



## *Memorandum*

**TO:** Honorable Mayor &  
City Council

**FROM:** Toni J. Taber, CMC  
City Clerk

**SUBJECT:** The Public Record  
April 20-26, 2018

**DATE:** April 27, 2018

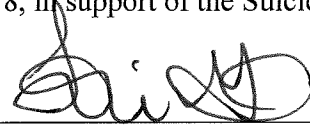
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### **ITEMS FILED FOR THE PUBLIC RECORD**

#### **Letters from the Public**

1. Letters from Blair Beekman, dated April 20, 2018 through April 26, 2018, regarding various concerns in San Jose and the County of Santa Clara.
2. Letter from Bonnie Margaret Ross, dated April 25, 2018, in support of the Suicide Prevention Policy.

TJTat



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Toni J. Taber, CMC  
City Clerk

Re: a letter from Blair Beekman. Friday April 20, 2018. \_\_\_\_ A list of 6 items, for the Big Belly project. \_\_\_\_ The decency of this democratic process.

bob tom

Fri 4/20/2018 5:21 PM

Dear city government of San Jose,

A list of six items, I hope I can learn to help define, and what you should already be familiar with, in how to think about, the Big Belly, smart trash can process, at this time.

1. I feel, with the idea of cultural norms, and a democratic, community decency, and with its possible health hazards, and civil rights questions,

the Big Belly project, needs to be treated, as an experimental, and not as a permanent project, of downtown San Jose.

From this experimental place, other thoughts, ideas, and options can develop, in friendly, workable terms.

2. In the serious health hazards and civil rights questions, of this project, a minimal amount of technology, should be practiced and used.

Please also understand, how to work with, a minimal law enforcement, and incarceration process, during this experimental period, as well.

3. A one month, 3 month, or 6 month timetable, to phase out the Big Belly, smart trash can project, in downtown San Jose.

And, to help learn, how to phase in, good counseling practices, advocacy, and social programs, already being prepared, by the city govt. of San Jose.

4. Important data collecting and tech. ideas, of the Big Belly, for the VTA, BART, MTC, and others, can be thought about, re-created, and re-directed, toward more simple forms of tech., and data collection.

And importantly, an IoT plan can begin to be developed, that can collect data, but have minimal/zero tech. reliance, or use, with law enforcement.

5. Misunderstandings, and a certain hype, about the nature of violent crime, of downtown San Jose, should be starting to become more clear, and less fearful.

6. I feel this Big Belly project, should be a life changer, for yourselves, and how you will view, the future of Broadband RF tech., in the everyday life of a community.

And, in how to better understand, previous, preconceived ideas, based on the ideas of profit motivated, large corporate, scientific studies, that Broadband Tech., will not create bad health or harmful effects, in being placed, with close day to day contact, with human beings.

a bit more clarification, with list below. a good weekend reading, hopefully.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

This project, is a health hazard, and a civil rights question.

In the ideas of data collection, for upcoming BART projects, and VTA projects, you have introduced, new, cooperative IoT ideas, based on civil rights and human rights threats, to the everyday public, and the intimidating ideas of law enforcement, and incarceration.

These are Broken Windows policies, of the 1980's, we are trying to learn, to never return to, in how to create policies, for a neighborhood, and a community.

On top of this, you want to call this project, and its overall gentrification process, a new, cooperative IoT process, a whole community effort ?

sincerely,  
blair beekman

a letter from Blair Beekman. Tuesday April 24, 2018. \_\_\_\_ Please make the smart, LED streetlight, IoT project report, available by May-June 2018

bob tom

Tue 4/24/2018 1:15 PM

Dear Civic Innovation staff,

I have been asking, in city council public meetings, and the Rules and Open Government, RaOG, committee meetings,

When will, the smart LED streetlight, IoT project, be made available to the public.

It was due, in October 2017. It is now April 2018.

I thought I have read, in recent committee agenda items,

you will make attempts, to make this report, available to the public, by June 2018.

Is there anyway, you can have this report ready, by May 2018, for either the Smart Cities, or PSFSS committee meetings.

It is my understanding, a Gang Task Force Overview Report, meant to be shelved, until the fall of 2018,

miraculously made it, to the open public process, last month.

If this is accurate, thank you incredibly for this.

