
FW: June 9th City Council: Final Budget Hearing: Support the People's Budget. Items 3.8, 3.11, 3.12

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

Date Mon 6/9/2025 7:56 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Deborah St. Julien <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, June 8, 2025 8:24 PM

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

Subject: June 9th City Council: Final Budget Hearing: Support the People's Budget. Items 3.8, 3.11, 3.12

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Dear Councilmember Campos, other Councilmembers and Mayor Mahan,

My name is Deborah St. Julien. I have lived at my home in my District 2 in San Jose for 40 years. I am a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice Santa Clara County and Co-president of the BOD of my faith community – Urban Sanctuary San Jose. My investment in San Jose is deep and varied. San Jose, and my South San Jose neighborhood is where I raised my kids and grew from a young adult to my older self. I am deeply committed to working for a community that is equitable and safe for all. And my faith is foundational to all I do.

I am writing to ask:

That the Councilmembers and Mayor **to step back from criminalizing our unhoused neighbors**. I know the Mayor has changed the rhetoric of the “Responsibility to Shelter” proposal, but there is still plenty of criminalization with specific language of arresting and booking.

From the budget: Approval of the staff recommendation will result in the City amending the Code of Conduct for Encampments to **establish an expectation for the acceptance of shelter, housing, or services**. An implementation schedule and explanation of the division of duties between the Housing Department and the Police Department, while identifying processes for collaboration, are also provided.

I support memorandums 3.11 and 3.12 from Councilmember Campos which advise education for the public about the newer enhancements and restrictions and the call for the City to develop a detailed operational plan before implementation of “The Code of Conduct for Encampment.”

The cause of people not being housed is not a small percentage of this population resisting shelter – it is the lack of deeply affordable housing for low-income people. **Budgeting to build deeply affordable housing for low-income people needs to be a priority not arresting unhoused people..**

The other issues I have with Mahan's plan is the lack of coordination with the County.

<https://sanjosespotlight.com/santa-clara-county-critical-of-plan-to-arrest-homeless-people/>

Different County leaders called this plan **misguided** (retired Judge Richard Loftus, who used to sit on the Behavioral Health Court.) He called **it a quick-fix political fantasy**, and noted the lack of treatment beds.

District Attorney Jeff Rosen, Sheriff Bob Jonsen and County Executive James Williams said arresting and releasing people for low-level offenses is **counterproductive** — taking away resources and aggravating the criminal justice system.

“At a time of tremendous budgetary challenges, city policies should not divert limited public safety resources to address what is ultimately a problem caused by the lack of affordable housing in our cities.”

County Public Defender Damon Silver said he’s not familiar with any evidence-based research that shows **arresting and criminalizing homelessness has been successful**. Numerous studies indicate it [makes matters worse](#).

“Half-baked incarceration-based proposals inevitably exacerbate the problem and will likely result in catastrophic outcomes for this vulnerable population,” Damon told San José Spotlight.

Chris Ferry, who was director of mental health treatment in the county jail system for more than two decades, said Mahan’s policy is **ill-conceived**.

“Arresting all these people is just like clearing the encampments,” Ferry told San José Spotlight. “They’re going to be back in whatever amount of time. I don’t see it having a potential for success.”

So there you go: **misguided, quick-fix political fantasy, counterproductive, not evidence-based, half-baked, and ill-conceived**.

Protect Measure E funding for permanent affordable housing and homelessness prevention.

As District Attorney Jeff Rosen, Sheriff Bob Jonsen and County Executive James Williams said the number of unhoused folks in our communities is **“ultimately a problem caused by the lack of affordable housing in our cities.”**

Fund the San Jose-specific TRUST team 24/7. This is a proven program that is saving lives. Teams like this should ultimately be supported as robustly as our police department. The City’s own 911 call analysis said over 50% of responses to 911 call results in situations in which armed officers did not need to respond.

4. \$1.5 million for legal services for our immigrant community. I am a trained Rapid Response Network legal observer and was part of the team responding to an ICE action at 393 Blossom Hill Rd on June 3rd & 4th. We were able to give many detainees the RRN number so they were later able to call for legal assistance. We must support our immigrant neighbors.

The budget is a moral document that reflects the values we hold most important. May we work together to make our city, communities and neighborhoods places all can thrive.

Thank you,
Deborah St. Julien
Resident District 2
Volunteer Organizer, SURJ SCC

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FW: Public Comments: item 3.11 (Amendments to San José Municipal Code) of City Council meeting on June 10, 2025

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

Date Mon 6/9/2025 1:53 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (85 KB)

ACLU Santa Clara County Comment, item 3.11, City Council, 06-10-2025.pdf;

From: SCCchapter ACLUNC <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 1:34 PM

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

Subject: Public Comments: item 3.11 (Amendments to San José Municipal Code) of City Council meeting on June 10, 2025

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Dear Mayor Mahan, City Councilmembers, and City Clerk,

I hereby submit the attached letter in pdf format as public comments for agenda item 3.11, "Amendments to San José Municipal Code," of the City Council meeting to be held on June 10, 2025.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Victor Sin
Chair (volunteer)
Santa Clara County Chapter of ACLU of Northern California

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200 E. Santa Clara Street,
San José CA 95113

June 9, 2025

Re: Item 3.11, Amendments to San José Municipal Code

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Councilmembers,

On behalf of the Santa Clara County Chapter of the ACLU of Northern California, I submit public comments on agenda item 3.11, Amendments to San José Municipal Code, of the San José City Council meeting to be held on June 10, 2025.

