: 94306*)
- 160. Kimberly Meade** (*ZIP code: 95050*)
- 161. Hoai-An Truong** (*ZIP code: 95126*)

162. Lisa Gherardi (*ZIP code: 95032*)

163. Anna Brigantino (*ZIP code: 95050*)

164. Howard Cohen (*ZIP code: 94306*)

165. Ruth Clifford (*ZIP code: 95126*)

166. Gretchen Daily (*ZIP code: 94305*)

167. Kim Messmer (*ZIP code: 95051*)

168. Russell Stone (*ZIP code: 95148-3209*)

169. Susan Hinton (*ZIP code: 95050*)

170. Suzanne Becket (*ZIP code: 95014*)

171. Lynda Heideman (*ZIP code: 94025*)

I don't live in San Jose, but I do work around the Bay Area. And, of course, air and water knows no borders. We must all work together to address the existential threat that is climate change.

172. Heather Guillen (*ZIP code: 95112*)

173. Muneerah Lalani (*ZIP code: 95127*)

174. Isabelle Chappuis (*ZIP code: 95131*)

175. alice nguyen (*ZIP code: 95136*)

176. Chris Loo (*ZIP code: 95037*)

177. Ugo Eke-Simmons (*ZIP code: 95826*)

178. Mary Perry (*ZIP code: 95125*)

179. Terry Trumbull (*ZIP code: 94301*)

FW: 2025-2026 Budget: Protect Measure E, Reject Criminalization, and Invest in Community-Powered Housing Solutions - 3.7 & 3.8

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 6/9/2025 7:59 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 2 attachments (16 MB)

SBCLT - 2025-2026 Budget Protect Measure E, Reject Criminalization, and Invest in Community-Powered Housing Solutions.pdf; Virginia Ave Resident - 2025-2026 Budget Letter .pdf;

From: Delma Hernandez [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, June 8, 2025 5:18 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Solivan, Erik <Erik.Solivan@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; Fruen, Joseph <Joseph.Fruen@sanjoseca.gov>; Rivera Rojas, Lorena <Lorena.RiveraRojas@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; Hernandez, Kimberly <Kimberly.Hernandez@sanjoseca.gov>; Chapman, Helen <helen.chapman@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Borges, Marlee <Marlee.Borges@sanjoseca.gov>; Privitt, Mara <Mara.Privitt@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Moreno, Brisa <Brisa.Moreno@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Jonathan <Jonathan.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Ortiz, Peter <Peter.Ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; Groen, Mary Anne <maryanne.groen@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; Edraos, Nichole <Nichole.Edraos@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; Fleming, Jonathan <Jonathan.Fleming@sanjoseca.gov>; Adera, Teddy <Teddy.Adera@sanjoseca.gov>; Candelas, Domingo <Domingo.Candelas@sanjoseca.gov>; Fabro, Alex <Alex.Fabro@sanjoseca.gov>; CouncilMeeting <CouncilMeeting@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: Josefina Aguilar [REDACTED] "Laura Díaz Tovar" [REDACTED] Dina Ree [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Juan Angel Lujano <jlujano408@sanjoseca.gov>; jilujano408 [REDACTED] Perry, Sandy <sperry@sanjoseca.gov>; izglez8 [REDACTED]; alyssaserra5 [REDACTED]; tafharifrank [REDACTED]
Subject: 2025-2026 Budget: Protect Measure E, Reject Criminalization, and Invest in Community-Powered Housing Solutions - 3.7 & 3.8

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

Sorry for the mix-up—I attached the wrong SBCLT letter. Here's the correct one.

Thanks for your patience.

In community,

Delma Hernández (ella/her)

Support the People's Preservation Fund

Join the movement to build a community-powered fund that preserves affordable housing in the South Bay. Together, we can combat displacement and return power to the people. [\[Donate now and spread the word!\]](#)

----- On Fri, 06 Jun 2025 16:18:25 -0700 **Delma Hernandez** <[REDACTED]> wrote ---

Dear Mayor Mahan, San José City Council Members, and City Clerk,

I hope this message finds you well. On behalf of the South Bay Community Land Trust (SBCLT), we write to express our deep concern about the proposed 2025–2026 City Budget. The severe cuts to permanent affordable housing, continued investment in policies that criminalize unhoused residents, and the redirection of Measure E funds away from long-term solutions pose a direct threat to the stability of San José's most vulnerable communities.

Attached, please find our formal letter outlining these concerns, along with a signed letter from the tenants of the Virginian Apartments—representing every unit in the building. Dated June 3, 2025, the tenants' letter calls on the City to protect Measure E funding. Their message is clear: preservation works. Thanks to your leadership and the \$5 million Measure E allocation in last year's budget, SBCLT was able to move forward with acquiring and protecting the Virginian Apartments—ensuring that 18 longtime East San José families are not displaced after more than 25 years of calling this building home.

We urge you to:

- Reject the "Responsibility to Shelter" policy
- Stop the sweeps that harm and displace our unhoused neighbors
- Fully fund TRUST 24/7, a vital non-police mental health crisis response
- Protect Measure E funds for permanent supportive housing
- Invest in the Rapid Response Network to support and defend our immigrant communities

Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers, we deeply value our partnership with the City and remain committed to working alongside you to build a more just and inclusive San José. The decisions you make in this budget cycle will shape the future of housing in our city. Let's choose a path rooted in dignity, equity, and long-term community care.

Thank you for your time and leadership.

In community,

Josefina Aguila
Executive Director

Laura Díaz Tovar
Operational Co-Director

Delma Hernández (ella/her)
Organizing Co-Director | [South Bay Community Land Trust](#)

Support the People's Preservation Fund

Join the movement to build a community-powered fund that preserves affordable housing in the South Bay. Together, we can combat displacement and return power to the people. [\[Donate now and spread the word!\]](#)



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

June 3, 2025

To: Mayor Mahan and San José City Council Members

From: The Tenants of the Virginia Avenue Apartments

Subject: Protect Measure E & Invest in Immigrant Defense in the 2025–2026 Budget

Dear Mayor Mahan and Council Members,

We, the tenants of the Virginia Avenue Apartments, write to express our deep appreciation for your leadership and your vote to secure \$5 million in Measure E funding last year. Your decision made a profound difference—because of your support, 18 multi-generational families in East San José will be able to remain in their homes, permanently protected from displacement.

That historic investment helped South Bay Community Land Trust move forward and officially acquire our building on January 10, 2025. We are now preparing for much-needed rehabilitation efforts and working closely with South Bay CLT to shape a collective ownership model that reflects our vision and values as tenants. This City-backed investment also unlocked critical resources from the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA), Destination: Home, and philanthropic partners. Your commitment set a powerful and replicable example of what's possible when the City prioritizes long-term solutions and supports community-rooted preservation.

