
Fw: Arcadia Ballpark

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:48 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: BRIAN VANOLI <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, May 9, 2026 9:18 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia Ballpark

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself

describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

Arcadia is one of the finest publicly operated sports facilities in San Jose. These concerns are not about the staff who would take on responsibilities under the new model. They are about what is structurally possible when a dedicated facility team is replaced by a shared, citywide system.

Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone. Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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

Fw: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks (FY 2026–27)

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:48 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: tony martinicoandsons <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Saturday, May 9, 2026 9:34 PM

To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks (FY 2026–27)

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, Members of the City Council, and the Parks and Recreation Commission,

I'm writing as a San Jose resident to ask you to oppose the proposed cuts to Viva Calle SJ and Viva Parks in the FY 2026-27 budget. The proposal, listed as Item 13 in the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department budget, would reduce Viva Calle SJ from three annual events to two and cut Viva Parks from 75 events down to 50.

I understand this budget cycle is difficult. But I'd ask you to consider what these programs actually do before reducing them.

The September 2025 Viva CalleSJ drew over 150,000 people. A study by the Mineta Transportation Institute at San Jose State found the economic impact of that single event was

\$4.7 million. Nearly 80% of attendees discovered a local business they hadn't visited before, and 78.5% planned to spend money along the route that day. That kind of neighborhood activation is genuinely hard to replicate through other means.

The community numbers are just as striking. 93% of participants said the event increased their sense of belonging in San Jose. 84% said they talked to someone they otherwise wouldn't have. These aren't abstractions. This is a program that makes people feel like they live somewhere worth caring about.

Viva Parks matters for a different reason. It was designed specifically for neighborhoods with the fewest resources, using the Healthy Place Index to target where free wellness programming is needed most. Cutting 25 events doesn't distribute the loss evenly. It falls hardest on people who don't have alternatives.

There's also a cost-of-living dimension worth naming directly. San Jose sits inside one of the wealthiest metro areas in the world, and yet a large share of its residents are priced out of most of what that implies. Going out as a family costs money a lot of households don't have. Viva Calle is one of the only large, free events where kids can move around safely and families can spend a full day together without spending anything. That gap between what Silicon Valley projects and what many San Jose families can actually afford is exactly why this program matters.

The total savings from these cuts is \$301,984. In the context of a \$1.72 billion General Fund, that is less than two hundredths of one percent. I'd respectfully ask whether that tradeoff is worth it.

Please protect full funding for Viva CalleSJ at three annual events and Viva Parks at 75 events.

Thank you for your time.

Tony Martinico

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

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:48 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113
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Fax: 408-292-6207

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

From: Jennifer McDonald <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, May 9, 2026 10:01 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

These records and access to them is so incredibly important to the community.

Jennifer M.
San Jose, CA

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:48 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor
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From: Ann Recktenwald <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, May 9, 2026 10:15 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District5 <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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Sincerely,

Ann Recktenwald, District 5 Resident

"Imagination was given to man to compensate him for what he is not; a sense of humor to console him for what he is."
Francis Bacon

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Fw: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ (FY 2026–27)

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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: Jonathan Gordon <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Saturday, May 9, 2026 11:02 PM

To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ (FY 2026–27)

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, Members of the City Council, and the Parks and Recreation Commission,

My 7 year old daughter thinks it's "super boss" when she gets to ride her bike down the whole street during Viva Calle. Those are some of my most precious memories with her so far and everyone in the community deserves that as much as possible. We should be doing more Viva Calle, not less.

I'm writing as a San Jose resident to ask you to oppose the proposed cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks in the FY 2026-27 budget. The proposal, listed as Item 13 in the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department budget, would reduce Viva CalleSJ from three annual events to two and cut Viva Parks from 75 events down to 50.

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A Concerned San Jose Resident

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Fw: Arcadia Ballpark

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:49 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Gary <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 5:12 AM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia Ballpark

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Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

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A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:49 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Shauny Moore <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 5:19 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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I am appalled at the harebrained idea to put the California Room on the chopping block to save a few bucks. The City has an invaluable resource and it should be recognized as the treasure that it is. That you would consider closing off this rich repository from the citizens you are supposed to represent is incomprehensible.

I have traveled to the MLK Library from my home in Chico, and before that Palo Alto, to research my family. My grandfather, John "Jack" Wright, was the long time editor of The San Jose News while my grandmother hailed from the Desimone family who permeated San Jose and the Valley. With the expertise of the excellent California Room staff I have gained so much knowledge about my family and the times in which they lived. However, gaps remain and I count on spending many more hours immersed in the Room's records.

I know I am not alone in appreciating the value of the California Room; it is irreplaceable. I urge you to fund the California Room in the 2026-2027 budget. Don't be short sighted.

Regards

Shauny Moore

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Fw: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Karleen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 8:12 AM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

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Fw: Arcadia Ballpark Concerns

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Jeff Greenberg <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 8:13 AM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> District3
<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia Ballpark Concerns

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Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

Arcadia is one of the finest publicly operated sports facilities in San Jose. These concerns are not about the staff who would take on responsibilities under the new model. They are about what is structurally possible when a dedicated facility team is replaced by a shared, citywide system.

Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone. Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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

Fw: California Room - Keep it funded - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 9:21 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Room - Keep it funded - Library Department Budget

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027.

I believe it's important in this times that the City of San Jose work to preserve and protect our historic records, AND to give the public access to this information. The California Room is a valuable resource to all family history and genealogy researchers across the county, including myself. While I am not a San Jose resident, this resource is valuable for my research projects and use.

I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Sincerely,
Ann Hepenstal
resident of Los Altos

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

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Dan Earl <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 9:43 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Maguire, Jennifer <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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Dear Mayor & Councilmembers:

As a life-long genealogist (and retired City of San Jose employee), I use the California Room for research on a regular basis. It's essential to my research. I'm writing to urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget.

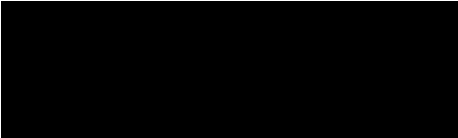
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I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Sincerely,
Daniel R. Earl
(District 8)

--

Daniel Earl

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

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

Fw: Save the California Room - Library Dept Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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 Knoth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 10:54 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Save the California Room - Library Dept Budget

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

To all:

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just

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Sincerely from a long time user of the California Room,

Mary Knoth
District 2

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

Fw: California room, Martin Luther King library

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Karen Gough <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 11:18 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California room, Martin Luther King library

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. Learn more <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>]

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hello Mayor and all,

Instead of closing the California room and cutting staff, how about cutting down on the number of people who work there and the hours it is open. Please do not close the California room as these archives are very important to historians now and in the future.

Thank you,
Karen Gough
<http://thefootloosescrabbler.com>

Fw: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks (FY 2026–27)

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Sara Lewis <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 11:24 AM

To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks (FY 2026–27)

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, Members of the City Council, and the Parks and Recreation Commission,

I'm writing as a San Jose resident to ask you to oppose the proposed cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks in the FY 2026 27 budget. The proposal, listed as Item 13 in the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department budget, would reduce Viva CalleSJ from three annual events to two and cut Viva Parks from 75 events down to 50.

I understand this budget cycle is difficult. But I'd ask you to consider what these programs actually do before reducing them. The September 2025 Viva CalleSJ drew over 150,000 people. A study by the Mineta Transportation Institute at San Jose State found the economic impact of that single event was \$4.7 million. Nearly 80% of attendees discovered a local business they hadn't visited before, and 78.5% planned to spend money along the route that day. That kind of neighborhood activation is genuinely hard to replicate through other means. The community numbers are just as striking. 93% of participants said the event increased their sense of belonging in San Jose. 84% said they talked to someone they otherwise wouldn't have. These aren't abstractions. This is a program that makes people feel like they live somewhere worth caring about. Viva Parks matters for a different reason. It was designed specifically for neighborhoods with the fewest resources, using the Healthy Place Index to target where free wellness programming is needed most. Cutting 25 events doesn't distribute the loss evenly. It falls

1

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Fw: Arcadia propose Changes

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Pabs Cast <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 11:30 AM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia propose Changes

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To whom it may concern: As A tax payer for more than 30 yrs. For the county of Santa Clara.

Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026 27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

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Fw: Arcadia softball complex

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:50 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Jim Callan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 12:09 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia softball complex

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Hello,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

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Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone. Thank you for your time and public service.

Jim Callan, a concerned Arcadia supporter

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Fw: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:52 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Marla <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 12:20 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

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Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways. I personally play in one of the few and longest running women's leagues in the south bay and we love the home we have found at Arcadia! For so many of us the staff there have made it like a 2nd home to us be it league play or tournaments!

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

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Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

Marla Fields

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit." Aristotle

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Fw: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks (FY 2026–27)

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:52 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Kim <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 12:54 PM

To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks (FY 2026–27)

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To whom it may concern,

Viva Calle is an amazing event and I was shocked to hear you might be cancelling one of the dates. It's wonderful seeing the community come together and safely walk and bike around. I've learned so much about what's in SJ simply by having the opportunity to slow down and really see what's in my backyard!

Honestly, it's the only thing the City does that I get excited about I even change my work schedule so I can go!

Please do not cancel any remaining Viva Calle dates! There's one that goes right by my house in September and I would be crushed if it didn't happen.

Thanks,
Kim Brown
SJ resident of 25+ years

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Fw: Don't Close the California Room!

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:52 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Pamela Storm <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 2:17 PM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Don't Close the California Room!

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Councilmembers,

I do not currently live in San Jose, but my roots run deep all over Santa Clara Valley, back to the 1850's.

I understand there is a proposal in the city's next budget to close the MLK Library's California Room. The loss of this priceless collection of irreplaceable local history material would be devastating to his community and its cultural memory.

I most strongly urge you maintain funding for this invaluable resource. Please protect the California Room and public access to our shared history!

Thank you,

-Pamela Storm

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

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:52 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: David Wilder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 5:20 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

In these times of mis-information and disappearance of factual and historic information, preserving and sharing our past is of utmost importance.

We urge you to **MANTAIN FUNDING FOR THE CALIFORNIA ROOM** at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget.

For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have **preserved the history** of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an **irreplaceable collection** of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records **explored**

by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year.

Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027.

We ask you to protect the California Room,
PRESERVE PUBLIC ACCESS to our shared history,
and demonstrate that **SAN JOSE VALUES ITS CULTURAL HERITAGE AND CIVIC MEMORY.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Pam and David Wilder
District 9

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

Fw: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:52 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Kelly Clement <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 5:58 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

Arcadia is one of the finest publicly operated sports facilities in San Jose. These concerns are not about the staff who would take on responsibilities under the new model. They are about what is structurally possible when a dedicated facility team is replaced by a shared, citywide system.

Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone.

Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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

Fw: Third Party Price Increase

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:53 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Barry Schimmel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 6:08 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Third Party Price Increase

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I live in Evergreen Silver Creek area 15, and the city hires a third party provider to keep up the landscape median. It costs me over \$150 month because the city subs the work out to a landscape maintenance company and then charges each homeowner a fee for the City work to manage the company. No cost effective or quality control. The proposal to manage the sports programming will use the same concept.
Not effective.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide

Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

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Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

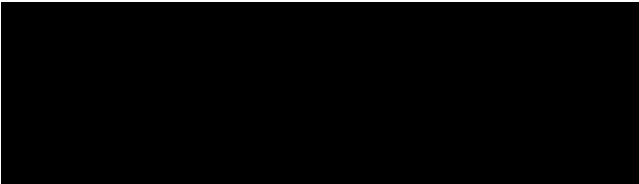
Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

Arcadia is one of the finest publicly operated sports facilities in San Jose. These concerns are not about the staff who would take on responsibilities under the new model. They are about what is structurally possible when a dedicated facility team is replaced by a shared, citywide system.

Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone. Thank you for your time and public service.

Barry



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Fw: Proposal to transition Arcadia Park to Park Maintenance Redistricting and City Wide Sports Programming

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:53 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Lawrence Kubo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 6:19 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
Subject: Proposal to transition Arcadia Park to Park Maintenance Redistricting and City Wide Sports Programming

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Mr. Mayor, City Manager McGuire, and City Council Members,

While I understand the budget pressures San Jose now faces, I believe the proposal to move management of Arcadia ball fields away from dedicated, onsite staff to a central city-wide system would be penny-wise and pound foolish. As a senior softball player who's played for the Vintage Softball Club

of San Jose for 18 years, I can attest to the superiority of Arcadia fields over all other San Jose ball fields at our public parks. I attribute this difference to having a dedicated staff at Arcadia whose responsibility is to provide a well-maintained, central sports city facility that serves youth, adults, and seniors alike, at rates that participants from all income levels can afford. By web-based estimates, Arcadia typically serves 100+ teams over the Spring and Summer seasons which, at 15 players per team represents more than 1,500 players as well as parents and family members who support them.

Lest we forget, Arcadia was funded under the Measure P Bond Fund in 2000, and it was one of the last projects built from the fund only five years ago in 2021. The land was donated by Arcadia development company and receives funds from residential developers to ensure recreational space for new residents — this is not simply “City property” that imposes overhead on City services.

I came to San Jose in 1955 from Hawaii, and I am the product of San Jose elementary, middle school, and high school. Looking back on my time as a young baseball player, I can attest to the superiority of Arcadia over all public park and school fields that I played on. As a high school player at Pioneer High, the only better fields I played on were at a few colleges and the current San Jose Giants park — playing on Arcadia fields is vastly superior and safer than public park fields like Butcher, DeAnza, Starbird, Hamann, and Calaveras, all of which are fields my club also plays at.

We are a city of 1 million people. Compared to smaller cities like Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Mountain View, and Pleasanton, our city parks are inferior. While I understand there are fiscal challenges, changing oversight from a dedicated staff at Arcadia to a city-wide management system stands to diminish the crown jewel of our city’s ball parks. . . centralization will come at the expense of focused staffing and attention currently given to maintenance of Arcadia.

I appeal to your sense as parents and for many of you, as individuals who played sports in San Jose. WE NEED A PARK THAT OUR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES CAN BE PROUD OF. I urge you to look for other ways than changes at Arcadia to meet San Jose’s budgetary goals. To do otherwise will come at the expense of our enjoyment and the pride we take in our city.

Sincerely,
Larry Kubo

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Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:53 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Donna W. <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 6:30 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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I urge you to maintain the funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. This archive is an essential service to historians, genealogists, students, teachers, and anyone who has a curiosity about our county's history. Its collection of irreplaceable books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records is one-of-a-kind and has been accessible to the public for more than 100 years. All of these materials have been expertly curated by the irreplaceable librarian, support staff and archivists. Without them, the California Room would become just a storage room instead of the engaging facility it is today.

I ask that you vote to protect the California Room as a commitment to preserve public access to our shared history. Library collections are not just the resources on the shelves and in file cabinets; they are dependent on the human resources who are knowledgeable about this unique collection and who help to guide research on San Jose and Santa Clara County history.

As an avid genealogist and family history researcher, the staff and materials located in the California Room are essential to my work. Please continue the financial support to keep it open and easily accessible to the public.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the sender's name and signature.

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Fw: Save the California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:53 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Melissa Got-Lopez <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 6:42 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Save the California Room - Library Department Budget

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Sincerely,

Melissa Got-Lopez

District 5 Resident and Proud East San Jose Community Member

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

Fw: Protect Access to the California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:54 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Cassie Kifer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 7:06 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Protect Access to the California Room - Library Department Budget

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

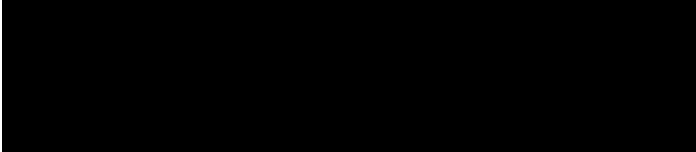
Dear City Council and other officials:

I am grateful for the access I have to public documents and local history in the California Room at the Martin Luther King Jr Library.