While the proposed ordinances on the subjects of Solid Waste and Trash Accumulation, 72-hour Parking, and Removal of Vehicles apply to everyone and on the surface are not directed to any groups of people, they have a disparate impact on the unhoused people unless and until the City provides adequate services such as waste disposal, trash pickup, and safe RV parking.

We understand the city is facing a critical situation with homelessness, and that there are challenging decisions to be made to support the wellbeing of the city's residents. We are staunchly opposed to proposals to arrest and jail unhoused people. People who are unsheltered cannot avoid living outdoors when there is insufficient access to dignified interim or long-term housing. These proposals only criminalize unhoused San José residents, traumatize poor people in our community, and do not make the city safer.

This is both a racial justice and disability justice issue. Black people in Santa Clara County represent 2.7% of the population, but 19% of those who are unhoused¹. A significant portion of San José's unhoused population reports having disabilities. According to data from the 2023 Homeless Census, 20% of respondents reported having a physical disability, 25% reported chronic health issues, and 34% reported psychiatric or emotional conditions².

We appeal to City Council to act on these issues:

1. Rebuke the Responsibility to Shelter Policy. We oppose criminalizing people who have survived the city's failure to build adequate low-income affordable housing. The vast majority of unhoused folks want housing, and sheltering those who are currently waiting to be placed needs to be a priority.

¹ SJSU Human Rights Institute, *Silicon Valley Pain Index*, available at: https://www.sjsu.edu/hri/docs/2024%20SVPI_Final.pdf.

² City of San José, *2023 Homeless Census*, available at: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/housing/resource-library/homeless-reports/homeless-reports-executive-summary>.

2. Stop the Sweeps. It is ineffective to displace people from one area to the next, and this further exacerbates the problem, traumatizes people, and tears communities and networks of survival apart. It does not end homelessness and is a tremendous waste of the city's taxpayer dollars.

3. Fund Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST). TRUST provides invaluable, non-police responses to residents in mental health crisis, and was born from the experiences of San José families who lost loved ones to police violence. These families, who understand first-hand the lethal risks of police responding to people in mental health crisis, organized through Silicon Valley De-Bug to advocate for a non-police crisis response. The result of their advocacy, TRUST, is a crucial component of the City's emergency response system because it diverts emergency calls that are more appropriately handled by peer support workers and crisis intervention specialists away from police—a federally-recognized core principle of emergency behavioral health care³. However, TRUST remains underfunded and understaffed. To achieve the benefits of having a community-driven, peer-staffed response team, San José must expand the TRUST program to meet the City's service needs.

4. Protect Measure E Funding for Permanent Supportive Housing. Providing people with housing and a team of support is what ends homelessness. We need shelters, interim housing, and housing that adequately matches people's needs, but especially permanent supportive housing so that people can have a forever home in this city. This is something that people of San José voted in favor of and must be honored and taken seriously as a solution. Measure E funding must not be siphoned off for short-term fixes.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to these critical issues.

Respectfully,

Victor Sin
Santa Clara County Volunteer Chapter of the ACLU of Northern California

³ Department of Justice and Department of Health & Human Services, *Guidance for Emergency Responses to People with Behavioral Health or Other Disabilities* (May 2023), at p. 5, https://www.justice.gov/d9/2023-05/Sec.%2014%28a%29%20-%20DOJ%20and%20HHS%20Guidance%20on%20Emergency%20Responses%20to%20Individuals%20with%20Behavioral%20Health%20or%20Other%20Disabilities_FINAL.pdf.

FW: SJ Chamber Support - 3.7, 3.8, 3.10, 3.11, & 3.12

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

Date Mon 6/9/2025 4:02 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 4 attachments (1 MB)

SJ Chamber Support of Item 3.12 - Code of Conduct for Encampments.pdf; SJ Chamber Support of Item 3.11 - Amendments to San Jose Municipal Code.pdf; SJ Chamber Support of Item 3.10 - Pay For Performance.pdf; SJ Chamber Support of Item 3.8 - June Budget Message.pdf;

From: Kat Angelov <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 3:56 PM

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

Cc: Leah Toeniskoette <[REDACTED]>

Subject: SJ Chamber Support - 3.7, 3.8, 3.10, 3.11, & 3.12

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Dear Mayor & Council,

Please find attached letters of support for items 3.7, 3.8, 3.10, 3.11, and 3.12. We appreciate the opportunity to share our comments for your consideration.

Thank you.

Kind regards,
Kat

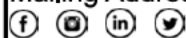


Kat Angelov
Policy Manager
San Jose Chamber of Commerce
[REDACTED]

www.sjchamber.com

101 W. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113

Mailing Address: PO Box 149, San Jose, CA 95103





June 9, 2025

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

Re: Support for Item 3.11 - Amendments to San Jose Municipal Code

Dear Mayor Mahan and Honorable Councilmembers,

On behalf of the San Jose Chamber of Commerce, I am writing in support of the proposed amendments to San Jose Municipal code regarding trespassing, illegal dumping, vandalism, and issues pertaining to lived-in vehicles. The amendments aim to improve public safety and enhance livability for both residents and businesses.

The Chamber represents a diverse group of businesses across San Jose that are deeply affected by the issues outlined in these amendments. Our business corridors in particular are deeply impacted by these issues. Customer experience and foot traffic are diminished, and our business districts often front the cost for maintenance and increased security.