But we know the work isn't done.

We are very concerned by this year's proposed budget, which cuts Measure E funding for permanent affordable housing and proposes policies that would criminalize our unhoused neighbors instead of offering real care and support. As tenants directly impacted by the housing crisis, we urge you to continue standing with us—and with our partners in the REAL (Racial Equity in Action and Leadership) Coalition, including URG, LEAC, SIREN, the San José May Day Coalition, AGAPE, and SV-Debug—by taking the following actions in the 2025–2026 City Budget:

Our Community's Demands:

1. Reject the "Responsibility to Shelter" Policy

We urge you to reject this misguided proposal, which punishes our unhoused neighbors for the city's failure to meet affordable housing goals. A recent [*San José Spotlight*](#) article (May 23, 2025) highlighted how this policy lacks a clear pathway to treatment, is unsupported by infrastructure, and has been publicly criticized by Santa Clara County

officials, a former judge, and mental health experts. As tenants, we know these approaches do not work—they cycle people through trauma, not toward housing. What our community needs is care, housing, and real solutions—not criminalization.

2. Stop the Sweeps

Encampment sweeps are ineffective and inhumane. They displace residents from one location to another, tear apart survival networks, and traumatize communities. They waste public resources and fail to end homelessness.

3. Fully Fund TRUST 24/7

Invest in the Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST), a non-police crisis response that provides compassionate care for people experiencing mental health or substance use crises. TRUST includes staff with lived experience, behavioral health specialists, and social workers. This is a model of care our community deserves.

4. Protect Measure E Funds for Permanent Supportive Housing

Santa Clara County voters supported Measure E to build real, long-term housing solutions. Permanent supportive housing—with services—is what ends homelessness. We need interim housing and shelters, yes—but not at the expense of permanent homes. Do not siphon Measure E funding toward short-term fixes that don't work.

5. Fund the Rapid Response Network and Defend Our Immigrant Communities

As tenants with mixed immigration statuses, we know firsthand the fear and uncertainty many of our neighbors live with. The Rapid Response Network is an essential tool for immigrant defense, and the City must fund it to protect our communities from harm and keep families together.

Permanent housing, preservation, and protection for all—this is what our families and our neighbors deserve. Thank you again for your past support, and we hope you will continue to stand with us and fight for a just and equitable city for all San José residents.

Sincerely,

The Tenants of the Virginia Avenue Apartments

3 de junio de 2025

Para: Alcalde Mahan y miembros del Concejo Municipal de San José

De: Inquilinos de los Apartamentos de la Avenida Virginia

Asunto: Protéjan la Medida E e Inviertan en la Defensa de Inmigrantes en el Presupuesto 2025–2026

Estimado Alcalde Mahan y miembros del Concejo Municipal:

Nosotros, los inquilinos de los Apartamentos de la Avenida Virginia, les escribimos para expresar nuestro profundo agradecimiento por su liderazgo y por su voto para asegurar \$5 millones en fondos de la Medida E el año pasado. Su decisión marcó una gran diferencia: gracias a su apoyo, 18 familias multigeneracionales en el Este de San José podrán permanecer en sus hogares, protegidas permanentemente del desplazamiento.

Esa histórica inversión permitió que South Bay Community Land Trust avanzara y adquiriera oficialmente nuestro edificio el 10 de enero de 2025. Actualmente nos estamos preparando para llevar a cabo las reparaciones urgentes que nuestro hogar necesita y colaboramos estrechamente con South Bay CLT para desarrollar un modelo de propiedad colectiva que refleje nuestra visión y nuestros valores como inquilinos. Esta inversión, respaldada por la Ciudad, también desbloqueó recursos clave de la Autoridad de Financiamiento de Vivienda del Área de la Bahía (BAHFA), Destination: Home y aliados filantrópicos. Su compromiso marcó un ejemplo poderoso y replicable de lo que es posible cuando la Ciudad prioriza soluciones a largo plazo y apoya esfuerzos de preservación arraigados en la comunidad.

Pero sabemos que el trabajo no ha terminado.

Nos preocupa mucho el presupuesto propuesto para este año, que reduce los fondos de la Medida E destinados a viviendas asequibles permanentes y propone políticas que criminalizarían a nuestros vecinos sin hogar en lugar de ofrecerles cuidado y apoyo reales. Como inquilinos directamente afectados por la crisis de vivienda, les pedimos que sigan apoyándonos—y a nuestros aliados en la coalición REAL (Racial Equity in Action and Leadership), incluyendo URG, LEAC, SIREN, la Coalición del Primero de Mayo de San José, AGAPE y SV-Debug—tomando las siguientes acciones en el presupuesto municipal 2025–2026:

Demandas de Nuestra Comunidad:

1. Rechacen la política de "Responsabilidad de Refugio"

Les pedimos rechazar esta propuesta equivocada, que castiga a nuestros vecinos sin hogar por el fracaso de la ciudad en alcanzar sus metas de vivienda asequible. Un artículo reciente de *San José Spotlight* (23 de mayo de 2025) destacó que esta política no tiene un camino claro hacia el tratamiento, carece de infraestructura de apoyo y ha sido públicamente criticada por funcionarios del Condado de Santa Clara, un juez retirado y expertos en salud mental. Como inquilinos, sabemos que estos enfoques no funcionan—solo hacen que las personas pasen por más trauma sin llegar a una vivienda. Lo que nuestra comunidad necesita es cuidado, vivienda y soluciones reales—no criminalización.

2. Detengan los desalojos forzados de campamentos

Los desalojos de campamentos son ineficaces e inhumanos. Solo desplazan a las personas de un lugar a otro, rompen redes de apoyo vitales y traumatizan a nuestras comunidades. Malgastan recursos públicos y no terminan con la falta de vivienda.

3. Financien completamente al equipo TRUST 24/7

Inviertan en el equipo de Respuesta Urgente de Confianza (TRUST), una alternativa sin policía que responde a crisis de salud mental o consumo de sustancias con cuidado compasivo. TRUST incluye personal con experiencia vivida, especialistas en salud conductual y trabajadores sociales. Este es el modelo de cuidado que nuestra comunidad merece.

4. Protejan los fondos de la Medida E para vivienda permanente con servicios

Los votantes del Condado de Santa Clara apoyaron la Medida E para construir soluciones reales y duraderas. La vivienda permanente con servicios es lo que realmente acaba con la falta de vivienda. Necesitamos albergues e instalaciones temporales, sí—pero no a costa de hogares permanentes. No desvíen los fondos de la Medida E hacia soluciones temporales que no funcionan.