For that reason, I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the MLK Jr Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year.

Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Sincerely,
Cassie Kifer
Council District 3

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

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

Fw: SJ Library California Room financial problem

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:54 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Michael Ward <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 7:09 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
Subject: SJ Library California Room financial problem

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

As a forty-three year resident of San Jose, and a voter, I ask you not to close and the California Room and make its information inaccessible.

With resources like this, we will forget how we got here, and how San Jose got here. Memories like these are important to maintaining a sense of community.

We will remember the people who stood by San Jose, and we will also remember those who cut our sense of history out of the budget, and threw away the hundred years' labor of librarians and historians.

Michael Ward
[REDACTED]

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:54 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: M BUTCHER <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 7:38 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Please find a way to maintain funding for the California Room (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library) for at least 2026-27. My mother grew up in San José, and I grew up in the Santa Clara Valley, too. I know now how important it is that local and regional historical documentation is available to us, in the face of major changes in the valley. The California Room can continue to be that resource, with your support.

Sincerely,
Margaret Butcher

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:54 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Jaron Lines <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 7:43 PM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jaron Lines Sotelo
SJ District 6

Fw: No Closure for California Room at MKL Library

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:54 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Leticia Cowan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 8:13 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: No Closure for California Room at MKL Library

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Mayor Mahon and Councilmember Michael Mulcahy,

I have been beside myself with worry and wonder that the closing the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library is even being considered. I urge you to try and find a more creative solution to the budgetary worries of our beloved city rather than axing yet another resource not just of history, but also the rich cultural heritage of San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley.

It seems to be an all-to-common, knee jerk reaction, to eliminate or reduce, the availability of knowledge for everyone; your people, your constituents, your taxpayers. Please maintain the California Room's funding. The California Room is a place where information can be sourced through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year.

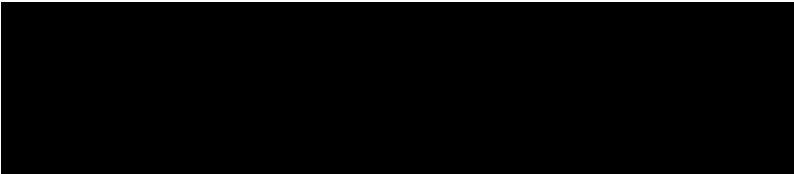
Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. And, as Sal Pizzaro wrote this past week in his column, "But the problem with closing a resource like the California Room is that it becomes that much harder to reopen it in the future."

I ask you, please, to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory for today and future generations. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Leticia Cowan, District 6

--

Leticia Cowan
Business Manager



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Fw: San Jose Budget (FY 2026-2027): MLK Library California History Room

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:54 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Greg Smestad <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 9:21 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>

District 6 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: San Jose Budget (FY 2026-2027): MLK Library California History Room

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

To: [REDACTED]

May 10, 2026

Dear Mayor Mahon, Councilmember Michael Mulcahy and the City Clerk of

San José, CA,

I would like this added to, and read into, the record for during the BUDGET STUDY SESSION on May 11th. I'm Greg P. Smestad, PhD, a native of San José; I live in Willow Glen in District 6.

The phrase "What is past is prologue"—a quotation from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*—is inscribed on the base of the "Future" statue, located on the Pennsylvania Avenue side of the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. I've stood before it several times and pondered its meaning, which is that all that has happened before helps us understand our current position and our direction going forward. This ability is something uniquely human, and cannot easily be synthesized or reproduced online, or by an AI. This is worth considering during the discussions about the proposal to cut the budget for the California History Room at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

We live in the oldest purely civilian European-based settlement in California (founded in 1777). I know this, because, on my mother's side, I'm a descendant of several of its mayors (alcaldes: Ignacio Archuleta, and Luis Maria Peralta) during its pre-U.S. history. Many of my ancestors came here in June of 1776 with the Juan Bautista de Anza expedition. Their uniquely Hispanic stories, like so many other stories in this place, are preserved at the California History Room, which might better be described as San José's Living History Room. Therefore, the organized materials and knowledgeable staff within it are essential to educate and inspire its over 5,000 visitors annually. This helps bind us together as a diverse and cohesive community, giving us the strength and sense of identity to weather both present and future tempests.

Before the June budget decision, I ask that a study should be carried out to determine both the tangible and intangible, as well as monetary and non-monetary, benefits and risks of keeping the room open near its present funding level. A SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) should also be conducted and published. These are rational approaches to policy-making.

Neighborhood Services City Service Area (CSA) is one of San José's five primary "lines of business". It encompasses several departments and programs focused on lifelong learning, recreation, and community well-being (Library Services, Parks and Recreation, Animal Care and Services, Community Services & Grants, Code Enforcement, and Homelessness-Related Neighborhood Services). Surely, there can be a re-balancing of the funding for these aspects so that the learning and community well-being strengthened by the California History Room will survive the present budget shortfalls, as it has in the past. Visitors to our city, as well as future generations, will recognize your leadership and foresight in helping us continue to draw upon, and

recognize, our shared past. Consider it a beautification project from within.

Sincerely,

Greg P. Smestad, Ph.D.

Mailing:



You can email me at my personal email:



Otherwise, the business email (which only goes to me) is:



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Fw: Proposed change in management of Arcadia Ballpark

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:54 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Robert Sprague <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 9:26 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Proposed change in management of Arcadia Ballpark

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am president [REDACTED], an organization that provides recreation and good competition for approximately 200 senior softball players. We have played for many years at Arcadia Park and find it to be an excellent well-run facility that has been the favored place for many of our players for a number of years. I am writing to express my concern about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates, since we fear it may result in a significant drop in quality of service and a potential steep rise in cost. I am detailing my concerns in the note below. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who

rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

Arcadia is one of the finest publicly operated sports facilities in San Jose. These concerns are not about the staff who would take on responsibilities under the new model. They are about what is structurally possible when a dedicated facility team is replaced by a shared, citywide system.

Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone. Thank you for your time and public service.

■ Robert Sprague

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature and any accompanying text or email address.

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Fw: Proposal to transition Arcadia Park to Park Maintenance Redistricting and City Wide Sports Programming

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:55 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Lawrence Kubo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 9:56 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]>
District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]>
District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]>
District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Proposal to transition Arcadia Park to Park Maintenance Redistricting and City Wide Sports Programming

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Mr. Mayor, City Manager McGuire, and City Council Members,

While I understand the budget pressures San Jose now faces, I believe the proposal to move management of Arcadia ball fields away from dedicated, onsite staff to a central city-wide system would be penny-wise and pound foolish. As a senior softball player who's played for the Vintage Softball Club of San Jose for 18 years, I can attest to the superiority of Arcadia fields over all other San Jose ball fields at our public parks. I attribute this difference to having a dedicated staff at Arcadia whose responsibility

is to provide a well-maintained, central sports city facility that serves youth, adults, and seniors alike, at rates that participants from all income levels can afford. By web-based estimates, Arcadia typically serves 100+ teams over the Spring and Summer seasons which, at 15 players per team represents more than 1,500 players as well as parents and family members who support them.

Lest we forget, Arcadia was funded under the Measure P Bond Fund in 2000, and it was one of the last projects built from the fund only five years ago in 2021. The land was donated by Arcadia development company and receives funds from residential developers to ensure recreational space for new residents — this is not simply “City property” that imposes overhead on City services.

I came to San Jose in 1955 from Hawaii, and I am the product of San Jose elementary, middle school, and high school. Looking back on my time as a young baseball player, I can attest to the superiority of Arcadia over all public park and school fields that I played on. As a high school player at Pioneer High, the only better fields I played on were at a few colleges and the current San Jose Giants park — playing on Arcadia fields is vastly superior and safer than public park fields like Butcher, DeAnza, Starbird, Hamann, and Calaveras, all of which are fields my club also plays on.