We are particularly encouraged by several elements of the proposed ordinance package:

- Enhanced trespass provisions that empower police officers to issue no-trespassing notices and limit re-entry to private property for up to six months.
- Stronger parking regulations that require vehicles to move at least 1,000 feet every 72 hours and allow for enforcement against nuisance vehicles involved in illegal dumping.
- A ban on “vanlording”—the unsafe and exploitative rental of vehicles as substandard housing—which has introduced significant safety and sanitation concerns in some commercial areas.
- New enforcement tools to deter copper theft that frequently disrupts utilities and imposes real costs on both public infrastructure and private business operations.

When paired with the provisions listed as part of item 3.12: Code of Conduct for Encampments, we believe the City will have more authority to effectively manage our homelessness crisis.

Sincerely,

Leah Toeniskoetter
President & CEO
San Jose Chamber of Commerce

FW: REAL Coalition Letter re FY 2025-2026 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, & 3.12 (June 10)

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

Date Mon 6/9/2025 4:25 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (75 KB)

REAL Coalition - City of San José FY 25 - 26 Budget Sign On Letter.pdf;

From: Angel Aliano <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 4:24 PM

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

Cc: Policy Team <[REDACTED]>; Reed, Jim <Jim.Reed@sanjoseca.gov>; Fruen, Joseph <Joseph.Fruen@sanjoseca.gov>; Yamamoto, KiyomiH <Kiyomi.Yamamoto@sanjoseca.gov>; Arreola, Kiara <Kiara.Arreola@sanjoseca.gov>; Nguyen, Lam <Lam.Nguyen@sanjoseca.gov>; Moreno, Brisa <Brisa.Moreno@sanjoseca.gov>; Fleming, Jonathan <Jonathan.Fleming@sanjoseca.gov>; Adera, Teddy <Teddy.Adera@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughes, Scott <scott.hughes@sanjoseca.gov>; Gomez, David A <David.A.Gomez@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: REAL Coalition Letter re FY 2025-2026 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, & 3.12 (June 10)

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Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Foley, and City Council,

Please see the letter from the Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL) Coalition regarding the FY26 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, 3.12 (June 10). We look forward to your discussion on this topic.

Thank you,

Ángel Aliano | Policy + Advocacy Associate

Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Web: svcn.org | Twitter: @SVCN

Pronouns: he/him

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June 9, 2025

San José City Council
San José City Hall
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San José, CA 95113
Sent via electronic mail

Re: City of San José FY 2025-2026 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, & 3.12 (June 10)

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Foley, Members of the City Council, City Manager Maguire, and Budget Director Shannon: This letter is being submitted by 40 organizations, members of the REAL Coalition and allies, that represent thousands of San Jose residents. Please consider these comments regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget.

Preservation of Homelessness Prevention and Affordable Housing Funding

The REAL Coalition urges the City Council to allocate 15% of Measure E funds toward cash assistance programs that prevent eviction, housing instability, and homelessness. With the federal government planning to eliminate Section 8 and end emergency housing vouchers in Santa Clara County—putting thousands of families at risk—San José must be prepared to respond proactively. Preventing homelessness through targeted financial assistance is significantly more cost-effective than helping individuals exit homelessness once displaced. We support the memorandum from Councilmembers Campos, Salas, and Doan, relating to Item 3.7, to reallocate Measure E funds with more emphasis on prevention and family homelessness and revert allocation changes after 2 years.

REAL supports a balanced and comprehensive approach to addressing the housing and homelessness crisis—one that includes both shelter solutions and the construction or preservation of permanent housing. We also recommend that the City return to the original Measure E allocation model within two years, allowing

time to evaluate outcomes and assess changes in federal funding before determining future allocations.

We are hopeful that adding a fifth focus area to build more housing will indeed lead to increased investment in housing for people on the lower end and bottom of the income spectrum. As we build market-rate housing we must remain watchful that we're not in turn displacing our lower-income neighbors.

Avoid Criminalization of Homelessness

The REAL Coalition strongly opposes any budget allocation to implement the proposed Neighborhood Quality of Life Unit within the San José Police Department. As outlined in our recent letter to the City, we continue to have serious concerns and unanswered questions about both this unit, the expanded Code of Conduct, and the Enhanced Engagement Program, including the lack of transparency and clarity regarding their scope, purpose, and implementation. Establishing a new police unit that targets unhoused residents risks leading to more arrests and further criminalization of poverty—approaches that have consistently proven harmful, traumatic, and ineffective.

Policing is not a solution to homelessness. Arresting, punishing, and incarcerating our most vulnerable community members will only deepen their hardship and increase long-term costs for the City. This truth was recognized in two separate votes against the plan by the Housing & Community Development Commission. Rather than funding punitive measures, San José should invest in proven strategies that focus on prevention, supportive services, and housing solutions. Consistent with REAL's earlier letter, we urge the Council to reject this proposal and reallocate resources toward approaches that uphold dignity, equity, and lasting impact.

We support the memos from Councilmember Campos to defer this policy and delay some ordinance changes until there is far more clarity on how this work will be operationalized.

Stop Enforcement Against People Living in Vehicles

The REAL Coalition opposes the proposed increase in spending on parking enforcement against people forced to live in their vehicles, particularly as the City simultaneously cuts essential community programming. It is fiscally irresponsible to expand punitive enforcement while failing to invest in supportive resources. The City should not impose additional penalties on individuals living in their vehicles without first providing adequate safe parking options. Penalizing residents for outdated vehicle registration effectively punishes poverty and drives people deeper into crisis and debt.