5. Financien la Red de Respuesta Rápida y defiendan a nuestras comunidades inmigrantes

Como inquilinos con estatus migratorios mixtos, conocemos de primera mano el miedo y la incertidumbre que muchos de nuestros vecinos viven día a día. La Red de Respuesta Rápida es una herramienta esencial para la defensa de inmigrantes, y la Ciudad debe financiarla para proteger a nuestras comunidades y mantener a las familias unidas.

Vivienda permanente, preservación y protección para todos—eso es lo que nuestras familias y vecinos merecen. Gracias nuevamente por su apoyo anterior, y esperamos que continúen con nosotros en la lucha por una ciudad justa y equitativa para todos los

residentes de San José.

Atentamente,

Los Inquilinos de los Apartamentos de la Avenida Virginia

1718 #1:	<u>Maria Hernandez</u>	Date:	<u>6/05/25</u>
1718 #2:	<u>Mamuela Garcia</u>	Date:	<u>6/6/25</u>
1718 #3:	<u>marcela Botancourt</u>	Date:	<u>6/4/25</u>
1718 #4:	<u>DUPA</u>	Date:	<u>06-03-2025</u>
1718 #5:	<u>JAMIG L.</u>	Date:	<u>06-04-2025</u>
1718 #6:	<u>Ramiro Vidiano</u>	Date:	<u>06-04-25</u>
1724 #1:	<u>Esperanza Rosas</u>	Date:	<u>6-04-25</u>
1724 #2:	<u>Maria Garcia</u>	Date:	<u>6/03/25</u>
1724 #3:	<u>Yaneth Bargas</u>	Date:	<u>06/04/2025</u>
1724 #4:	<u>Araceli Martinez</u>	Date:	<u>6/06/2025</u>
1724 #5:	<u>José morro</u>	Date:	<u>6/4/25</u>
1724 #6:	<u>MARCO CANO</u>	Date:	<u>6-4-25</u>
1730#1:	<u>Lourdes Garcia</u>	Date:	<u>6/05/25</u>
1730#2:	<u>Guo 6</u>	Date:	<u>6/03/25</u>
1730#3:	<u>Esmeralda Zavala</u>	Date:	<u>6-04-25</u>
1730#4:	<u>Estefania Ortiz</u>	Date:	<u>06-04-25</u>
1730#5:	<u>Manuel RUIZ</u>	Date:	<u>06-04-25</u>
1730#6:	<u>Edelmira Amador</u>	Date:	<u>6/03/25</u>

June 5, 2025

To: Mayor Matt Mahan and San José City Council

From: Josefina Aguilar, Executive Director, South Bay Community Land Trust & Laura Díaz Tovar, Operational Co Director

Cc: City Clerk

Subject: 2025 2026 Budget: Protect Measure E, Reject Criminalization, and Invest in Community Powered Housing Solutions

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the San José City Council,

On behalf of the South Bay Community Land Trust (SBCLT), we write to express grave concern regarding the proposed 2025–2026 City Budget. The deep cuts to permanent affordable housing, continued investment in criminalizing unhoused residents, and the redirection of Measure E funds away from long-term solutions threaten the very stability of San José's most vulnerable communities.

As a nonprofit community land trust incorporated in 2019, SBCLT exists to combat displacement, land speculation, and the deterioration of community life for low and moderate income residents of Santa Clara County. We achieve this by acquiring and permanently removing land from the speculative market, preserving multifamily housing at risk of displacement, and supporting collective and democratic models of ownership, like limited equity cooperatives and resident-controlled housing. SBCLT is the only community land trust operating in San José focused on this mission, and our model is one of the few pathways to housing stability and asset-building that does not result in gentrification or loss of community.

This City's past investments in preservation have worked. Because of your leadership and a \$5 million allocation from Measure E in last year's budget, SBCLT was able to acquire an 18-unit apartment building on Virginia Avenue in East San José—permanently preserving homes for multi generational, working class families, the majority of whom earn under 30% of the Area Median Income. City investment in this project was catalytic: it unlocked private philanthropic funds and drew state and regional interest, demonstrating what is possible when San José leads with equity and long-term vision.

However, this progress is at risk.

SBCLT joins our partners in the REAL (Racial Equity in Action and Leadership) Coalition—including URG, LEAC, SIREN, the San José May Day Coalition, AGAPE, and SV Debug—in calling for the following critical changes to the FY 2025–2026 City Budget:

1. Reject the “Responsibility to Shelter” Policy.

This proposal fails to recognize the real barriers unhoused residents face and instead proposes punitive measures that cycle people through trauma without stable exits to care or housing. Experts, including Santa Clara County officials and mental health professionals, have already called out this approach as harmful and unsupported. What San José needs are systems of care—not systems of punishment.

2. End Encampment Sweeps.

Sweeps destroy survival networks, traumatize already vulnerable people, and waste limited public resources. They are a short-term response to a long-term systemic crisis, and they have not worked.

3. Fully Fund TRUST 24/7.

The Trusted Response Urgent Support Team is a non-police mental health crisis response rooted in care and community expertise. Funding this alternative model is an essential investment in safety, health, and dignity.

4. Protect Measure E for Permanent Supportive Housing.

Voters passed Measure E to create *homes*, not temporary shelters. While interim housing may serve as a transitional step, it cannot replace the need for permanent, service supported affordable housing.

Siphoning Measure E funds toward short-term interventions undermines voter trust and the effectiveness of the City's homelessness strategy.

5. Invest in Immigrant Defense.

Supporting the Rapid Response Network can make it even more vital tool for immigrant families facing deportation and ICE activity. As a land trust working closely with mixed-status households, we know how critical this infrastructure is to the safety and cohesion of our neighborhoods.

Stable housing creates stable communities. Preservation, particularly in San José's small-site housing stock (which comprises over 60% of the city's homes), is one of the most effective and immediate strategies to prevent displacement. Acquisition and rehabilitation are not only faster and more cost-effective than new construction—they also preserve cultural and social ties that make our city whole.

Our pipeline continues to grow. In 2023, we acquired a fourplex in the rapidly gentrifying Reed Street neighborhood—now home to formerly unhoused veterans and a board member of our organization. This year, with the Virginia Apartments mentioned above, we stand ready to deepen our impact, but we need consistent, visionary support from the City.

San José has a unique opportunity to scale its preservation infrastructure. South Bay CLT is committed to being the community anchor for CLT led preservation, building a pipeline that other CDCs and neighborhoods can replicate. We urge the City to protect and expand preservation strategies by sustaining and growing allocations to programs like Measure E.

Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers, we value our partnership with the City and remain committed to working collaboratively toward a just, inclusive San José. Today's budget decisions will shape the future of housing in our city. Let's choose strategies rooted in dignity, equity, and long-term care.