We are a city of 1 million people. Compared to smaller cities like Sunnyvale, Cupertino, Mountain View, and Pleasanton, our parks are inferior. While I understand there are fiscal challenges, changing oversight from a dedicated staff at Arcadia to a city-wide management system stands to diminish the crown jewel of our city’s ball parks. . . centralization will come at the expense of focused staffing and attention currently given to maintenance of Arcadia.

I appeal to your sense as parents and for many of you, as individuals who played sports in San Jose. WE NEED A PARK THAT OUR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES CAN BE PROUD OF. I urge you to look for other ways than changes at Arcadia to meet San Jose’s budgetary goals. To do otherwise will come at the expense of our enjoyment and the pride we take in our city.

Sincerely,
Larry Kubo

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Fw: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:55 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Jennifer Bennett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 10:08 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026 27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself

describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

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Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

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Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

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Fw: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks (FY 2026–27)

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:56 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Darlene Wong <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 11:23 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Please Oppose Proposed Cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks (FY 2026–27)

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, Members of the City Council, and the Parks and Recreation Commission,

I am writing as a San Jose resident to urge you to oppose the proposed cuts to Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks in the FY 2026-27 budget. The proposal, listed as Item 13 in the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department budget, would reduce Viva CalleSJ from three annual events to two and cut Viva Parks from 75 events down to 50. This is a step in the wrong direction for a city of our stature.

To put our current programming in perspective, Mexico City holds approximately 37 open streets events per year, and Los Angeles hosts 4-8 CicLAvia events annually. The San Jose community should be able to enjoy at least 3-4 of these events per year. Reducing our already modest schedule undermines the momentum we have built.

I have been fortunate enough to attend Viva Calle on foot, on bicycle, and on skates. One of my favorite things about these days is seeing the smiles everywhere, especially on children, but also on neighbors

using wheelchairs and walkers who can finally navigate our streets with ease. It is a special treat to be able to enjoy truly open streets for at least 1% of the year.

These events are also vital for our local economy. By exploring San Jose at a slower pace, I have dined at restaurants I otherwise never would have known existed, found new public parks, and purchased items at local shops and grocery stores. I have gotten to know San Jose more intimately, from Martial Cottle to Lake Cunningham, and Japantown to the Rose Garden. I proudly wear my four Viva Calle t-shirts on rotation because they represent my pride in being a San Jose resident.

The data supports this personal experience. The September 2025 event drew over 150,000 people and generated an economic impact of \$4.7 million. Nearly 80% of attendees discovered a local business they hadn't visited before. Beyond the money, 93% of participants said the event increased their sense of belonging.

Furthermore, Viva Parks provides essential, free wellness programming to neighborhoods that need it most. Cutting 25 events from this program disproportionately affects families who are already priced out of many recreational activities in Silicon Valley. Viva Calle and Viva Parks are among the only large-scale, free events where families can spend a full day together without financial strain.

The total savings from these cuts is \$301,984. In the context of a \$1.72 billion General Fund, that is less than two-hundredths of one percent. I'd respectfully ask whether that tradeoff is worth the loss of community health, local business support, and civic pride.

Please protect full funding for Viva CalleSJ at three annual events and Viva Parks at 75 events.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our city.

Sincerely,

Darlene Wong

San Jose Resident

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Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:58 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Sam Rios <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 7:57 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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Dear Council Members,

My name is Sam Rios. I am a current student at SJSU, earning my MA in History. I graduated last year from SJSU with my BA in History. I am also the current president of SJSU's History Club & Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, Beta-Lambda Chapter. For the past four years I have been a member of this student organization. For half of those years, our student organization, largely made of History majors, has advocated to our History Department and College of Social Sciences for the hiring of a new Public Historian. We have arranged guest speaker talks and information sessions with many local history organizations and facilities, like the MLK California Room.

Our student efforts have paid off as the department has just hired a new Public Historian in the past year and will begin our Public History curriculum next semester for the first time in a long while. That curriculum includes connecting students with projects, internships, and organizations dealing with Public History. That would include use of the California Room.

Last month on April 17th, we held the NorCal Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference at SJSU. History Club and the History Department worked together to bring over 100 young professionals and academics to our conference. Over 60 students came to present on their research projects, some of which focused on local histories. We also hosted four panelists, members of our local history communities, to discuss the place and importance of Public History. We invited Bill Schroh Jr. (History San Jose), Ben Leech (Preservation Action Council San Jose), Ken Yeager (Bay Area Municipality Elections Committee), and Margot McBane (Before Silicon Valley Project).

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Keep history public. Keep history accessible. Seek Truth.

Sincerely,

Sam Rios

District 8

President of SJSU History Club & Phi Alpha Theta, Beta-Lambda Chapter



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Fw: Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:58 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Anthony Orozco <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 8:33 AM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where

reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways. Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

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A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

Fw: Arcadia Ballpark

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:59 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Opsal, Matthew <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 8:19 AM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Cc: CMOAgendaServices <[REDACTED]> Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Arcadia Ballpark

Good morning City Clerk,

The City Manager's Office received the public comment below directly for the Council Study Session today. Passing this along to be included in the compilation of public comment received over the weekend.

Thank you,
-matt

Matt Opsal

Senior Executive Analyst | City Manager's Office
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 17th floor
San José, CA 95113
Office: 408-535-8117
www.sanjoseca.gov

From: Gary <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 5:12 AM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia Ballpark

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

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A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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

Fw: SJ Budget Concerns

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 10:00 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: DON OWENS <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 9:16 AM

To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>

Subject: SJ Budget Concerns

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A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 10:02 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Venicia Dobson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 9:17 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District3
<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6
<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9
<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]>
Subject: Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

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[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Begin forwarded message:

On Monday, May 11, 2026, 7:31 AM, Anna Lara [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello,

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Sincerely,

Venicia Dobson, District 7

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

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 10:07 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Maritza Reding <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 9:26 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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To whom this may concern,

I am writing to you in regards to the funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history by maintaining funding in the 2026-2027 budget.

Regards,

Maritza Anaya Reding



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

Fw: California Room Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 10:08 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: cllgene <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 9:47 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room Library Department Budget

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

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Sincerely,

Christine Lutke

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

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 10:09 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Samantha Purnell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 9:50 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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

To Whom it May Concern,

I urge you to please maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to

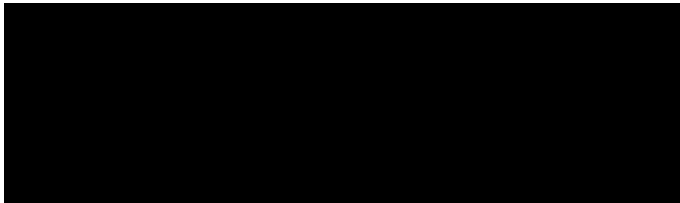
celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Samantha Purnell

Cultural Resources Planner | Architectural Historian



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Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 10:09 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Christopher McVey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 9:41 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District2 <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the City Government of San Jose:

I don't know whether you will read this, and I feel a painful sense of helplessness as an ordinary person not representing any powerful organization or capable of making large political donations, trying to advocate for saving what is good in my community, in this day and age. I am writing, more for my own conscience than out of any confidence that my words could influence the outcome. I don't think anything I could say would save the California Room but I am going to try anyway, because I am going to hate myself if I don't.

I think I know what you're trying to accomplish, and why. You want to save money by closing a resource center that may be less relevant or less irreplaceable now than it would have been in pre-internet times. It might seem that, with much of the historical record going online, with significant amounts of microfilm being digitized, we don't need a resource like this anymore. I want to try to explain to you how I used the California Room, how I saw others use it, and why its crucial importance is undiminished.