For many unhoused individuals, a vehicle is a vital lifeline—offering shelter, mobility, and a degree of stability. Stripping people of this lifeline through enforcement actions will only exacerbate hardship and lead to higher public costs associated with street homelessness. A more compassionate and fiscally sound approach is to support residents in maintaining this form of temporary shelter while investing in long-term housing solutions.

Continue Investment in TRUST

REAL supports the outreach and communication strategies outlined in MBA #8 to supplement the County's public awareness campaign for the 988 crisis line. Survey results from 2024 show that approximately 75% of San José residents are unaware of the services available through 988. A targeted public education campaign by the City, designed in collaboration with the County and providers, is critical to increasing awareness and driving greater use of this life-saving resource.

We also commend the recent collaboration between the City and County to implement new protocols that will expand the diversion of appropriate calls from 911 to 988. Continued investment in public education and service infrastructure is essential to realizing the full potential of 988. Additionally, we support the expansion of the TRUST program and appreciate City staff's efforts to identify opioid settlement funds to sustain and grow this vital, non-policing response to

mental health crises in our community.

Community-based Prevention and Intervention of Violence

The REAL Coalition asks that the City Council make a \$80,000 investment in moving forward towards a community-designed interpersonal violence prevention and intervention program, consistent with the Reimagining Public Safety recommendations and Council's previous direction. This community-driven idea was acknowledged and approved two budget cycles ago, and we encourage the Council to keep its promise to the community to move forward with an innovative pilot.

REAL also acknowledges the importance of additional DV and BEST services, which were presented as alternatives by staff, and encourages the City to find resources for these important services. REAL has a longstanding request to the City to significantly deepen its investment in BEST services as alternatives to policing and incarceration.

Expand Immigration Services Funding

The REAL Coalition supports the request from Amigos de Guadalupe, numerous allies and the memo from Councilmember Ortiz for \$1.5 million for immigration services. This is a small investment relative to the \$45 billion being invested by the federal government for mass deportation infrastructure, about ten times what the government had been spending in this area. It is inevitable that the ICE activity we're seeing in Los Angeles will come to San José. The City has a responsibility to protect all residents, and it is not ready for what is about to happen. This funding will provide the services and resources necessary to protect its immigrant residents and the stability of families and our neighborhoods.

Support Investment in Community-Driven Services at MACSA

In solidarity with SOMOS Mayfair, the Sí Se Puede Collective, and other allies, REAL supports the Mayor's direction to use \$500,000 in Community Development

Block Grant funds to facilitate the revitalization of the Mexican American Community Services Youth Center (MACSA). Data from the Latino Health Assessment showed the harsh realities impacting Latino youth and their families, particularly in East San José. Investment in children, youth and our families in disinvested communities should be a priority. MACSA can serve as a multi-hub center for Latino youth, providing cultural services, leadership development, and healing.

Older Adults Health and Wellness Funding

We stand in solidarity with the nine providers and almost 150 organizations and community members who signed the letter in support of restoring the full \$526,434 in funding for the Older Adults Health and Wellness program. These critical services support thousands of San José's older adults—especially those who are low-income, non-English speaking, isolated, and medically vulnerable.

Racial Equity Staffing in City Departments

The REAL Coalition opposes the proposed cuts to racial equity staffing in several departments in the City of San José's FY26 budget. These positions are essential to ensuring that equity is not just a stated value, but a lived practice across city services and decision-making. Slashing these roles undermines years of progress and community trust, particularly among Black, Latine, Asian, and Indigenous communities that continue to face systemic disparities. This move also runs counter to the priorities advanced by the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE), which emphasizes the need for sustained institutional commitment, infrastructure, and leadership to embed equity into governance. GARE's framework makes clear that cutting dedicated equity roles threatens the long-term structural change necessary for just and inclusive communities. In a moment when racial equity work must be deepened—not diminished—we urge the City to protect and strengthen these vital positions.

Families and Children

REAL also supports the proposal by Councilmember Doan, Campos, Casey, and Mulcahy, relating to Item 3.8, to maintain support for the Family, Friend, and Neighbor Early Education Program and incorporate direction from BD #45.

Support for childcare advances racial equity by reducing barriers to economic opportunity for families of color, who are disproportionately affected by high childcare costs and limited access to quality early education.

Please consider this letter signed by 40 organizations as you decide what action to take on June 9 and 10. You can reach us by emailing IselaR@sacredheartcs.org.

SIGNATORIES:

Vaughn Villaverde
AACI

Elizabeth Agramont-Justiniano
AfroUPRIS

Jeremy Barousse
**Amigos de Guadalupe Center for
Justice and Empowerment**

Richard Konda
Asian Law Alliance

Josh Selo
Bill Wilson Center

Jahmal Williams
BLKC

David Low
Destination: Home

Eugene Torres
Family Supportive Housing

Kristopher Scott
Fresh Lifelines for Youth

Kiran P
Half the Sky

Linda Montgomery
Indivisible

Susan Frazer
**Jewish Family Services of Silicon
Valley**

Nathalie Carvajal
Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley

Darcie Green
Latinas Contra Cancer

Brittany Alvarez
**Latino Education Advancement
Foundation**

Salvador Bustamante
**Latinos United for a New América
(LUNA)**

Alison Brunner
Tristia Bauman
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley

Héctor Sánchez-Flores
National Compadres Network

Colsaria Henderson
**Next Door Solutions to Domestic
Violence**

Rhonda Berry
Our City Forest

Heather Cleary
Peninsula Family Service

Sandy Perry
South Bay Land Trust

Lauren Babb
Planned Parenthood Mar Monte

Jaime Alvarado
REAL Coalition

Poncho Guevara
Sacred Heart Community Service

Michael Dao
SJSU Human Rights Institute

Wisa Uemura
San Jose Taiko

Huy Tran
**Services, Immigrant Rights and
Education Network (SIREN)**

Albert Carlson
SHHAC

Andrew Siegler
SURJ Santa Clara County

Raj Jayadev
Silicon Valley De-Bug

Gabriel Hernandez
¡Si Se Puede! Collective

Susan Pearson
SURJ

Regina Celestin Williams
SV@Home

Carlos Rosario
**The Santa Clara County Black
Lawyers Association**

Martha Beattie
Urban Sanctuary

Shawn Gerth
Veggielution

Sujatha Venkatraman
West Valley Community Services

Adriana Caldera Boroffice
YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley

Helen Lund
St Paul's United Methodist Church

Support Campos memo - Amendments to Municode - Item 3.11

From Jordan Moldow <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 6/9/2025 11:45 PM

To City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; Campos, Pamela <Pamela.Campos@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Ortiz, Peter <Peter.Ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>; Kamei, Rosemary <Rosemary.Kamei@sanjoseca.gov>; Salas, Carl <Carl.Salas@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc Rutner, Jiri <Jiri.Rutner@sanjoseca.gov>; Passons, Omar <Omar.Passons@sanjoseca.gov>; Frimann, Nora <Nora.Frimann@sanjoseca.gov>; city.attorney@sanjoseca.gov <city.attorney@sanjoseca.gov>

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Please support the [Memorandum from Campos, 6/6/25](#), regarding:

- Defer or reject ordinance F (regarding a prohibition on the rental of recreational vehicles used for lodging)
- Defer or reject ordinance A

Ordinance F was supposed to be a "vanlording" prohibition, but is instead a blanket ban on living in RVs and renting RVs, both of which are inappropriate for the given housing crisis and unsheltered homelessness crisis. The reprehensible aspects of "vanlording" are:

- Leasing a space that they know is unfit for habitation, or refusing to make repairs to the RV to keep it safe and in good working order. Basically, the kinds of behaviors that would label one a "slumlord" for a piece of real property.
- Increasing rents or providing leasing terms in a manner that would be illegal if done for a piece of real property.
- Leasing an RV space that they know is unfit for acting as a vehicle, or refusing to make repairs to the RV to keep it in good, CVC-legal working order (including making sure the vehicle is properly licensed, registered, and can operate as a working motor vehicle).
- A private individual or organization collecting rent for a piece of real property that they do not own, such as space on a city street, city parking lot, or someone else's private property.

These are the behaviors that the "vanlording" ordinance should target. Notably, being a victim of vanlording, or being unable to afford any shelter other than an RV, should not be a punishable offense. Furthermore, being a victim of vanlording should not result in your shelter being taken away until something safer can be acquired.

This current ordinance needs to be rejected in its entirety, and a new one should be drafted that addresses the true problems behind vanlording.

Thanks,
Jordan Moldow
District 3

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FW: Items 3.8 & 3.11 - Mayor's Budget Message & Amendments to San Jose Muni Code

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 6/10/2025 8:02 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Fred Buzo [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 8:01 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Items 3.8 & 3.11 - Mayor's Budget Message & Amendments to San Jose Muni Code

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)
Mayor & City Council,

As a faith-based organization rooted in the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County stands in firm opposition to the proposed budget cuts to Senior Wellness Grants and to policies that seek to penalize or marginalize individuals experiencing homelessness.

We recognize and appreciate the proposed compromise to restore a portion of the original Senior Wellness funding. While this is a step in the right direction, it still falls short of meeting the demonstrated and growing need in our communities. At the heart of Catholic Social Teaching is the inherent dignity of every human person. We are called to uphold this dignity by caring for the most vulnerable among us—especially the elderly, the poor, and the marginalized. Reductions in senior wellness funding ignore the reality that our older adults are not a burden, but a blessing. These programs offer more than physical care; they foster belonging, reduce isolation, and honor the life experience of our elders.

The needs of our senior population are only increasing, as San José—like much of the country—faces a rapidly aging population. Investing in wellness and connection for older adults is not just compassionate, it is a practical response to demographic realities.

Likewise, policies that treat homelessness as a punishable offense contradict the commitment to prioritizing the poor and vulnerable. Homelessness, a crisis rooted in injustice, unaffordable housing, and systemic inequity, is not an offense. Addressing this crisis with punishment instead of empathy harms the collective well-being and weakens the ethical principles of our community.


Moreover, any effort to penalize or detain unhoused individuals without the cooperation of Santa Clara County—who oversees the public hospital system, courts, and jail—risks creating a revolving door of instability. Without coordinated services, this approach could unintentionally result in District 3 bearing a

disproportionate burden, with encampments and unhoused residents returning in greater numbers due to lack of long-term solutions and appropriate care.

Finally, in light of the constitutional crisis playing out in real time in our own state—where federal immigration enforcement is reportedly circumventing due process and local protections—we express our strong support for Councilmember Ortiz's call for increased funding for immigration legal services. These services are not only vital to upholding the rights and dignity of immigrant families, but also ensure that San José remains a welcoming and law-abiding city that defends due process for all.

We urge our elected leaders to reflect on these values and adopt policies that affirm human dignity, support healing and inclusion, and build a San José where all people can thrive.

