

From: Matthew Quevedo [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:16 PM
To: Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Support for Councilmember Perez's Downtown Storefront Initiative - Item 3.6 - 10/17

Support Letter for Item 3.6 10/17

Mayor Sam Liccardo and
Members of the San Jose City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Support for Councilmember Perez's Downtown Storefront Initiative

Dear Mayor Liccardo and City Council members;

I am writing on behalf of the San Jose Downtown Resident's Association to express our continued support for Councilmember Perez's Downtown Storefronts Initiative. This is an increasingly important issue that addresses the quality of life for downtown residents and the quality of place for downtown merchants – even more so than when it was first presented nearly two years ago.

Over the past several years, we have seen one retail establishment after another abandon the downtown core, leaving in their wake empty, uninviting shells. And one by one, these storefronts (save for a few restaurants or more bars/nightclubs), continue to remain shuttered, creating at best, an uncomfortable and at worst, a dangerous pedestrian experience for those of us who would like to get out and enjoy our neighborhood at night. Instead, we are met with darkened corners, drug deals and a misconception that the downtown core is a dangerous place that is to be avoided.

The lack of motivation by the owners to find tenants for these storefronts is disheartening and stops just short of blight. We feel that it also continues to impede on any progress we could otherwise be making in the core. Furthermore, it is discouraging any future suitors who might otherwise think about moving their retail businesses here.

It is time to restore pride of ownership by making it mandatory for ground floor businesses simply to do a little window dressing—to light up their windows at night and display local artist's work...or directional signage that could lead passersby to local happenings in the area until a tenant can be found. It's really not that much to ask and the benefits would have huge

upside, as potential retailers will most definitely take notice as more people start to walk the well lit, safer streets.

As we continue to add more and more housing in the downtown core, and with less and less parking so as to encourage future residents to walk or ride to local merchants for daily necessities, it's time to start upping the odds that those merchants will come. Creating a lively environment is the first step toward revitalizing our streets.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue and your continued efforts to pass this initiative. We hope to soon see downtown storefronts lighting the way to a more vibrant core in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Matthew Quevedo
San Jose Downtown Residents Association

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Matthew Quevedo


From: Mila Heally [REDACTED] >

Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 7:51 AM

To: Bramson, Ray; BridgeHousingCommunities; District 10; City Clerk; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo

Subject: Homeless housing options - support for Rocha's suggestion and AB 1505

Dear city leaders,

I am writing to support City council member Rocha suggestion to rent housing units for homeless instead of building BHC. Just rent units next to existing services and require them to visits the services for control. It will save taxpayer money implementing services and building the villages and will be faster.

I also support the AB 1505, I don't think people should be separates in buildings just because they were homeless. Mixed income rental units make more sense and does not prejudice against people. If people need more serious help they should be housed in nursing places, sober living or community shelters first. This will save tax payers money, house people quickly and do not create prejudice. There are many studies that prove thar mixed income housing is more beneficial for homeless individuals than large group of then living in the same building.

Also please continue to buy motels and convert into homeless housing. These might the locations to house those who are harder to house due to issues with addiction and mental illness that need supportive permanent housing.

<http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/09/18/san-jose-looks-at-ramping-up-affordable-housing-laws-for-rentals/>

Yours.

Mila Heally

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Sent from Gmail Mobile