

May 9th Rules & Open Government Committee meeting - Item ROGC 18-282

Jill Rodby

Mon 5/7/2018 11:10 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>;

Cc: Pereira, Paul <Paul.Pereira@sanjoseca.gov>; Rodriguez, Johanna <Johanna.Rodriguez@sanjoseca.gov>; Weerakoon, Ru <Ru.Weerakoon@sanjoseca.gov>;

On behalf of the Monterey Corridor Business Assoc. (MCBA) and Sims Metal Management, we fully support the City's efforts to establish an MOU with the Union Pacific Railroad.

Sims Metal Management, as well as many of our neighbors, have dealt with homeless encampments on the rail behind our yard for the past several years. We've had several fires, drug use and other activities that have threatened our businesses and employees. While we have worked closely with City staff from the Mayor's office, District 7 and the Police Department to deal with these issues, not having legal access to the Union Pacific land is a continuing problem. I urge you to approve the recommendation to direct the City Manager and City Attorney to work with the UP on an MOU that will help resolve these issues.

Thank you.

Jill Rodby
Sims Metal Management
PR & Government Affairs Manager

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MOU

Beth Seibert

Mon 5/7/2018 12:02 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>;

Cc: Pereira, Paul <Paul.Pereira@sanjoseca.gov>;

 1 attachments (113 KB)

Memorandum of Understanding Between The City of San Jose and Union Pacific.doc;

Please add my letter to the notes for the May 9th meeting.

Thank you,

Beth Seibert

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Off-Site

Records Management

May 7, 2018

Sam Licardo – Mayor
Sergio Jimenez – District 2 Councilmember
Raul Peralez – District 3 Councilmember
Tam Nguyen – District 7 Councilmember

Dear Sirs:

Off-Site Records Management is extremely pleased and relieved to learn that a Memorandum of Understanding Between The City of San Jose and Union Pacific is being negotiated/recommended.

Off-Site Records Management purchased our 104,400 square foot building 15 years ago. The property borders the Union Pacific track. As a consequence, we have battled the many severe problems associated with sharing a property line with the railroad line: blight, encampments, crime, fires, property damage and more. We have called the police and fire department many times in response to fires and criminal activity. Our employees have felt unsafe at times and it has negatively affected our business image when clients see the piles of trash and encampments on the other side of the fence. We have spent a lot money repairing/replacing fencing, removing garbage and cleaning up graffiti.

The homeless in the encampments regularly set fires that grow out of control. We have called Union Pacific numerous times to report our extreme concern over the high risk of catching the local businesses on fire. Unfortunately, we do not hear back from Union Pacific to inform us of their plans to deal with the fire risk.

Off-Site Records Management strongly supports this MOU.

Best regards,

Beth Seibert
President



May 7, 2018

To: Mayor Sam Liccardo and the San Jose City Council

On behalf of the Silver Leaf Neighborhood Association and residents in District 2, I am writing to request that the Rules and Open Government Committee accept the Memorandum written by Councilmembers Jimenez, Nguyen, Peralez and Mayor Liccardo.

As residents and leaders of the Silver Leaf Neighborhood Association Board, we see on a daily basis the blight and trash, graffiti, and the homeless encampments on Monterey Road along the railroad tracks. We have small children, seniors and families who drive and walk past Monterey Road every single day. Our residents and community continue to be affected by these safety and health concerns, and we deserve better.

The Neighborhood has organized multiple clean-ups on Monterey Road. The City and the San Jose Police Department have also tried to help us clean up this area parallel to the railroad tracks, but we have learned that this is considered trespassing. As a result, our hands are tied unless this memo passes the Rules and Open Government Committee and the City can sign an agreement with Union Pacific Railroad (UP).

Due to a lack of response we are getting from Union Pacific, we look forward to an agreement that will allow the City to take responsibility for this area and take a stronger stance against the multitude of issues along Monterey Road.

We applaud Councilmember Jimenez and the Council for taking the initiative to fix the most pressing issues in our City. Please help us pass this initiative and make our city beautiful again!

In community spirit,

Silver Leaf Neighborhood Association Board

Untitled

Stephanie Demos

Mon 5/7/2018 3:07 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>;



May 7, 2018

HomeFirst enthusiastically supports the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of San José and Union Pacific as put forth by Mayor Liccardo, Councilmember Jimenez, Councilmember Peralez and Councilmember Nguyen on April 30.

It is critical to address the health, safety and legal concerns caused by the current blight and encampment issues on Union Pacific property. As the Boccardo Reception Center (BRC), the largest emergency shelter for homeless adults in Santa Clara County, is located only a block away from one of the areas most affected by these encampment, litter and defacement activities, we would like to work with the City of San Jose and non-profit partners such as Downtown Streets Team to address this issue.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Demos

Stephanie A. Demos
Chief Development Officer
HomeFirst Services of Santa Clara County

www.homefirstscc.org