Fred Buzo, Director of Advocacy & Community Engagement
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County
2625 Zanker Rd., San Jose, CA 95134



"Do not be afraid to continue being 'protagonists of history,' working together 'body to body, person to person' as part of the 'great human family.'" Pope Francis

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FW: REAL Coalition Letter re FY 2025-2026 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, & 3.12 (June 10)

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 6/10/2025 4:02 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (181 KB)

REAL Coalition - City of San José FY 25 - 26 Budget Sign On Letter Corrected.pdf;

From: Angel Aliano <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 3:54 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: Policy Team <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: REAL Coalition Letter re FY 2025-2026 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, & 3.12 (June 10)

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Dear Toni,

Sending a final corrected version of the REAL coalition budget letter for the record.

Best,

Ángel Aliano | Policy + Advocacy Associate

Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Web: svcn.org | Twitter: [@SVCN](https://twitter.com/SVCN)

Pronouns: he/him

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From: Angel Aliano <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 10:14 AM
To: mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov <mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <district2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <district4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <district5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <district7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; George Casey <district10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: Policy Team <[REDACTED]>; Reed, Jim <jim.reed@sanjoseca.gov>; Fruen, Joseph <joseph.fruen@sanjoseca.gov>; kiyomi.yamamoto@sanjoseca.gov <kiyomi.yamamoto@sanjoseca.gov>; Arreola, Kiara

<kiara.arreola@sanjoseca.gov>; Nguyen, Lam <lam.nguyen@sanjoseca.gov>; Moreno, Brisa <brisa.moreno@sanjoseca.gov>; Fleming, Jonathan <jonathan.fleming@sanjoseca.gov>; Adera, Teddy <teddy.adera@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughes, Scott <scott.hughes@sanjoseca.gov>; david.a.gomez@sanjoseca.gov <david.a.gomez@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Re: REAL Coalition Letter re FY 2025-2026 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, & 3.12 (June 10)

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Foley, and City Council,

Please see an updated version of the prior letter with 11 new signatures.

Best,

Ángel Aliano | Policy + Advocacy Associate

Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Web: svcn.org | Twitter: @[SVCN](https://twitter.com/SVCN)

Pronouns: he/him

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From: Angel Aliano

Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 4:23 PM

To: mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov <mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <district2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <district4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <district5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <district7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; George Casey <district10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Policy Team [REDACTED] Reed, Jim <jim.reed@sanjoseca.gov>; Fruen, Joseph <joseph.fruen@sanjoseca.gov>; kiyomi.yamamoto@sanjoseca.gov <kiyomi.yamamoto@sanjoseca.gov>; Arreola, Kiara <kiara.arreola@sanjoseca.gov>; Nguyen, Lam <lam.nguyen@sanjoseca.gov>; Moreno, Brisa <brisa.moreno@sanjoseca.gov>; Fleming, Jonathan <jonathan.fleming@sanjoseca.gov>; Adera, Teddy <teddy.adera@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughes, Scott <scott.hughes@sanjoseca.gov>; david.a.gomez@sanjoseca.gov <david.a.gomez@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: REAL Coalition Letter re FY 2025-2026 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, & 3.12 (June 10)

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Foley, and City Council,

Please see the letter from the Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL) Coalition regarding the FY26 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, 3.12 (June 10). We look forward to your discussion on this topic.

Thank you,

Ángel Aliano | Policy + Advocacy Associate

Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Web: svcn.org | Twitter: @[SVCN](https://twitter.com/SVCN)

Pronouns: he/him

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June 9, 2025

San José City Council
San José City Hall
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San José, CA 95113
Sent via electronic mail

Re: City of San José FY 2025-2026 Budget (June 9) and Items 3.7, 3.8, 3.11, & 3.12 (June 10)

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Foley, Members of the City Council, City Manager Maguire, and Budget Director Shannon: This letter is being submitted by 52 organizations, members of the REAL Coalition and allies, that represent thousands of San Jose residents. Please consider these comments regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget.

Preservation of Homelessness Prevention and Affordable Housing Funding

The REAL Coalition urges the City Council to allocate 15% of Measure E funds toward cash assistance programs that prevent eviction, housing instability, and homelessness. With the federal government planning to eliminate Section 8 and end emergency housing vouchers in Santa Clara County—putting thousands of families at risk—San José must be prepared to respond proactively. Preventing homelessness through targeted financial assistance is significantly more cost-effective than helping individuals exit homelessness once displaced. We support the memorandum from Councilmembers Campos, Salas, and Doan, relating to Item 3.7, to reallocate Measure E funds with more emphasis on prevention and family homelessness and revert allocation changes after 2 years.

REAL supports a balanced and comprehensive approach to addressing the housing and homelessness crisis—one that includes both shelter solutions and the construction or preservation of permanent housing. We also recommend that the City return to the original Measure E allocation model within two years, allowing time to evaluate outcomes and assess changes in federal funding before determining future allocations.

We are hopeful that adding a fifth focus area to build more housing will indeed lead to increased investment in housing for people on the lower end and bottom

of the income spectrum. As we build market-rate housing we must remain watchful that we're not in turn displacing our lower-income neighbors.

Avoid Criminalization of Homelessness

The REAL Coalition strongly opposes any budget allocation to implement the proposed Neighborhood Quality of Life Unit within the San José Police Department. As outlined in our recent letter to the City, we continue to have serious concerns and unanswered questions about both this unit, the expanded Code of Conduct, and the Enhanced Engagement Program, including the lack of transparency and clarity regarding their scope, purpose, and implementation. Establishing a new police unit that targets unhoused residents risks leading to more arrests and further criminalization of poverty—approaches that have consistently proven harmful, traumatic, and ineffective.

