

FW: Letter for Item 4.1, August 19 CC Meeting

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

Date Tue 8/19/2025 7:21 AM

To Agendadesk < Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

1 attachment (163 KB)

Card Room Letter 8-18-25 (1).pdf;

From: Tom Saggau

Sent: Monday, August 18, 2025 5:13 PM

To: Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; Steve Slack

Subject: Letter for Item 4.1, August 19 CC Meeting

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

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Hi Toni,

Please ensure each council officer receives a copy.

Thank You, Tom Saggau SJPOA

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SAN JOSE POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

1151 North Fourth Street, San Jose, California 95112 info@sjpoa.com \ 408-298-1133 \ www.sjpoa.com

SJPOA

August 18, 2025

Honorable Mayor and City Council City of San José 200 E Santa Clara Street San José, CA 95113

RE: Item 4.1 Cardroom Regulation Fee

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of our members we are writing in support of the staff recommendation and the memorandum from Mayor Matt Mahan, Vice-Mayor Foley, Councilmember Cohen, Councilmember Mulcahy, and Councilmember Casey.

While we support the action being recommended today we are concerned that additional reduction in oversight is harmful to our mission to promote public safety. While cardrooms remain a legal business that provides tax revenue to the city, there are negative externalities that must be managed. These negative externalities include, but are not limited to;

- Crimes such as loan sharking, embezzlement, follow home robberies, and
- Social impacts as a result of addictive gambling that harm families

The police department currently licenses, permits, inspects, and audits local cardrooms to work toward ensuring there is no criminal activity associated with these establishments. With resources scarce as they are, a further reduction in fees and less oversight will reduce our ability to proactively manage risk to the community and may result in increased crime, negative social impacts and further burden our understaffed police department.

That said, we respectfully ask the City Council to take no further action or initiate additional processes that will lead to reduced oversight and increased public safety and community risk.

Sincerely,

Steve Slack, President
San Jose Police Officers Association