



# Memorandum

**TO:** RULES AND OPEN  
GOVERNMENT  
COMMITTEE

**FROM:** Councilmember Tam Nguyen

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** June 14, 2018

Approved:

Date:

6-14-2018

**SUBJECT: SET A STUDY SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS PROVIDED TO OUR SAN JOSE POPULATION**

## RECOMMENDATION

Direct the City Manager and City Clerk to set a City Council Study Session entitled *HOMELESS SERVICES AND PROGRAMS UPDATE* for fall 2018.

## BACKGROUND

I applaud my colleagues for engaging in difficult conversations and decisions over the past three years related to our housing crisis and homeless population. Our housing first strategy is sound, and collectively with services, we may well be on our way to seeing improvement. We typically reward solutions that take the short view; yet, our past deliberations and decision-making have focused on our future. Thank you for that.

With that said, our affordable housing—including homeless transitional housing—will not be available for several months or years. I believe we need to better discuss our short-term strategies and how we properly help our existing homeless population. We have roughly four thousand homeless residents in our City at last count, based on the last census. While we have developed innovative approaches to rapidly housing our homeless residents, more can and should be done in the short-term.

A City Council Study Session will give the Council time to focus on this issue. I recommend the City Manager come forward with a proposed Agenda for the Study Session in August. The Study Session should focus on existing programs, efforts to partner with our intergovernmental partners, and best-practices from other local government trying to tackle this challenging issue.