Can someone write back, to confirm this ? And my questions above.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

p.s.

you ask for knowledge and understanding, for an informed discussion and process,

yet your city government, continuously keeps information, in how to make informed decisions, out the hands, of the everyday people, of the community,

and who do not have a front row seat, to the mostly secretive process, of inner San Jose politics.

This line of work is humbling, and always a learning process, but I am tired of having to be hip, to understand the political workings of a city, a community, and its democracy.

a letter from Blair Beekman. Thursday April 26, 2018. \_\_\_\_\_ The Big  
Belly trash can, downtown San Jose. \_\_\_\_\_ The Santa Clara County,  
Surveillance and Technology Ordinance.

bob tom

Thu 4/26/2018 1:52 PM

org>; District Attorney  
; Hilary Barroga  
Rajul Pblc.Dfndr.Damon Silver <  
; Sheriff PIO <  
Supervisor Cindy Chavez Cortese, Dave  
Supervisor Ken Yeager <  
VTA Board Secretary  
Destination Home  
>; Josue Fuentes Pandit,  
Nona Klippen  
>; Supervisor Joseph Simitian  
>; Supervisor Mike Wasserman  
Sykes, Dave <Dave.Sykes@sanjoseca.gov>;  
Parra-Garcia, Sabrina <Sabrina.Parra-Garcia@sanjoseca.gov>; Maguire, Jennifer <jennifer.maguire@sanjoseca.gov>; Wells, Laura  
<Laura.Wells@sanjoseca.gov>; Traffic.Signals <Traffic.Signals@sanjoseca.gov>; Ortbal, Jim <Jim.Ortbal@sanjoseca.gov>; Doyle, Richard  
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<city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>; Beckel,  
Dolan <dolan.beckel@sanjoseca.gov>; Civic Innovation <robert.loyd@sanjoseca.gov>; Tsai, Henry <Henry.Tsai@sanjoseca.gov>;  
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<District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District7  
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<Jenny.Nusbaum@sanjoseca.gov>; Morales-Ferrand, Jacky <Jacky.Morales-Ferrand@sanjoseca.gov>; VanderVeen, Rachel  
<Rachel.VanderVeen@sanjoseca.gov>; IPA <ipa@sanjoseca.gov>; Henninger, Ragan <ragan.henninger@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of  
Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; Walsh, Susan <Susan.Walsh@sanjoseca.gov>; Chundur, Dipa  
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Comm.Juan Estrada <itsjuanestrada@gmail.com>; OES <OES@sanjoseca.gov>; Rios, Angel <Angel.Rios@sanjoseca.gov>; Cano, Matt  
<Matt.Cano@sanjoseca.gov>; Garcia, Edgardo <EDGARDO.GARCIA@sanjoseca.gov>; Randol, Heather  
<HEATHER.RANDOL@sanjoseca.gov>; Dwyer, Jason <JASON.DWYER@sanjoseca.gov>; Mata, Anthony  
<ANTHONY.MATA@sanjoseca.gov>; Knopf, Dave <CHRISTOPHER.KNOPF@sanjoseca.gov>; Avila, Sandra  
<SANDRA.AVILA@SANJOSECA.GOV>; Riordan, Ray <ray.riordan@sanjoseca.gov>; Knies, Scott ; SCVTA  
<

Dear Local Govts., of the south bay,

It is now Thursday, April 26. About 2 weeks, in writing & asking, this same question.

Please learn to write back.

The VTA is a joint powers board, granted special authority, as a state entity.

This should not stop the VTA, from having some sort of written down set, of accountability and transparency, guidelines and by-laws.

This could be a good beginning first step, for all of us. And, to begin to learn, and to trust, how to write back to myself, on this issue.

Do you want to start, at this place ?

After two weeks now, of my same question, something should be starting to become, easier, and more procedural, for all of us .

From this, it can become easier for yourselves, to begin to learn to write back and describe,

exactly what VTA joint power agency, or agencies, will the Big Belly, smart trash can, in downtown San Jose, work under.

And, please write back, and begin to make clear,

a set of guidelines to describe, the accountability and transparency requirements, for whatever VTA joint power agency, the Big Belly smart trash can, is a part of.

I have been busy this week, and will start a phone call process, tomorrow, and into next week. Please write back soon, if you can.

The VTA, the MTC, and others, may have introduced this project, to San Jose, and may have, the beginning legal rulings, on this issue.