In community,

Josefina Aguilar

Executive Director

South Bay Community Land Trust

www.southbayclt.org

Laura Díaz Tovar

Operational Co-Director

South Bay Community Land Trust

www.southbayclt.org

FW: SHHAC Letter Regarding June 9th/10th Budget Hearings

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 6/9/2025 9:46 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (8 KB)
SJ budget letter June 9, 2025.docx;

From: albert carlson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 9:44 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; Marijana Smailagic <marijana.smsm@gmail.com>; Mary Helen Doherty <[REDACTED]>; Dilza Gonzalez <[REDACTED]>; yanet crisostomo <[REDACTED]>; ankitakumar.613@gmail.com; Matt King <[REDACTED]>; Marc Adams <[REDACTED]>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: SHHAC Letter Regarding June 9th/10th Budget Hearings

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)
Hello,
Please find the attached letter From Sacred Heart Housing Action Committee (SHHAC).

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

June 9, 2025

Mayor Matt Mahan and Councilmembers
18th Floor, San Jose City Hall
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers,

The City of San Jose's homeless crisis is, at its root, a housing crisis, and any plan that fails to address this is doomed to failure. As community members we are disappointed that the city is still considering the Mayor's proposed shift in housing strategy, prioritizing temporary shelter solutions and criminalization of homeless residents.

First, the "responsibility to shelter" is misguided and is simply a half-baked proposal that will only exacerbate the homeless problem and hurt the very people it claims to help.

Second, the proposed plan includes a goal of reaching "functional zero" in homelessness that will not be achieved. Achieving this goal is estimated to require over \$250 million in one-time capital expenditure and anticipates annual operating costs of almost a quarter billion dollars to maintain the shelter program. However, the plan as drafted provides no meaningful and sustainable short, medium, or long-term funding.

San Jose needs a sustainable and effective affordable housing strategy that focuses on addressing the root causes of homelessness. While the urgency of addressing unsheltered homelessness is undeniable, diverting most Measure E funds away from the construction of permanent affordable housing fails to recognize the local housing and labor market dynamics that leads to homelessness.

One of the most cost-effective strategies to address our homelessness crisis lies in Homeless Prevention Services (HPS) and similar programs. Therefore, we support the Councilmember Campos, Salas, and Doan memo requesting an increase in funding from 10% to 15% of Measure E for homelessness prevention, gender-based violence programs, legal services, and rental assistance. In light of the urgent need to reduce homelessness, if additional Measure E funds are unavailable, we believe the expenditure of equivalent one-time funds would be fully justifiable. However, simply adopting the mayor's current proposal will not lead to real long-term solutions; it risks leaving individuals in temporary shelters without permanent housing options, effectively creating 'a bridge to nowhere'.

June 9, 2025, Agenda Item 3.1 - Coyote Valley Monterey Corridor Study

From Alice Kaufman [REDACTED]
Date Mon 6/9/2025 9:50 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; Mossing, Mackenzie <Mackenzie.Mossing@sanjoseca.gov>; Ramirez, Lucas <lucas.ramirez@sanjoseca.gov>; Laveroni, Kyle <Kyle.Laveroni@sanjoseca.gov>; shani kleinhaus <[REDACTED]>; Katja [REDACTED]; Victorina Arvelo [REDACTED] The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (208 KB)

Joint enviro letter re Coyote Valley Monterey Corridor study.pdf;

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers,

Attached please find the comments of Green Foothills, Greenbelt Alliance, Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance, and Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter with regard to the budget hearing on the June 9, 2025 Council agenda (item 3.1). We strongly support the staff recommendation to **end the Coyote Valley Monterey Corridor Study** (referenced on page 2 of Attachment C to Manager's Budget Addenda #3).

Thank you for your attention to these comments.



Alice Kaufman (She/Her)
Policy and Advocacy Director
Green Foothills, 3921 E Bayshore Rd, Palo Alto, CA 94303
[REDACTED] [greenfoothills.org](https://www.greenfoothills.org)



 [sponsorship banner](#)

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June 9, 2025

San Jose City Council
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA

Re: June 9, 2025 Item 3.1, Coyote Valley Monterey Corridor Study

Dear Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers,

The undersigned organizations strongly support the staff recommendation to end the Coyote Valley Monterey Corridor Study (referenced on page 2 of Attachment C to Manager's Budget Addenda #3).

It has become extremely clear during the years in which the study has been in progress that any expanded uses along Monterey Road in Coyote Valley would be inconsistent with the requirements of the General Plan. General Plan policies regarding the Urban Service Area, Urban Growth Boundary, agricultural land, and environmental goals for Coyote Valley all prohibit the type of expanded uses and development that have been proposed by Coyote Valley landowners during the study.

No Urban Services Are Allowed in Study Area

Nearly the entire area of the Monterey Corridor study is outside San Jose's Urban Service Area (USA), meaning that no urban services may be extended to serve development there. General Plan Policy LU-19.6 states the following:

Use the Urban Service Area (USA) boundary as a tool to preserve the non-urban character of development on lands outside of the Urban Growth Boundary. To this end, limit all new development on lands outside of the USA as follows:

1. Do not provide urban services to new development outside of the USA.

2. Require that new development projects cause no significant increase in public services or infrastructure and are non-urban in terms of:
 - a. Wastewater generation rates.
 - b. Traffic generation rates.
 - c. Extent of grading, vegetation removal, drainage modifications or other alteration of the natural environment.
 - d. Noise or other nuisance potential.
 - e. Growth inducing potential.
 - f. Water consumption, excluding the environmentally beneficial use of recycled water.

Furthermore, the General Plan also directs the city to “[s]hift the Urban Service Area boundary north in Coyote Valley in the future, and prohibit the shifting of the Urban Service Area south in Coyote Valley. Properties designated for urban uses should remain within the Urban Service Area.” (Policy LU-20.14)

The Area Outside the Urban Growth Boundary Must Remain Rural

For parcels outside of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), restrictions on use and development are even stricter. The entire area outside the UGB is intended to remain “permanently rural in character” according to the General Plan, and should “contribute to the establishment of a permanent greenbelt along the City’s eastern and southern edges.” Parcels outside the UGB should be reserved for “rural, agricultural, open space, habitat, or other very low-intensity uses.” (Policy LU-19.4) Policy LU-19.4 also states that “[a]ppropriate land use designations for areas outside of the UGB include Agriculture; Open Hillside; Open Space, Parklands and Habitat; Urban Reserve; and the Open Hillside Golf Course Site Overlay. *Other designations may not be applied to lands outside of the UGB.*” [emphasis added]

The General Plan Requires Protection of Agricultural Land

All of the land within the Monterey Corridor study area is designated Agriculture. General Plan policies concerning agricultural land include the following:

LU-20.1 Protect and preserve the remaining farmlands within San José’s sphere of influence that are not planned for urbanization in the timeframe of the Envision General Plan, such as mid- and south Coyote Valley, through the following means:

1. Strongly discourage conversion of agricultural lands outside the Urban Growth Boundary to non-agricultural uses.
2. Limit residential uses in agricultural areas to those which are incidental to agriculture.
3. Prohibit subdivision of agricultural lands, unless it can be established that the subdivision would not reduce the overall agricultural productivity of the land and that viable agricultural operations would be sustained.
4. Encourage contractual protection for agricultural lands, such as

Williamson Act contracts, agricultural conservation easements, transfers of development rights, or other property tax relief measures as incentives for preservation of these lands.