I went to the California room for the first time in 2025. I needed to provide context for an amateur scientific investigator which I, though a mere engineer, have been undertaking. I have been trying to study the effect shown by Martinez et al in the study featured in the following news article: [Why More Babies Are Conceived in the Cold Winter Months](#) attached here:

Why More Babies Are Conceived in the Cold Winter Months

There's evidence of seasonal reproduction all the way back to the 1800s

Our city, San Jose, is an unique natural experiment in the public health effects of artificial light because of our forward-looking project in the 1880s to light the entire city from a single point. We built a tall tower and lit six multi-thousand-candle-power carbon arc lights on the top of it, such that light equivalent to a quarter-moon a mile away transformed the conditions of the entire population in a single moment. I want to see what happened to regional fertility trends around the time of this moment. I started with my church's baptismal records; those of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, a mere 2 blocks from the tower's site and a typically Episcopalian white-collar-heavy congregation more likely to live in town than the countryside. An ideal specimen! Many of these baptism records include a birth-date. When I transcribed and compiled the data, I was shocked to see that around 11 months after the time of the light tower's being turned on-- 13 December 1881, according to online sources-- we had a sudden 4-month gap without a birthdate and only 9 in the whole year beginning with that gap. The previous 12-month period had 21 birthdates. Even with my small dataset, a statistical significance calculating tool deemed this to be significant; more than 2 standard deviations outside of normal. It was the only negative significant point in my entire 1870-1886 dataset; all others were peaks. There was only one problem: the event was too late. It began in November 1882, 11+ months after the light tower's commissioning, not 9. Why would there be a delayed reaction and then a wrenching, sudden response? The data did not line up.

This is where the California room came in. Not wanting to give up, I did some primary source research about the time-frame of this light tower's operation. In the archives of the San Jose Mercury and the defunct San Jose Herald, I found a shocking revelation not available from any online source: the city government and the businessmen who had built the tower haggled for months over how the operation of this central light source would be funded, and only agreed a plan in late February 1882 to take effect in March. The tower was not lit nightly from the time of its commissioning, but only after the funding deal. The data, which had looked off, now lined up perfectly. I was astonished.

I received help from the friendly, knowledgeable staff at the California Room and saw how they helped others too. They showed me how to read newspaper archives, operate a microfiche reader, take screenshots. They recommended books. When I decided I wanted a bigger dataset before trying to write a paper, to add weight to what I had from the church records and to contrast city to rest-of-county trends in order to isolate the variable, they put me in touch with a historian who told me how I could take my project further, and I am still working on it. Though online resources undeniably play a role in modern historical research, not only is not everything digitized, but not everyone knows about these resources or how to use them. The staff at California Room were constantly mentoring people about online historical research resources on library computers, not only answering their questions but filling in the unknown-unknowns inherent to developing any new skill. I never saw one person leave unsatisfied.

Google search cannot, and chatbots ABSOLUTELY cannot, replace high-quality information resources and people-based training and mentorship like the California room offers. I am close to being able to write my first scientific paper, without a professional research background at all, due in large part to their help. I have a voice to contribute to the intense, conflicted contemporary global conversation about human fertility in the modern built environment, and it is to say, with the authority of evidence: that rather than being purely an issue of changing culture or people becoming excessively comfortable, the "demographic transition" has a strong *environmental and public health component* that no amount of top-down control or reversion to a traditional social hierarchy will assuage. I could not have done this with online resources only. I needed the California Room.

Please do not take it away. It costs a pittance compared to your controversial network of Flock cameras, or other recent discretionary expenditures, and it provides a greater externality benefit than I think you realize. I'll pray you make the right decision for this community, and for the value of knowledge.

Best Regards,
--Christopher McVey

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

Fw: Arcadia Field

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 10:48 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Saeid Assadi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 9:53 AM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia Field

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to

a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

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budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone. Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 11:46 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Isabel Chavez <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 10:58 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]> <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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Hello,

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. I moved to San Jose in July 2019 and the California Room was such an important part of my education when I moved to this beautiful city. I was able to look into the past and see what San Jose looked like before I moved here, heck, before I was born! I found maps, books, articles, and so much more in the California Room. My move here to was from out of state, so this learning process was more than just San Jose but about California as a whole.

For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short sighted decision, especially as San José prepares

to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

I would hate to have the availability to this room be closed off completely or by appointment, it would cut off a beautiful part of the library! If it must be limited, I would rather see it be limited to one or two days. I am not sure what we can do but maybe spreading the word is the first step. Is there someone in the city that could create something that can be distributed to general public regarding this very important issue. As a member of the public, I can create a flyer but I want to make sure any funds raised would go the California Room directly and without issue and in order for that to happen, I think that needs to come from the city.

Sincerely,

Isabel Chavez

My district doesn't even matter, this is a San Jose issue

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FW: CALL TO KEEP THE CALIFORNIA ROOM AT MLK LIBRARY

From Opsal, Matthew <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 11:06 AM

To City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Cc CMOAgendaServices <[REDACTED]>

Good morning City Clerk and Agenda Desk,

Please find public comment below related to the budget study sessions and the California Room at MLK Jr. Library.

Thank you,
-matt

Matt Opsal

Senior Executive Analyst | City Manager's Office

City of San José

200 East Santa Clara Street, 17th floor

San José, CA 95113

Office: 408-535-8117

www.sanjoseca.gov



From: Jen T <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 11:04 AM

To: Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> The Webmaster <[REDACTED]>
Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Shannon, Jim <[REDACTED]>
Manager <[REDACTED]> Wilcox, Leland <[REDACTED]>

Subject: CALL TO KEEP THE CALIFORNIA ROOM AT MLK LIBRARY

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Dear Mayor Matt Mahan and City Council,

It has come to my attention that the City of San Jose plans to cut funding for the California Room at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. Buried deep in the budget on page 618 the Mayor and City Manager are proposing eliminating all California Room staff which would result "in the closure of the California Room to regular public access." Countless historians, property developers, real estate agents, educators, students, authors, the media and others have visited the room over the years to gather valuable information, including 5,442 visits in 2025 alone. Everyone who has visited the space knows how crucial it is to have a full-time librarian knowledgeable about the unique collection to guide research on San Jose and Santa Clara County history.

Beyond research the staff began curating exhibits and educational talks in 2018 telling the many stories from our diverse community including:

- Eastside Dreams: The Untold Story of East San Jose
- Pinoytown Rising: Filipinos Americans in Santa Clara County
- Women on Wheels, California Wind Dancers
- Hidden Heritages: San José's Vietnamese Legacy
- Black History Month at the California Room
- Story & King: San Jose's Lowrider Culture

Plans to continue the untold stories from the Japanese, LGBTQ, Southeast Indian and other diverse communities will now be halted.

During these unprecedented times, the Trump administration faces legal action and criticism from historians and conservationists concerned that its policies are intentionally erasing or altering American history on public lands and in federal institutions. We cannot allow the City of San Jose to do the same.

By removing staff and access, our rich and diverse cultural history remains hidden. Institutionalized dedicated staff is needed, not just someone to open the door by appointment. Additionally not all files have been digitized, and precious, delicate, one-of-a-kind artifacts will be forgotten behind closed doors.

I strongly encourage you to keep the funding intact.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Tran

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Fw: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 11:46 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Miali Reynoso <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 11:05 AM

To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>

Subject: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

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Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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

Fw: Arcadia Ballpark

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 1:06 PM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Kent Skidmore <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 12:57 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia Ballpark

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a Senior Softball user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

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Kent Skidmore
A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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Outlook

Fw: Neighborhood Services CSA Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 9:55 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

 1 attachment (166 KB)

SURJ Letter SJ Neighborhood Services Budget Workshop 20260511.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: Andrew Siegler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 11:09 PM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Cc: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: Neighborhood Services CSA Budget Study Session

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Please see attached letter for City Council Budget Study Session on Neighborhood Services CSA

Andrew Siegler (he/they)
Unceded Tamien & Muwekma Ohlone Land | San Jose, CA
Social Justice Advocate & Organizer
TRUST Community Advisory Board Member

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[Book a 1on1 with me!](#)

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

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SURJ Santa Clara County
c/o Urban Sanctuary
80 South 5th Street
San Jose, CA, 95112

May 11, 2026

Re: Neighborhood Services CSA

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Councilmembers,

SURJ Santa Clara County has already written a letter in response to the Mayor's Budget Message with our priorities to fund community support rather than criminalization.

The \$56 million shortfall is real. But it is not an argument for austerity—it is an argument for spending what we have more accountably. The city is already spending on homelessness, on public safety, on code enforcement, on economic development. The question is whether that spending is reducing or deepening the racial and social inequities that produce the problems the budget claims to solve.