But it seems, the city of San Jose, will, be making many choices of the tech. to be used, in its downtown.

And the county of Santa Clara, should also have, a deep relationship, with all involved at this point, as well.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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On Mon, Apr 23, 2018 at 1:25 PM, bob tom <

Dear local govts., of the south bay,

It is the start of a new week. I have been writing since at least, Thurs. April 12, 2018.

To ask again, under what VTA/Joint Powers Board, is the Big Belly smart trash can project, a part of, in downtown San Jose ?

I would also like an explanation, of the civil rights, civil protections, privacy/accountability policy, of this project, that should be a part of each, VTA and Joint Powers Board process.

The rights of the individual, has always been considered, as an important check,  
in the balance of power, between branches of government, since the beginnings, of this country's history.

I am learning, these sorts of subjects, can be an awkward, for any level of govt., to talk about, with everyday people.

But it is a mandatory function, that has helped build this country. And, it is how to maintain, and continue the future of this country, as well.

It has been over 10 days, since I have first started, to ask these questions, about the Big Belly, smart trash can project, in downtown San Jose.

You should be able, to begin to formulate, some sort of, civil rights, civil protection, privacy/accountability policy, in simple, procedural terms.

I will start to make phone calls, to the addresses above, tomorrow, if no one can write back, today.

I am not here to play gotcha politics. We are at a time, we can create, more distance from the era of 9/11/01.

I would like to learn, how to develop, what can be, more friendly, peaceful, and sustainable ideas, for the community process.

We are about to start, a long process together. Peace through learning is an important concept.

Government, at all levels, should learn to trust this concept, and the good natured intentions, of the community process.

It is how to end war. And how to build a sustainable, democratic, community future .

What can be good accountability practices, you already understand, we should begin to talk about, in a phone call, soon.

But I feel it could be, a more comprehensive process, and not as fearful, if you were to learn, how to begin to write myself back, at this time.

What is, the VTA Joint Powers Board, in charge of, the Big Belly smart trash can project ?

What would be, its privacy/accountability policy ?

From here, I can start to piece things together,

And hopefully, we can all begin, to better question and understand, what can be the future,



of the Big Belly smart trash can project, for downtown San Jose.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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On Fri, Apr 20, 2018 at 1:10 PM, bob tom

> wrote:

Dear local govts, of the south bay,

Please refer to my letters below. I know yourselves are busy. And it takes thought and work, even to come up with, simple answers, to what are standard questions.

But I need to write, for now the fifth time, in past week.

Can someone write back, with a few simple answers, to my third letter, below,

And, what should be routine, formal, and procedural questions.

I will start calling on the phone, next week, if everyone is too busy, on this Friday afternoon, to answer.

Pease keep in mind, I have been asking, all week. You should be prepared, to have an answer by now.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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Dear local governments, of the south bay,

I understand, it takes thought and work. But this is now, the fourth time, I have written, in the past week,  
and to ask for, a simple reply to my question, below.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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On Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 11:45 AM, bob tom < > wrote:

Dear local governments, of the south bay,

This will now be the third time, I have written in the past week, to ask for a simple clarification,  
Does the new, Big Belly smart trash can project, sponsored mostly by the VTA, and the San Jose Downtown Assoc.,  
work under the Surveillance and Technology Ordinance, of Santa Clara County.

What VTA Joint Powers Board, would the Big Belly Trash Can, be a part of ?

What would be, the accountability and transparency guidelines, for this particular, Joint Powers Board ?

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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On Mon, Apr 16, 2018 at 1:26 PM, bob tom <[cranberrysauce23@gmail.com](mailto:cranberrysauce23@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Shane Patrick, chief of staff, city of San Jose, city council district 10,

Can you please write back today, as I have figured how to more simply ask, my two questions from yesterday, regarding the Big Belly Smart Trash Can.

Are there other Joint Powers Boards, the VTA is a part of ?

What exactly, and where exactly, can I find the accountability and transparency by-laws, this particular Joint Powers Board, would follow,

with the Big Belly Smart Trash Can Project, in downtown San Jose ?

I will send this letter, to Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, as well today, in the spirit of open communication.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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On Sun, Apr 15, 2018 at 5:53 PM, bob tom <

wrote:

Dear Shane Patrick, chief of staff,

...and to learn to ask the question,

even as a 4 member, joint powers authority, what accountability and transparency rules apply ?