Policing is not a solution to homelessness. Arresting, punishing, and incarcerating our most vulnerable community members will only deepen their hardship and increase long-term costs for the City. This truth was recognized in two separate votes against the plan by the Housing & Community Development Commission. Rather than funding punitive measures, San José should invest in proven strategies that focus on prevention, supportive services, and housing solutions. Consistent with REAL's earlier letter, we urge the Council to reject this proposal and reallocate resources toward approaches that uphold dignity, equity, and lasting impact.

We support the memos from Councilmember Campos to defer this policy and delay some ordinance changes until there is far more clarity on how this work will be operationalized.

Stop Enforcement Against People Living in Vehicles

The REAL Coalition opposes the proposed increase in spending on parking enforcement against people forced to live in their vehicles, particularly as the City simultaneously cuts essential community programming. It is fiscally irresponsible to expand punitive enforcement while failing to invest in supportive resources. The City should not impose additional penalties on individuals living in their vehicles without first providing adequate safe parking options. Penalizing

residents for outdated vehicle registration effectively punishes poverty and drives people deeper into crisis and debt.

For many unhoused individuals, a vehicle is a vital lifeline—offering shelter, mobility, and a degree of stability. Stripping people of this lifeline through enforcement actions will only exacerbate hardship and lead to higher public costs associated with street homelessness. A more compassionate and fiscally sound approach is to support residents in maintaining this form of temporary shelter while investing in long-term housing solutions.

Continue Investment in TRUST

REAL supports the outreach and communication strategies outlined in MBA #8 to supplement the County's public awareness campaign for the 988 crisis line. Survey results from 2024 show that approximately 75% of San José residents are unaware of the services available through 988. A targeted public education campaign by the City, designed in collaboration with the County and providers, is critical to increasing awareness and driving greater use of this life-saving resource.

We also commend the recent collaboration between the City and County to implement new protocols that will expand the diversion of appropriate calls from 911 to 988. Continued investment in public education and service infrastructure is essential to realizing the full potential of 988. Additionally, we support the expansion of the TRUST program and appreciate City staff's efforts to identify opioid settlement funds to sustain and grow this vital, non-policing response to mental health crises in our community.

Community-based Prevention and Intervention of Violence

The REAL Coalition asks that the City Council make a \$80,000 investment in moving forward towards a community-designed interpersonal violence prevention and intervention program, consistent with the Reimagining Public Safety recommendations and Council's previous direction. This community-driven idea was acknowledged and approved two budget cycles ago, and we encourage the Council to keep its promise to the community to move forward with an innovative pilot.

REAL also acknowledges the importance of additional DV and BEST services, which were presented as alternatives by staff, and encourages the City to find resources for these important services. REAL has a longstanding request to the City to significantly deepen its investment in BEST services as alternatives to policing and incarceration.

Expand Immigration Services Funding

The REAL Coalition supports the request from Amigos de Guadalupe, numerous allies and the memo from Councilmember Ortiz for \$1.5 million for immigration services. This is a small investment relative to the \$45 billion being invested by the federal government for mass deportation infrastructure, about ten times what the government had been spending in this area. It is inevitable that the ICE activity we're seeing in Los Angeles will come to San José. The City has a responsibility to protect all residents, and it is not ready for what is about to happen. This funding will provide the services and resources necessary to protect its immigrant residents and the stability of families and our neighborhoods.

Support Investment in Community-Driven Services at MACSA

In solidarity with SOMOS Mayfair, the Sí Se Puede Collective, and other allies, REAL supports the Mayor's direction to use \$500,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds to facilitate the revitalization of the Mexican American Community Services Youth Center (MACSA). Data from the Latino Health Assessment showed the harsh realities impacting Latino youth and their families, particularly in East San José. Investment in children, youth and our families in disinvested communities should be a priority. MACSA can serve as a multi-hub center for Latino youth, providing cultural services, leadership development, and healing.

Older Adults Health and Wellness Funding

We stand in solidarity with the nine providers and almost 150 organizations and community members who signed the letter in support of restoring the full \$526,434 in funding for the Older Adults Health and Wellness program. These critical services support thousands of San José's older adults—especially those who are low-income, non-English speaking, isolated, and medically vulnerable.

Racial Equity Staffing in City Departments

The REAL Coalition opposes the proposed cuts to racial equity staffing in several departments in the City of San José's FY26 budget. These positions are essential to ensuring that equity is not just a stated value, but a lived practice across city services and decision-making. Slashing these roles undermines years of progress and community trust, particularly among Black, Latine, Asian, and Indigenous communities that continue to face systemic disparities. This move also runs counter to the priorities advanced by the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE), which emphasizes the need for sustained institutional commitment, infrastructure, and leadership to embed equity into governance. GARE's framework makes clear that cutting dedicated equity roles threatens the long-term structural change necessary for just and inclusive communities. In a moment when racial equity work must be deepened—not diminished—we urge the City to protect and strengthen these vital positions.

Families and Children

REAL also supports the proposal by Councilmember Doan, Campos, Casey, and Mulcahy, relating to Item 3.8, to maintain support for the Family, Friend, and Neighbor Early Education Program and incorporate direction from BD #45. Support for childcare advances racial equity by reducing barriers to economic opportunity for families of color, who are disproportionately affected by high childcare costs and limited access to quality early education.

