
FW: Public Comment: February 24, 2026 Meeting – Oversight of Consent Calendar Expenditures

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

From: brian darby <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:19 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Public Comment: February 24, 2026 Meeting – Oversight of Consent Calendar Expenditures

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Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council Members,

I am writing to provide public comment on the February 24, 2026, Consent Calendar. While these items are presented as routine, I would like to highlight the following expenditures from an oversight perspective:

- **Public Safety Communications (Item 2.8):** The amendment to the AT&T FirstNet purchase order increases compensation by **\$1,000,000**, bringing the total to **\$4,500,000**. While public safety communication is vital, I urge the Council to ensure there is a clear audit trail for how these funds are allocated between hardware and ongoing service fees, especially as we extend these options through 2026.
- **Infrastructure & Consulting (Item 2.7):** The \$500,000 increase to the NewGen Strategies agreement for professional consulting brings that contract to **\$850,000**. I ask the Council to verify that this additional spending is yielding actionable data that justifies nearly doubling the original contract price.
- **Energy Management (Item 2.9):** The cQuant.io amendment increases compensation to a maximum of **\$1.4 million** and extends the term through 2031. For a contract of this length and value, what benchmarks are in place to ensure the software remains the most cost-effective option for San Jose's energy trading needs over the next five years?
- **Transit Maintenance (Item 2.10):** The \$550,000 annual lease for CNG shuttle buses at Mineta International Airport is a significant recurring cost. I encourage the Council to regularly review whether leasing remains more fiscally responsible than purchasing, especially as the city moves toward zero-emission fleet goals.

I am not necessarily opposing these items, but I am asking that the Council remains vigilant in auditing these "routine" amendments to ensure we are receiving the highest impact for every dollar spent.

Sincerely,

Brian Darby



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