With regard to Neighborhood Services CSA, slide 6 of the report speaks volumes. These problems are real. There is not enough housing on the end of the through-put, and the city shifts people around faster than the system can resolve homelessness. Because of the OLIVE program, we have witnessed many people's RVs towed on the whims of the City--their only form of shelter--and end up on the street. This has not moved people indoors, but rather forced people further into homelessness. Moving people and towing their only shelter solves nothing, puts undue burden on those already gravely stricken with poverty, and only serves to fatten the pockets of tow yards.

It is clear that every dollar spent on sweeps and criminalizing homelessness is a dollar set on fire. This would be a horrendous waste of taxpayer money even if there was a budget surplus--but as we're facing a \$56 million shortfall, it's an unconscionable waste. Stop funding OLIVE. Stop funding the NQL Unit. That money would be much better spent on encampment services, permanent supportive housing investment; eviction prevention and right-to-counsel; ongoing funding for youth employment, violence prevention and intervention, and TRUST.

The question before the Council is not whether the city can afford these investments. It is whether the city can afford to spend too much on the wrong things and keep doing without the right ones.

Sincerely,

SURJ Santa Clara County

Fw: Closure of the California Room

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 2:20 PM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

 1 attachment (71 KB)

Closure of the California Room.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: Bill Schroh <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 1:57 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>

Kamei, Rosemary <[REDACTED]>

District1 <[REDACTED]>

Campos, Pamela

<[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]>

Tordillos, Anthony

<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>

Cohen, David

<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]>

Ortiz, Peter <[REDACTED]>

District5 <[REDACTED]> Mulcahy, Michael <[REDACTED]>

District 6

<[REDACTED]> Doan, Bien <[REDACTED]>

District7 <[REDACTED]>

Candelas, Domingo <[REDACTED]>

District8 <[REDACTED]>

Foley, Pam

<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>

Casey, George

<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Closure of the California Room

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To the Mayor Mahan and the San Jose City Council,

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just 0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Bill Schroh, Jr.

President & CEO

History San Jose

1650 Senter Road

San Jose, CA 95112

www.historysanjose.org



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History San José



Preserving Our Heritage

Board Officers

Vaughn Klebig
Chair
Director, Willie Lopez
Emergency Assistance Fund

Michelle Covert, MSW
Vice-Chair
Santa Clara County

Lydia Heinrich
Secretary
Account Manager, Robert
Lee & Associates

John Koeplin, Ph.D., CPA
Treasurer
University of San Francisco

William P. Schroh, Jr.
President & CEO
History San José

Members
Craig Lincoln
History San Jose Volunteer

Darlene Tenes
Casa Q President & Founder

Shannon Wass
Volunteer & Advocate

Jay Alexander
Mentalist

Brian Johnson
CEO
Erik's Deli Cafe

Walter Magnuson
Executive Director
Winchester Mystery House

Dr. Nannette Regua
Historian, Educator,
Coordinator
Foothill College

Tracy MacKenna
Associate
Gensler

May 11, 2026

Dear Mayor Mahan and the San Jose City Council,

History San José strongly urges the City of San Jose to maintain funding and operational support for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. The California Room is one of the cornerstones of our community's historical infrastructure, and its continued accessibility is essential to preserving the story of San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley.

Every day, educators, students, historians, neighborhood groups, nonprofits, artists, genealogists, and residents rely on the California Room to better understand the people, places, and events that shaped our region. Its collections help connect today's community with the generations that came before us and ensure that local history remains accessible, visible, and relevant.

As an organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the diverse history of this region, History San José recognizes how critical spaces like the California Room are to meaningful public history work. Historical collections only become truly valuable when people can actively engage with them. The California Room provides opportunities for discovery, learning, research, and community connection that extend far beyond simple archival storage.

Equally important are the experienced staff members whose expertise helps make these collections usable and approachable to the public. Researching local history is often deeply personal and rarely straightforward. The ability to speak directly with knowledgeable staff, receive guidance, and navigate complex archival materials creates an experience that cannot be replicated through automated systems or limited online access alone.

The California Room also serves an important civic role by helping preserve stories that might otherwise be lost - particularly those of underrepresented communities whose histories have not always been broadly documented or accessible. Maintaining public access to these materials strengthens our city's understanding of itself and supports a more inclusive and complete historical record.

History San José



Preserving Our Heritage

At a time when communities across the nation are reevaluating how history is preserved and shared, San Jose should be investing in trusted public institutions that safeguard knowledge and expand access to it. Reducing support for the California Room would diminish an invaluable educational and cultural resource that benefits the entire community.

History is one of the foundations of civic identity. Preserving it, studying it, and making it accessible to the public are essential responsibilities of a healthy and connected city. We respectfully urge city leadership to protect funding for the California Room and ensure that this vital resource remains open and accessible for future generations.

Respectfully,



Bill Schroh, Jr.
President & CEO
History San José

Fw: Concerns about Arcadia Ball park

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 5/11/2026 3:41 PM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Ronny Tey <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 3:25 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Concerns about Arcadia Ball park

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

Arcadia is one of the finest publicly operated sports facilities in San Jose. These concerns are not about the staff who would take on responsibilities under the new model. They are about what is structurally possible when a dedicated facility team is replaced by a shared, citywide system.

Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone. Thank you for your time and public service.

-Ronny Tey, a Concerned Arcadia Ballpark User and Supporter

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Fw: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 5/11/2026 3:42 PM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Jo Barangan <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 3:34 PM

To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>

Subject: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026 27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself

describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

Arcadia is one of the finest publicly operated sports facilities in San Jose. These concerns are not about the staff who would take on responsibilities under the new model. They are about what is structurally possible when a dedicated facility team is replaced by a shared, citywide system.

Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone.

Finally, I urge you to consider the impact this proposal would have on access to Arcadia Ballpark for marginalized groups, such as the Silicon Valley Gay Softball League. This league is far more than just recreational sports — it is a longstanding source of community, belonging, visibility, and connection for LGBTQ+ residents across our region.

For many people, especially queer adults who may not always feel welcomed in traditional athletic spaces, this league provides a rare environment where people can safely gather, build friendships, support one another, and participate in healthy, community-centered activities. Arcadia Ballpark is not simply a field; it is a gathering place that has become deeply meaningful to countless members of our community. At a time when LGBTQ+ people continue to face isolation, discrimination, and shrinking access to safe public spaces, especially under the critical eye of this current political climate, removing or restricting access to this park through the misguided ideas represented by this proposal sends a deeply discouraging message. Inclusive community programs like the Silicon Valley Gay Softball League strengthen our city by fostering diversity, civic engagement, mental wellbeing, and local connection.

I respectfully ask that you oppose any efforts that would displace the league or diminish any person's access to Arcadia Ballpark. Our city should be working to preserve and support inclusive community institutions — not push them aside.

Please stand with the LGBTQ+ community and the many residents, families, friends, and allies who value what this league contributes to our region. Please protect the facility's operations in its current state to preserve this park's place in the San Jose community. I kindly remind you that your responsibility is to safeguard your community and the social wellbeing of its citizens; it is short-sighted to consider only the bottom line of numbers games and profits.

Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter and Proud San Jose Resident

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

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 5/12/2026 8:27 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Alyssa Lara <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 7:58 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>
District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hello,

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just

0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. My family has had roots in San José for generations and the ability to access records and photographs from years past has been an incredible way to uncover more about my family's past here. This would have been impossible without the California Room. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Lara
District 7

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

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 5/12/2026 8:29 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: L. Jimenez <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 6:51 PM
To: Maguire, Jennifer <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Bourne, Jill
<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3
<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6
<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9
<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]>
Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

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Sincerely,

Laura Jimenez
Life long San Jose Resident

Fw: California Room - Library Department Budget

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 5/12/2026 8:29 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Viviana Cois <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 5:36 PM

Subject: California Room - Library Department Budget

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

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Sincerely,

Viviana Cois

Fw: Arcadia Ballpark

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 5/12/2026 8:30 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: David Alderette <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 5:19 PM
To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>
PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Arcadia Ballpark

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

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Sincerely,
David Alderette, (A Concerned Arcadia Supporter)

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

FW: California Room at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library

From Opsal, Matthew <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 5/12/2026 8:36 AM

To City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Cc CMOAgendaServices <[REDACTED]>

Good morning City Clerk and Agenda Desk,

Please find public comment below related to the ongoing budget discussions and the California Room funding.