5. Restrict land uses within and adjacent to agricultural lands that would compromise the agricultural viability of these lands. Require new adjacent land uses to mitigate any impacts on the use of agricultural lands.

6. Require ancillary non-agricultural land uses on agricultural lands to be ancillary to and compatible with agricultural land uses, agricultural production, and the rural character of the area, and to enhance the economic viability of agricultural operations.

LU-20.2 Preserve agricultural lands and prime soils in non-urban areas in order to provide local and regional fresh food supplies, reduce dependence on foreign products, conserve energy, and retain the aquifer recharge capacity of these lands.

LU-20.4 Leverage agricultural lands to create and maintain a unique community character, provide open space, link to the region's history as the Valley of Heart's Delight, support the area's tourism industry, contribute to the local economy, and add to the quality of life of the community

Council Has Declared the Need to Protect Coyote Valley

Finally, any expanded uses or development in the study area would be incompatible with the ecological importance of Coyote Valley. When this Council acted in 2021 to protect Coyote Valley from development, the Council announced that the City had a "new vision for Coyote Valley," as follows:

Coyote Valley is a unique asset to San José and should be preserved as a resource that furthers the City's goals of environmental sustainability, enhancing open space, supporting agriculture in the non-urban areas of the City, and protecting critical linkages for wildlife movement.

([Memorandum, Council Agenda 11/16/21, Item 10.3, p. 22](#)) Allowing increased development in Coyote Valley is fundamentally incompatible with this new vision.

The environmental benefits of protecting Coyote Valley include wildlife habitat and wildlife movement, flood risk reduction, protection of groundwater from contamination, and saving productive agricultural land. It is important to note that any development or intensification of use along Monterey Road is likely to have impacts on the broader environmental objectives for **all** of Coyote Valley. The Coyote Creek riparian corridor, which runs along the rear of the study area, is the backbone of the wildlife linkage through Coyote Valley connecting the Santa Cruz Mountains range with the rest of the state. If the viability of the Coyote Creek wildlife corridor is impaired due to lights, noise, trash, or human activity, that will affect the wildlife corridor throughout all of Coyote Valley.

Furthermore, reducing flood risk is highly dependent on the Coyote Creek floodplain remaining undeveloped and able to absorb floodwater. Protecting groundwater requires strict limits on vehicle use to prevent contaminants like fuel and tire and brake dust from filtering into Coyote Valley's groundwater table, which is extremely close to the surface and vulnerable to contamination. Thus, increased activity and development in the study area would impact both downstream flood risk areas and the groundwater table that underlies our entire region.

For all these reasons, the Coyote Valley Monterey Corridor study should be ended and the funding reallocated as recommended by staff.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Alice Kaufman
Policy and Advocacy Director
Green Foothills

Victorina Arvelo
South Bay Resilience Manager
Greenbelt Alliance

Shani Kleinhaus
Environmental Advocate
Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance

Katja Irvin
Guadalupe Group Conservation Chair
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter

FW: Public Comment for Agenda Packet Jun 9 Budget Hearing and Jun 10 Council Meeting Item 3.8

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 6/9/2025 9:54 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (81 KB)

fully-fund-san-joses-climate-response_signatures_202506090440.pdf;

From: SVYCA San José Team <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 9:47 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Public Comment for Agenda Packet Jun 9 Budget Hearing and Jun 10 Council Meeting Item 3.8

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Please include this petition in the above specified meeting agenda packet. Thank you very much.

-San José Youth Climate Action Team

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

San José Mayor Mahan and City Council,

191 people have signed a petition on Action Network telling you to Fully Fund San José's Climate Response!.

Here is the petition they signed:

Dear San José Mayor Mahan and City Council,

The urgency of addressing climate change has never been more clear. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global temperatures are rising, and the window for preventing irreversible damage is closing extremely quickly. In San José, we have seen firsthand the devastating effects of climate change. Wildfires have often scorched surrounding regions, while extreme heat waves strain our infrastructure and endanger vulnerable residents, particularly those who are unhoused or who live in buildings with no cooling. Prolonged droughts threaten our water supply and the natural ecosystem that surrounds us. These changes in our climate are not just statistics; they are genuine impacts on our community, health, economy, and environment.

As we strive to combat these challenges, programs like Climate Smart San José are vital to ensuring a sustainable future. A 32% decrease in year-on-year funding for Climate Smart during the 2024-2025 fiscal year was a step backward on the long path of progress toward our 2030 carbon neutrality goals. These budget cuts were a false economy. Studies are clear that the financial cost of rapid decarbonization right now is dwarfed by the economic damages we will suffer if the climate crisis is allowed to progress. Now it is the time to invest more, not less, in initiatives that protect our city, its residents, and its future generations.

We, the students of the San José Youth Climate Action Team and our partners throughout the City, urge the San José City Council to increase the one-time 2025-26 fiscal year funding for Climate Smart San José and to establish permanent annual funding. Further, we ask that the Council consider increasing Environmental Services Department or Energy Department staff to support the vital work of Climate Smart San José towards our city's 2030 carbon neutrality goal. We also urge the Council to accelerate public outreach programs and collaboration with community-based organizations to effectively carry out Climate Smart's goals and empower all residents to adopt climate-friendly technologies and practices and to take action in our communities. We acknowledge the budget shortfall that the City of San José is currently facing, but climate funding must remain a key priority in this year's decisions.

Maintaining support and resources for Climate Smart San José is critical to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 and mitigating our city's environmental impact. Climate change is harming our city right now, and things will continue to worsen until we take dramatic action. To protect our future and prevent further harm, the city must intensify its climate action efforts. Fully implementing the Climate Smart San José Plan will deliver significant co-benefits, including cleaner air, safer streets, more beautiful and liveable neighborhoods, and medium and long-term cost savings.