Please consider this letter signed by 52 organizations as you decide what action to take on June 9 and 10. You can reach us by emailing IselaR@sacredheartcs.org.

SIGNATORIES:

Vaughn Villaverde

AACI

Lavere Foster

**African American Community Service
Agency**

Elizabeth Agramont-Justiniano

AfroUPRIS

Jeremy Barousse

**Amigos de Guadalupe Center for
Justice and Empowerment**

Richard Konda

Asian Law Alliance

Josh Selo

Bill Wilson Center

Jahmal Williams

BLKC

Don Taylor

**Catholic Charities of Santa Clara
County**

David Low

Destination: Home

Eugene Torres

Family Supportive Housing

Kristopher Scott

Fresh Lifelines for Youth

Veronica Goei

Grail Family Services

Kiran P

Half the Sky

Linda Montgomery

Indivisible

Susan Frazer

**Jewish Family Services of Silicon
Valley**

Eunice Chun

**Korean American Community
Services**

Nathalie Carvajal

Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley

Darcie Green

Latinas Contra Cancer

Brittany Alvarez

**Latino Education Advancement
Foundation**

Salvador Bustamante

**Latinos United for a New América
(LUNA)**

Alison Brunner
Tristia Bauman
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley

Anjee Helstrup-Alvarez
MACLA

Héctor Sánchez-Flores
National Compadres Network

Colsaria Henderson
Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence

Rhonda Berry
Our City Forest

Eva M Terrazas
Pacific Clinics

Jon Pedigo
PACT

Heather Cleary
Peninsula Family Service

Sandy Perry
South Bay Land Trust

Lauren Babb
Planned Parenthood Mar Monte

Elsa Oliveira
POSSO - Portuguese Community Center

Jaime Alvarado
REAL Coalition

Poncho Guevara
Sacred Heart Community Service

Michael Dao
SJSU Human Rights Institute

Wisa Uemura
San Jose Taiko

Sameena Usman
Secure Justice

Huy Tran
Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network (SIREN)

Albert Carlson
SHHAC

Andrew Siegler
SURJ Santa Clara County

Raj Jayadev
Silicon Valley De-Bug

Victor Vasquez
SOMOS Mayfair

Gabriel Hernandez
¡Si Se Puede! Collective

Susan Pearson
SURJ

Regina Celestin Williams

SV@Home

Carlos Rosario

**The Santa Clara County Black
Lawyers Association**

Yvonne Maxwell

Ujima Adult and Family Services

Martha Beattie

Urban Sanctuary

Shawn Gerth

Veggielution

Bao Trieu

**Vietnamese Voluntary Foundation
(VIVO)**

Sujatha Venkatraman

West Valley Community Services

Adriana Caldera Boroffice

YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley

Helen Lund

St Paul's United Methodist Church

FW: 3.11 and 3.12 6/10/25

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 6/10/2025 1:35 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Gia Pham <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 1:18 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: 3.11 and 3.12 6/10/25

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Dear San Jose Mayor and Council Members,

My name is Gia Pham, and I am with Housing Choices, a nonprofit organization that advocates for inclusive, affordable housing for people with developmental disabilities. I'm also a member of the Race Equity Action Leadership Coalition.

I support the memo from Councilmember Campos to defer approval of the Code of Conduct until a clear and detailed operational plan is developed, as outlined in the memo. Right now, far too many questions remain unanswered for the Council to responsibly move forward.

For example:

- How will the City ensure people with developmental disabilities—who may not understand the laws around homelessness and encampments being enforced—are not unfairly targeted?
- What specialized training will officers in the Neighborhood Quality of Life Unit receive when engaging with individuals with developmental disabilities who are more sensitive to danger and authority?
- Do we have the capacity in shelter, services, and housing to actually support those being displaced? What's the next step so there's a long term step plan?

The people we serve are often at risk of homelessness due to fixed incomes, a lack of affordable housing, hard to contact and stay in contact when receiving services, and heightened sensitivity to danger, change, and confusion. Rather than introducing punitive language or enforcement mechanisms, we urge the Council to adopt a services-first, housing-centered approach with kindness, collaboration, and patience.

Every year, San José participates in National Night Out with the disability community—a demonstration of trust-building between law enforcement and people with disabilities. That trust is at risk if this plan includes enforcement without safeguards. Criminalizing homelessness—especially for those with developmental disabilities—only makes it harder for people to access help, housing, and employment. Why destroy a trust with a community you spent long cultivating?

We've seen how fear of police contact leads many people with disabilities to avoid outreach altogether. Some have been repeatedly displaced or denied shelter because their disability was misunderstood or misinterpreted as noncompliance - or even if the shelter is not accessible.

Our ask is clear:

- Remove all arrest and criminalization language from this proposal.
- Include a clause requiring that enforcement is a last resort, particularly for individuals with disabilities.
- Prioritize trained community support officers, service providers, and outreach teams, not police, as the first point of contact.

What people experiencing homelessness need is consistent, trauma-informed support—not punishment. We urge the Council to revise the proposal so it reflects a long-term strategy that centers on housing, services, and community-based solutions.

Thank you.

Warm Regards,
Gia Pham

Gia Pham
Communication Coordinator
gia@housingchoices.org

Sobrato Center for Nonprofit
3460 W Bayshore Road, Suite 205
Palo Alto, CA 94303
www.housingchoices.org



Opening new doors for people with developmental disabilities



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