Thank you,
-matt

Matt Opsal

Senior Executive Analyst | City Manager's Office

City of San José

200 East Santa Clara Street, 17th floor

San José, CA 95113

Office: 408-535-8117

www.sanjoseca.gov



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 7:23 PM

To: Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]>

<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]>
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> The

Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Shannon, Jim <[REDACTED]> Webmaster <[REDACTED]>

Manager <[REDACTED]> Wilcox, Leland <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Room at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library

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Dear Mayor Matt Mahan and City Council,

It has come to my attention that the City of San Jose plans to cut funding for the California Room at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. Buried deep in the budget on page 618 the Mayor and City Manager are proposing eliminating all California Room staff which would result "in the closure of the California Room to regular public access." Countless historians, property developers, real estate agents, educators, students, authors, the media and others have visited the room over the years to gather valuable information, including 5,442 visits in 2025 alone. Everyone who has visited the space knows how crucial it is to have a full-time librarian knowledgeable about the unique collection to guide research on San Jose and Santa Clara County history.

Beyond research the staff began curating exhibits and educational talks in 2018 telling the many stories from our diverse community including:

- Eastside Dreams: The Untold Story of East San Jose
- Pinoytown Rising: Filipinos Americans in Santa Clara County
- Women on Wheels, California Wind Dancers
- Hidden Heritages: San José's Vietnamese Legacy
- Black History Month at the California Room
- Story & King: San Jose's Lowrider Culture

Plans to continue the untold stories from the Japanese, LGBTQ, Southeast Indian and other diverse communities will now be halted.

During these unprecedented times, the Trump administration faces legal action and criticism from historians and conservationists concerned that its policies are intentionally erasing or altering American history on public lands and in federal institutions. We cannot allow the City of San Jose to do the same.

By removing staff and access, our rich and diverse cultural history remains hidden. Institutionalized dedicated staff is needed, not just someone to open the door by appointment.

Additionally not all files have been digitized, and precious, delicate, one-of-a-kind artifacts will be forgotten behind closed doors.

I strongly encourage you to keep the funding intact.

Sincerely,
Jane Bibb
San Jose Native

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

Fw: Support letter for Agenda Item 3.3—Public Hearing on the 2026-27 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 5/12/2026 8:29 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

 1 attachment (181 KB)
SJ Chamber Item 3.3 Budget Letter May 2026.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: Lennies Gutierrez <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 7:03 PM
To: District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]>
District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]>
District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]>
District 10 <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> City Clerk
<[REDACTED]>
Cc: Zarate, Sarah <[REDACTED]> Fruen, Joseph <[REDACTED]> Yamamoto,
KiyomiH <[REDACTED]> Gvatua, Alexander <[REDACTED]> Nguyen,
Lam <[REDACTED]> Moreno, Brisa <[REDACTED]> Fleming, Jonathan
<[REDACTED]> Adera, Teddy <[REDACTED]> Hughes, Scott
<[REDACTED]> Gomez, David A <[REDACTED]> Lee, Lynn
<[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer <[REDACTED]> Shannon, Jim
<[REDACTED]> Leah Toeniskoetter <[REDACTED]> Lina Guzman
<[REDACTED]>
Subject: Support letter for Agenda Item 3.3—Public Hearing on the 2026-27 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers,

Attached is a letter in support of Agenda Item 3.3 - Public hearing on the 2026-27 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets for council tomorrow.

Please reach out if you have questions.

Lennies

BUY YOUR TICKETS!



08/20/2026

Lennies Gutierrez
Policy Consultant
San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce
Email: [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]
www.sjchamber.com
Office: 101 W. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113
Mailing Address: PO Box 149, San Jose, CA 95103
   

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

May 11, 2026

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

Re: Support for Item 3.3—Public Hearing on the 2026-27 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets

Dear Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers,

On behalf of the San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the City's proposed 2026-2027 Operating Budget. San Jose's business community depends on a city that is safe, functional, predictable, and economically competitive — one that can attract talent, investment, visitors, and long-term job growth.

We recognize the difficult decisions ahead as the City works to close the projected Fiscal Year 2026-2027 \$50 million budget shortfall. We also recognize that should Measure A fail in June, the City would face an additional \$6-7 million reduction in anticipated revenue this cycle. Further, the potential impacts associated with cardroom tax revenue loss and the ERAF clawback underscore the importance of prudent fiscal planning and sustainable economic growth strategies.

The Chamber supports a balanced approach that combines responsible cost containment with targeted investments that strengthen San Jose's long-term economic base. Property tax and sales tax together account for roughly half of the City's General Fund revenues. Long-term fiscal sustainability will depend less on increasing taxes and more on creating the conditions for businesses, housing, employment centers, entertainment districts, and business districts to grow and succeed.

We appreciate the City's increased focus on economic competitiveness through the Community and Economic Development (CED) service area, including permitting modernization, housing production, business retention and attraction, major events, sports and entertainment, and downtown activation. While PBCE and OEDCA represent a relatively small portion of General Fund expenditures due to their cost-recovery structures, their work plays an outsized role in enabling investment and supporting the City's largest recurring revenue sources.

Accordingly, we encourage the Council to:

- Prioritize investments and service delivery strategies that strengthen San Jose's long-term economic competitiveness and expand the City's property tax and sales tax base through housing production, business growth, downtown activation, infrastructure readiness, and visitor-serving activity;



- Continue investing in permitting modernization, predictability, and customer experience improvements that reduce friction for housing and commercial development;
- Advance implementation of the City's economic development and experience economy strategies, including support for business districts, sports and entertainment initiatives, major events, storefront activation, and downtown connectivity;
- Continue exploring financing and infrastructure tools — including EIFDs, power grid readiness, and public-private partnerships — that can unlock housing, employment, mixed-use development, and increased economic activity; and
- Pursue efficiencies, operational reforms, and new revenue-generating economic activity in ways that do not place disproportionate burdens on existing businesses or hinder business expansion and investment.

Cities across the country that have strengthened their fiscal outlooks have done so through sustained investment in downtown revitalization, housing, mixed-use development, entertainment, infrastructure, and business attraction strategies that expanded their tax base over time.

The Chamber remains committed to serving as a strategic partner to the City and community to help advance a cohesive economic development strategy for San Jose.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration as you continue the budget process.

Sincerely,


Leah Toeniskoetter
President & CEO
San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce

Fw: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 5/12/2026 10:35 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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

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From: Delia Castro <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 10:30 AM

To: Webmaster Manager <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: PRCLiaison <[REDACTED]>

Subject: May 11th: Agenda Item - Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Manager Maguire, and Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a user of Arcadia Ballpark to share concerns about the proposed FY2026-27 budget changes that would significantly alter how the facility operates. I am also copying the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison and would appreciate it if this message could be shared with commission members and included in any relevant public correspondence ahead of the budget cycle.

I also ask that the City Clerk include this message in the public comment record for the Neighborhood Services Budget Study Session.

The proposal (Parks Maintenance Redistricting, Citywide Sports Programming, and Lease Management) in the FY27 Proposed Budget would transition Arcadia from what the City itself describes as a "full onsite operations model with dedicated reservation and programming, concessions, and maintenance staff" to a facility where reservations are managed through the Citywide Sports Program field reservation system and maintenance is incorporated into a park maintenance district.

Arcadia serves a wide and diverse community, including youth baseball, senior softball, adult recreational leagues, and competitive fastpitch programs. The proposed changes could affect all of these groups in meaningful ways.