San José has made notable progress, such as founding San José Clean Energy which has increased our proportion of clean electricity, requiring EV charging access in most new apartment buildings, and starting electrification rebate programs. These measures set a strong foundation for reducing emissions and promoting sustainable development. However,

without consistent funding and staffing for Climate Smart initiatives, the city risks falling short of its ambitious and necessary goals. An October 2024 City memo stated, “While the City continues to progress towards its City Council-approved climate goals, continued City investment and focus are necessary to reach those goals.” Indeed, we are not on track to reach our climate targets, and it will require significant action right now to get back on track. 2030 is less than 5 years away.

As one of the largest U.S. cities to commit to carbon neutrality by 2030, and ranked the sixth greenest city in the nation, San José is a leader in climate action. Still, we currently devote far less funding to climate action than other comparable cities like San Diego and Portland. As the capital of Silicon Valley and an epicenter of innovation, other cities look to San José’s lead. The ripple effects of our decisions are profound and will add up to significant effects. Reducing support for Climate Smart would send the precise wrong message to other cities and hinder collective progress in tackling climate change. Instead, San José must continue to lead by example, demonstrating that bold investments in sustainability are possible, necessary, and effective.

It must be noted that this is in the context of extreme backsliding on climate efforts at a national level. It is the responsibility of our local governments to step up and take action.

By increasing funding and support for Climate Smart San José, we can put our city on a path toward achieving our climate goals while serving as a leading example for other cities to follow. San José has the potential to be a model of climate action, but that future depends on our commitment today. Let’s ensure that the necessary resources are in place to make this goal a reality.

Mayor Mahan and City Council, please remember, you are the last generation of leaders who has the power to halt the most catastrophic effects of the climate crisis on our present and our future. We are counting on you.

You can view each petition signer and the comments they left you below.

Thank you,

San José Youth Climate Action Team

1. San José Youth Climate Action Team (*ZIP code: 95112*)

2. Mani Bekele (*ZIP code: 95112*)

I am incredibly excited to launch this petition. San Jose needs to reflect climate as a top priority and necessity in this year's budget.

3. Mila Bekele (*ZIP code: 95112*)

4. Lisa Charpontier (*ZIP code: 95112*)

5. Sangeeth Sridharan (ZIP code: 95120)

6. Calvin Sridhara (ZIP code: 95120)

7. Nishika Ivaturi (ZIP code: 95148)

8. Kanika Rawat (ZIP code: 95131)

9. Celine Sims (ZIP code: 95127)

10. Cynthia Li (ZIP code: 94087)

11. Sarah Miller (ZIP code: 95037)

12. Carolyn Kameya (ZIP code: 95126)

The federal government is doing everything it can to dig deeper in the fossil fuels hole that has been a major cause of the climate emergency. We need cities in general & San Jose in particular, to lead a path with a future.

13. Jennifer Mutch (ZIP code: 95125)

14. Poojit Hegde (ZIP code: 94301)

15. Palash H (ZIP code: 95020)

16. Will Li (ZIP code: 08844)

17. Cid Muang (ZIP code: 94305)

18. Allison Thomas (ZIP code: 94305)

19. May-Jann Wong (ZIP code: 94305)

20. Diane Koh (ZIP code: 94305)

21. Juhae Song (ZIP code: 94305)

22. Cooper Marcus (ZIP code: 94103)

23. Ian McDermid (ZIP code: 94044)

24. Destiny Henderson-Hudgins (ZIP code: 95112)

25. Elizabeth Ruder (ZIP code: 95126)

This is SO important. Let me know how I can help.

26. Ze-Kun Li (ZIP code: 95130)

27. Della Duncan (ZIP code: 94112)

28. John Lydon (ZIP code: 94114)

29. Migdalia Rodriguez C. (ZIP code: 95148)

30. Wendy Pfile (ZIP code: 95139)

I love San Jose and applaud the work our city has done around climate change. We cannot roll back the progress we've made so far. Please keep funding climate change work in San Jose. Our kids deserve a healthy environment.

31. Alan Fanning (ZIP code: 95112-2358)

32. Pamela Collaco (ZIP code: 95126)

33. Julia Howlett (ZIP code: 95112)

34. Hannah Haworth (ZIP code: 95125)

35. Rebecca Piscitelli (ZIP code: 95112)

36. Ted Smith (ZIP code: 95112)

37. Nabeela Aijaz (ZIP code: 95125)

38. Briam Campbell (ZIP code: 95125)

39. Raj Mahajan (ZIP code: 95112)

40. Clarabelle Wang (ZIP code: 95014)

Climate Change resiliency is not another expense that we can budget, it is the front line dense against the next major extinction event.

41. Michael Kutilek (ZIP code: 95112-2368)

42. Robin Goka Huynh (ZIP code: 95112)

43. Isabella Kim (ZIP code: 95135)

44. Atul Rawat (ZIP code: 95131)

45. Geeta Negi (ZIP code: 95131)

46. Aahaan Jain (ZIP code: 95129)

It's devastating for the community that valuable climate change funding is being slashed. Please sign this petition as a way to voice your opinion!

47. Daphne Zhu (ZIP code: 95129)

48. Ashima Sharma (ZIP code: 94086)

49. Alie Victorine (ZIP code: 95111)

50. Elizabeth DeVincenzi (ZIP code: 95135)

51. Stephanie Clark (ZIP code: 94520)

52. Patricia Blevins (ZIP code: 95118)

San Jose doesn't do anything to support climate action ie SJ Clean Energy (aggregate) has done nothing to fight AB 942 which would repeal the 20 yr NEM 1.0 and NEM2.0 contracts the State made with 2,000,000 California rooftop solar owners. I've asked for their help and they have not even replied to my emails.

53. Erh-yen To (ZIP code: 95835)

54. Nora Coyle (ZIP code: 92807)

55. Noah Haydon (ZIP code: 94015)

56. AJ cho (ZIP code: 94579)

57. Casey Cameron (ZIP code: 95125)

I am a big fan of the Climate Smart program! Do NOT cut it! We cannot afford to put the climate work aside, especially now when we are increasingly facing catastrophic climate disruption. I was so proud of San Jose's commitment to Climate Smart program! Please do not walk it back.

58. lynn hoang (ZIP code: 92833)

59. Harry Moody (ZIP code: 94403)

60. Todd Weber (ZIP code: 95125)

61. Rita Foster (ZIP code: 95125)

62. Linda Kerr (*ZIP code: 95125*)

63. Dan And Lilly Kittredge (*ZIP code: 91941*)

64. Christine Zack (*ZIP code: 95008*)

We need to do all that we can to slow climate change.

65. Sarah Adkar (*ZIP code: 94536*)

66. Brandon Lin (*ZIP code: 94010*)

67. Michelle Pasillas (*ZIP code: 95117*)

68. Zoe Hanshaw (*ZIP code: 94062*)

69. Nathan Albano (*ZIP code: 95120*)

70. Jon Zack (*ZIP code: 95008*)

71. Felicia Gershberg (*ZIP code: 94087*)

San José's climate action (and inaction) affects your neighbors, too, like me and my family in Sunnyvale!