Ideas, that the joint government agencies, would make up together. ?

This would mean, I should look into, their own by-law process.

Any words, from this second question, today, would be of help.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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On Sun, Apr 15, 2018 at 5:46 PM, bob tom <

wrote:

Dear Shane Patrick, chief of Staff,

Sorry for writing, on a sunday afternoon.

I thought it could help prepare sooner, for the upcoming week.

I read the Joint Powers Board, of the VTA is with,

- Amtrak, a federal agency.
- ACE Altamont Corridor Express, which is CalTrans District 10, the San Joaquin Regional Rail Authority, among others,
- CalTrain, who offered something of its usual, authoritative opacity and confusion, and did not offer, some form of transparency, on their website,

It is fair to assume, Caltrain, works with state agencies, and perhaps federal agencies, as well. (u.s.congresswoman Jackie Speier's, difficult grant work with Caltrain, obviously comes to mind.)

That's four agencies, mostly working at a state level. And would partly offer, why the new Big Belly project downtown, feels distant, and not thought out.

For all of my anger, at the secrecy, of the city of San Jose, LED light system, and other s.j. city govt. IoT projects,

it has become clear, Civic Innovation, with Knight Foundation, and others, ( my work?), a degree of care, seems to be happening, in how to design,

the future of community civil rights, and civil protection issues, with IoT, that the Big Belly project, downtown, seems, it does not have.

With this said, as you stated, in your previous letter, below, ( a nice letter by the way, thank you. )

You said, the Big Belly, smart trash can project, of downtown, is under the auspices, of its Joint Powers Board. Have I labeled this Joint Powers Board correctly, above ?

Or are there other, Joint Power Boards, the VTA, is a part of. ?

It is from here, I can begin to try to piece together, under what authority, the Big Belly trash can, works under.

And, how I can ask questions, about its accountability and transparency.

sincerely,  
blair beekman

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On Thu, Apr 12, 2018 at 3:58 PM, District 10 <[District10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:District10@sanjoseca.gov)> wrote:

Dear Blair,

The Big Belly smart trash cans improve the environment and reduce costs because they are emptied only when full, which cuts down on the trips that a trash collection vehicle must make (and fewer trips means less greenhouse gas emissions and less collection expense). This is an initiative of the Valley Transportation Authority, so questions about it should be directed to the VTA. The SCC Surveillance and Technology Ordinance would not apply, as the VTA is a joint-powers authority and not an agency of the County government.

Sincerely,

***Shane Patrick***

Shane Patrick Connolly

Chief of Staff, District 10

City of San José

Office of Councilmember Johnny Khamis

408-535-4910 | [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov)

Visit us on the web: [www.sjd10.com](http://www.sjd10.com)

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The three questions below, can be a lot to ask. But they should be, mostly straightforward and simple, legal questions.

Please notice, all who I have addressed, this letter to, to cross check, refer to, and be clear, if needed.

Questions.

1. Considering the VTA, is at least, a part-county government agency, does the Big Belly project, and its smart technology, fall under the Santa Clara County, Surveillance and Technology Ordinance ?
2. How is the smart technology, of the Big Belly Smart Technology Project, in downtown San Jose, acknowledged and inventoried, by the Santa Clara County Surveillance and Technology Ordinance, at this time ?
3. And finally, how was this project, initially approved, by the Board of Supervisors, or the County officials, within the legal framework, of this Ordinance ?

sincerely,

blair beekman

I am learning, the easiest way, through this awkward period, for all of us, is to ask the simple procedural question.

What is the openness and accountability policy,

for the VTA and Joint Powers Board, that is currently in charge, of the Big Belly smart trash can project ?

April 25, 2018

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, Vice Mayor Magdalena Carrasco and Councilmembers  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Support for Suicide Prevention Policy

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my support the Suicide Prevention Policy memo submitted by Councilmember Raul Perez and urge you to do the same. This issue matters to me personally, and the City of San Jose can help in a significant way.

I, like many in our community, have been personally affected by the loss of close friends to suicides that could have been prevented had my friends and their families had better access to support and services.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership on this issue. I hope that you will vote in support of the Suicide Prevention Policy.

Very truly yours,

Bonnie Margaret Ross  
N 15th Street  
San Jose