Facility upkeep and on-site presence - Today, Arcadia has staff on site who are accountable for the condition of the fields, the playground, the bathrooms, and the surrounding landscaped areas. Under the proposed model, maintenance would be handled by a park maintenance district responsible for multiple parks across the city. While those teams do important work, a shared district model means Arcadia would be one of many facilities competing for attention rather than having a dedicated team whose primary focus is this facility. Users should expect that response times to issues, including field conditions, restroom maintenance, and equipment problems, may be slower than they are today.

City-managed leagues - The on-site coordination and programming staff who currently run Arcadia's city-managed leagues would be eliminated under this proposal. That includes the adult slow pitch softball league, which currently costs \$900 per team for a season of 10 guaranteed games. Without a city-run option, teams would need to turn to private leagues, where comparable programs currently charge approximately \$1,100 per team for 6 guaranteed games. That is a significant difference in both cost and value, and there is no guarantee a private league would have access to Arcadia's fields under the new reservation model. It is also worth considering that the private league filling this void may not be a reliable long-term alternative. The local adult slow pitch league has changed hands three times in the past decade, a sign that operating a sustainable program in this market is harder than it looks. Players who lose access to the city league may find themselves with an option that is not only more expensive and shorter in duration, but potentially uncertain from season to season.

Reservations and scheduling - Moving to the Citywide Sports Program reservation system means scheduling would be managed centrally, alongside all other parks and fields across San Jose. Users who currently benefit from on-site coordination and direct communication with facility staff may find the process less responsive. Centralized systems, while efficient at scale, can increase the risk of scheduling conflicts and make it harder to resolve issues quickly when they arise.

Field time allocation - With on-site programming staff no longer overseeing Arcadia's calendar, there may be less active management of how field time is distributed across user groups. Today, that oversight helps balance access between youth, senior, recreational, and competitive programs. Without it, field time could shift based on demand and revenue rather than community balance, and groups with less organizational capacity may find it harder to secure consistent access.

Concessions - The proposal notes that current concessions are part of the "full onsite operations model" being eliminated. It is not clear whether concession services would continue under the new model, be offered less frequently, or be discontinued. Users and families who rely on that amenity, particularly during full-day tournaments and youth events, should be aware this is uncertain.

Arcadia is one of the finest publicly operated sports facilities in San Jose. These concerns are not about the staff who would take on responsibilities under the new model. They are about what is structurally possible when a dedicated facility team is replaced by a shared, citywide system.

Arcadia Ballpark works. The fields are well-maintained, the leagues are affordable and in demand, and the on-site team delivers a level of service that is rare in a city park system. The proposed changes would dismantle that model to achieve savings that amount to a fraction of a percent of the overall parks budget. We ask the Mayor and City Council to reject this proposal and preserve Arcadia's current operating model in its entirety — its staff, its leagues, its concessions, and its on-site management. What exists today took years to build and will not be easily rebuilt once it is gone.

Thank you for your time and public service.

A Concerned Arcadia Supporter

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Fw: Protect Wildland Fire Response Capacity in District 8

From Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 5/12/2026 2:38 PM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas

City of San José | Office of the City Clerk

200 East Santa Clara St. – Tower 14th Fl.

San José, CA 95113-1905

Phone 408.535.1260 | Fax 408.292.6207

[REDACTED]
**Memos, items, and attachments must be submitted to [REDACTED] before 12PM on the Thursday before the intended Rules meeting* Holidays may impact this schedule; revised deadlines will be noticed as applicable.*

From: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 8:29 AM

To: Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Fw: Protect Wildland Fire Response Capacity in District 8

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

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From: David Tow <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 11:08 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Radhakrishnan, Sachin <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Protect Wildland Fire Response Capacity in District 8

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Hi, Mayor and Council,

My name is David Tow, and I live in the foothills in District 8. I am writing to you because fire safety is a very real concern for me and for families living in the California Oak Creek area.

A few years ago, during a major wildfire in the region, the fire came frighteningly close to our neighborhood. We could see the smoke from nearby hills, and the air was filled with thick, hazardous smoke for days. It was a sobering reminder of how quickly wildfire conditions can threaten our community and how dependent we are on rapid emergency response.

Many of us live in areas with narrow roads, dry vegetation, limited evacuation routes, and elevated wildfire risk. Conditions can change rapidly during fire season, and we rely heavily on the San José Fire Department and its specialized wildland response resources to help protect our homes and families.

I respectfully ask the City Council to protect wildland engine staffing and avoid budget actions that could unintentionally reduce emergency response capacity in the hills.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

David Tow

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Fw: California Room Funding

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 5/12/2026 4:33 PM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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

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From: Terry Beers <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2026 8:55 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Room Funding

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I'm writing you to ask that you to support continuing funding for the Martin Luther King Library's California Room.

I am no longer a resident of San Jose, but I was, for over 30 years, a faculty member of the Department of English at Santa Clara University, where I taught California literature and history. In that time, I directed SCU's California Legacy Project, dedicated to bringing California's cultural history to our public community, this while informed by a scholarly lens. I also served as series editor for the California Legacy Series of books published by SCU and Heyday Books, a leading cultural institution serving our state.

I can tell you that the relatively small savings that the City of San Jose would realize by cutting funding for the California Room is far outweighed by the loss of such an important resource for the local community (which has, I can attest) huge numbers of individuals interested in researching local and California history and literature. In addition, the loss will be keenly realized by my colleagues inhabiting the Silicon Valley academic world with complementary research interests, and by the loss to students who use the California Room's resources for original class research.

Don't take resources away from the California Room. Once these resources are gone, an important part of San Jose's, and California's, legacy will be much harder to appreciate.

Thank you,

Terry Beers, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus English

Fw: California Room

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Date Wed 5/13/2026 8:25 AM

To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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: Pablo B <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 5:45 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <[REDACTED]> Maguire, Jennifer

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Bourne, Jill <[REDACTED]>

District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]>

District3 <[REDACTED]>

District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]>

District 6 <[REDACTED]>

District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]>

District9 <[REDACTED]>

District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Room

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Hi there,

I urge you to maintain funding for the California Room at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in the 2026–27 budget. For more than a century, the California Room and its dedicated librarians have preserved the history of San José and Santa Clara Valley through an irreplaceable collection of books, photographs, maps, archives, and historical records explored by thousands of students, educators, researchers, and community members every year. Closing this invaluable public resource to save just

0.6% of the overall City Library budget would be a devastating and short-sighted decision, especially as San José prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2027. I ask you to protect the California Room, preserve public access to our shared history, and demonstrate that San José values its cultural heritage and civic memory.

Best,

Pablo Brito

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Fw: The California Room

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Wed 5/13/2026 8:26 AM
To Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

 1 attachment (321 KB)
Official Letter CPSCC May26.docx;

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

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From: McDaniel, Rachel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 4:48 PM
To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Subject: The California Room

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Dear City Clerk,
Please see the attached letter regarding saving The California Room. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel McDaniel-Fischer, President
California Pioneers of Santa Clara County

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California Pioneers of Santa Clara County

P. O. Box 8208, San Jose, CA 95155

May 7, 2026

Re: Objection to Proposed Closure of California Room

Dear City Clerk,

The California Pioneers of Santa Clara County strongly opposes the closure of the California Room in the San Jose Martin Luther King / SJSU Library.

For decades, the California Room has been a primary resource for those in need of historical information about our valley. Regular visitors include property owners with serious issues, authors and historians doing ongoing, often complex research, City and County department employees, genealogists, students and more. Many items in the collection are not available elsewhere, such as the Sanborn maps, aerial photographs, directories, historic City Council Minutes, building permits, and many other essential resources.

The suggested “retrieval by appointment” system is an impractical and highly prohibitive substitution for the California Room’s uniquely user-friendly environment and knowledgeable staff. The California Room is an indispensable resource that the City of San Jose should make every effort to preserve.

We are the California Pioneers of Santa Clara County, established in 1875. Our Mission is to promote, preserve and celebrate the history of Santa Clara County and its heritage. We appreciate the budget cut needs of the City, but some things are too valuable and should not be considered for closure.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel McDaniel-Fischer, President
California Pioneers of Santa Clara County