72. Barbara Hamel (*ZIP code: 94086*)

73. Ian MacLeod (*ZIP code: 95124*)

74. Eve Lindsay (*ZIP code: 95112*)

75. Aarini Kasturi (*ZIP code: 95129*)

76. Stacy Brobst (*ZIP code: 95035*)

77. Gillian Claus (*ZIP code: 95124*)

78. Max Claus (*ZIP code: 95124*)

I recently graduated with a B.S.c in Marine Biology and am committed to conservation and to supporting the healthy functioning of our global ecosystems and feel that San Jose has the potential to be a leader in combatting climate change.

79. Julianna Silva (*ZIP code: 95123*)

80. William DeVincenzi (*ZIP code: 95135*)

81. **JL Angell** (*ZIP code: 95672*)
82. **Stan Fitzgerald** (*ZIP code: 94618*)
83. **Ree Whitford** (*ZIP code: 91607-3052*)
84. **Ann Thryft** (*ZIP code: 95006*)
85. **Jeremy Spencer** (*ZIP code: 94044-3318*)
86. **Giovannina Fazio** (*ZIP code: 94601*)
87. **Shell Cleave** (*ZIP code: 94019*)
88. **David Baca** (*ZIP code: 94720*)
Green New Deal !!
89. **David Warner** (*ZIP code: 23235*)
90. **steven atneosne** (*ZIP code: 94306*)
91. **Holly Miller** (*ZIP code: 95037*)
92. **Marilynn Smith** (*ZIP code: 95127*)
93. **Brian Haberly** (*ZIP code: 95112*)
94. **Jenny Green** (*ZIP code: 95124*)
95. **Annelise Bazar** (*ZIP code: 95110*)
96. **thalia lubin** (*ZIP code: 94062*)
97. **Laura Overmann** (*ZIP code: 94010-5141*)
98. **Beth Darlington** (*ZIP code: 12604*)
99. **Avroh Shah** (*ZIP code: 94303*)
100. **Lauren Murdock** (*ZIP code: 93110*)
101. **Liana Lang** (*ZIP code: 18661*)

102. Ann Dorsey (*ZIP code: 91325*)

103. Renee Klein (*ZIP code: 90292*)

104. Siena Watson (*ZIP code: 95124*)

105. Miriam Martin (*ZIP code: 95127*)

Climate change is an urgent issue! Please put funds into finding solutions!

106. Serena Myjer (*ZIP code: 95125*)

107. Jennifer Cohen (*ZIP code: 95008*)

108. Kolumban Boesch (*ZIP code: 95126*)

The city of San Jose must take actions to mitigate climate change. Fully fund San Jose's climate response!!

109. Lisa Adolph (*ZIP code: 95120*)

110. Maria Aranda (*ZIP code: 95148*)

111. Thomas Carlino (*ZIP code: 95117-4202*)

112. Doug Musto (*ZIP code: 95127*)

113. alison carpenter (*ZIP code: 95118*)

Alison Carpenter

114. Alia Merla (*ZIP code: 95123*)

115. Shannon Loucks (*ZIP code: 97498*)

116. Julie Wiltshire (*ZIP code: 95112*)

117. Eve Moran (*ZIP code: 95125*)

118. Deborah St Julien (*ZIP code: 95136*)

119. Rev Rowan Fairgrove (*ZIP code: 95112*)

120. catalina tirado-gonzalez (*ZIP code: 95138*)

121. Ina Roy (*ZIP code: 94089*)

Please make sure to keep our budget for the climate (and add to it!), since the FedGov is doing its best to destroy everything in the environment we depend on.

122. Bobbi Diamond (*ZIP code: 94086*)

123. Nana Lehtinen (*ZIP code: 95125*)

124. Derek Benedict (*ZIP code: 90250*)

125. Yonas Bekele (*ZIP code: 94550*)

126. Amy T (*ZIP code: 95123*)

127. Bonnie Arbuckle (*ZIP code: 95367*)

128. Debra Reynolds (*ZIP code: 95128*)

129. Nicolas Catabelle (*ZIP code: 95136*)

130. Melissa Blum (*ZIP code: 95126*)

131. Jacob Kosiba (*ZIP code: 94303*)

132. Ihab Awad (*ZIP code: 95126*)

133. Em McGuiness (*ZIP code: 95128*)

134. Zoe Gingrich (*ZIP code: 94087*)

135. Stacy Braslau-Schneck (*ZIP code: 95125-2925*)

We need this more than ever!

136. paola bueno (*ZIP code: 95126*)

137. Vivek Sharma (*ZIP code: 95148*)

138. John Oda (*ZIP code: 94115*)

139. Gregory Stevens (*ZIP code: 94121*)

140. Lucas Filshill (*ZIP code: 94086*)

- 141. jeffer razai** (*ZIP code: 95121*)
- 142. Nora Carino** (*ZIP code: 95148*)
- 143. Jenna Mu** (*ZIP code: 95030*)
- 144. Chelsea Lee** (*ZIP code: 95014*)
- 145. Al Park** (*ZIP code: 95111*)
- 146. Phil Bobel** (*ZIP code: 94301*)
- 147. Dennis Murphy** (*ZIP code: 94062*)
- 148. Lauren Weston** (*ZIP code: 94303*)
- 149. Meghan Lynch** (*ZIP code: 95070*)
- 150. Mary Helen Doherty** (*ZIP code: 95112*)
Thank you Mani for sharing this with me.
- 151. Nikola Konecny** (*ZIP code: 95126-2815*)
- 152. Annette McMillan** (*ZIP code: 95121*)
- 153. Maya Konecna** (*ZIP code: 95126*)
- 154. Nathan Lee** (*ZIP code: 95014*)
- 155. Toto Vu-Duc** (*ZIP code: 95076*)
- 156. Hellas Lee** (*ZIP code: 95054*)
- 157. Sarah Romano** (*ZIP code: 94556*)
- 158. Joanna Tang** (*ZIP code: 94306*)
- 159. Lenore Delgado** (*ZIP code: 94306*)
- 160. Kimberly Meade** (*ZIP code: 95050*)
- 161. Hoai-An Truong** (*ZIP code: 95126*)

162. Lisa Gherardi (*ZIP code: 95032*)

163. Anna Brigantino (*ZIP code: 95050*)

164. Howard Cohen (*ZIP code: 94306*)

165. Ruth Clifford (*ZIP code: 95126*)

166. Gretchen Daily (*ZIP code: 94305*)

167. Kim Messmer (*ZIP code: 95051*)

168. Russell Stone (*ZIP code: 95148-3209*)

169. Susan Hinton (*ZIP code: 95050*)

170. Suzanne Becket (*ZIP code: 95014*)

171. Lynda Heideman (*ZIP code: 94025*)

I don't live in San Jose, but I do work around the Bay Area. And, of course, air and water knows no borders. We must all work together to address the existential threat that is climate change.

172. Heather Guillen (*ZIP code: 95112*)

173. Muneerah Lalani (*ZIP code: 95127*)

174. Isabelle Chappuis (*ZIP code: 95131*)

175. alice nguyen (*ZIP code: 95136*)

176. Chris Loo (*ZIP code: 95037*)

177. Ugo Eke-Simmons (*ZIP code: 95826*)

178. Mary Perry (*ZIP code: 95125*)

179. Terry Trumbull (*ZIP code: 94301*)

Restore full funding for Climate Smart San Jose by adding \$300K (June 9 budget hearing and June 10 Agenda Item 3.8)

From Linda Hutchins-Knowles [REDACTED]

Date Mon 6/9/2025 9:02 AM

To The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; district1@sanjoseca.org <district1@sanjoseca.org>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (522 KB)

Letter to SJ Council to boost funding for Climate Smart June 9, 2025.pdf;

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Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Foley, and Honorable Councilmembers,

Please listen to the moms, youth and other residents and protect San Jose's vital Climate Smart program. See the attached letter.

Thank you,

Linda Hutchins-Knowles

Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley

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June 9, 2025

Re: Don't cut funding for Climate Smart program; restore \$300K to non-personal budget

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Foley, and Councilmembers Kamei, Campos, Salas, Cohen, Ortiz, Mulcahy, Doan, Candelas, and Casey:

As you make final adjustments to the 2025-26 budget, Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley joins with youth leaders and other allies to ask you to defend San Jose's Climate Smart program. We need your full support of our mission to preserve a livable climate for all children and urge you to **restore \$300,000 in funding for non-personal expenses** so that the level of Climate Smart funding stays at least the same as last year (which was already reduced from the prior year).

The Climate Smart program is vital to achieving the City's pledge to reach carbon neutrality by 2030—*just five years away*. Without more focus and funding, the City will fall short of this target—and **our children will pay the price**. Our kids don't just need homes and safe streets, they also need clean air and a stable climate—and leaders who understand the climate crisis and prioritize their health and safety.

This should fit squarely within the [2024-2025 City Council Focus Area](#) of “**Increasing Community Safety**: Enhance public safety through responsive services, **preventative measures**, and community engagement to **safeguard life, property, and the environment**.” To fully address this area, the City must increase preventative measures to head off the worst climate impacts and safeguard the lives and property of residents.

In 2024, the planet [exceeded the 1.5° C climate threshold](#) for the first time, a major red flag that at least [nine irreversible tipping points](#) are fast approaching that threaten not only lives, but civilization as we know it. With the federal government now actively

undermining climate action, it's imperative that the City act boldly to protect our children and vulnerable communities from growing climate threats, including drought, wildfires, super storms, rising sea levels, and extreme heat, along with unhealthy levels of indoor and outdoor air pollution that increase asthma and other diseases that cut lives short.

Given the existential threat of the climate crisis as well as ongoing local environmental injustices (including inadequate tree canopy in our East side neighborhoods), we must do more to reduce pollution and expand access to health-protective solutions—and that requires increasing the Climate Smart budget.

Therefore, **we ask that you prioritize our health, safety, economy, and climate stability by restoring the Climate Smart funding to at least the same level as this year by adding \$300,000 for non-personal expenses.** This will bolster the capacity of the Energy Department to partner with **local Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)** to promote Climate Smart initiatives so more residents can enjoy the co-benefits, including healthier air quality, protection from extreme heat, and lower energy bills.

One place this funding could come from is **reducing the \$6,000,000 the City plans to give the Earthquakes** to build four petroleum-based plastic turf soccer fields at the County Fairgrounds (which would actually worsen the climate crisis). Instead, the City could **cut this contribution by \$1,000,000 and insist the rest go toward the expert installation and ongoing maintenance of drought-tolerant, high-quality natural grass fields.** If designed by natural turf experts, these fields can provide plenty of hours of play without contaminating our air, water and soil or exposing kids and other players to toxic chemicals and high heat. **Watch this compelling 2-minute video** to see how awesome real grass fields can be if done right:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCm8QaAvDI8>

While other issues like housing and crime rightly deserve the City's attention, we simply cannot afford to focus on only a few priorities or ignore the intersectionality of climate, the economy, and equity. Just as parents need to care for all of our children's needs, not just some, we need our Council to likewise address all of our community's needs, not just those you believe are the most popular. The good news is, **San José residents overwhelmingly want you to act on climate.** As the [attached graphs](#) show, **76% of Santa Clara County residents are worried about global warming (three out of four) and 63% (two out of three) residents want local government officials (that's you!) to do more.**

As the planet warms dangerously, the time is NOW to do everything within your power to ensure a healthy and livable climate for our children and communities.

Please put our money where our kids are and protect their health and future.
Tomorrow will be too late.

Thank you,
Linda Hutchins-Knowles, Co-Founder & Team Coordinator
Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

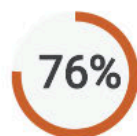
Public Opinion on Climate Change, 2023



Public opinion data come from the Yale Climate Opinion Maps (YCOM), which are based on a statistical model that employs nationally representative Climate Change in the American Mind (CCAM) surveys conducted between 2008 and 2023. The model combines geographic, census, socioeconomic, and political data with CCAM survey data collected by the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication and George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication (combined n > 28,000). For more information about the survey question wording and methodology, please visit YCOM: climatecommunication.yale.edu/visualizations-data/ycom-us

Risk Perceptions

Worried about global warming



Santa Clara County,
California



California average (71%)

Global warming will harm future generations

81%

Global warming will harm people in the developing countries

79%

Global warming will harm people in the US

73%

Has personally experienced the effects of global warming

59%

Policy Support

Provide tax rebates for energy efficient vehicles or solar panels



Santa Clara County,
California



California average (76%)

Fund research into renewable energy sources

87%

Regulate CO₂ as a pollutant

79%

Who should do more about global warming?

The President

63%

Congress

71%

My Governor

55%

My Local Govt. Officials

63%

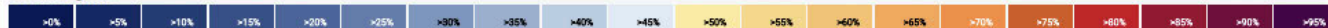
Citizens

70%

Corporations

76%

Color Legend



For help / questions, please contact: climatechange@yale.edu

Yale Program on Climate Change Communication 2023

In partnership with
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