



Memorandum

TO: NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND **FROM:** Councilmember Raul Perez
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: November 8, 2018

Approved by:

Date:

11/8/2018

SUBJECT: AUDIT OF HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the Audit Report of Homeless Assistance Programs and

1. Direct City Manager's Office to provide an update on Homeless Task Force
2. Explore inter-departmental approach alongside current regional Homeless Task Force

BACKGROUND

Thank you staff from the City Auditor's Office for your thorough work in evaluating our City's Homeless Assistance Programs. Even though our City has utilized innovative tools and made recognizable strides in addressing homelessness in San José, there is much room for improvement to be made. Two recommendations that I would like to stress are Staff Recommendation #1 and #3: the need for better collaboration between our departments and with our region. Homelessness cannot be addressed in silos, it needs a coordinated and collaborative effort.

Initiated a year ago by my office and now operating in the City Manager's Office, the Homeless Task Force is currently intended to leverage diverse stakeholders across the City. However as the report suggests, we should begin to look internally as well. While we have a dedicated team in our Housing Department that works on homelessness, the impact of this issue can be felt interdepartmentally through the City. Staff across departments who touch the issue of homelessness should have the relevant tools, knowledge, and resources to better serve our residents. Therefore, the update should include the status of the current homeless task force, how to better incorporate our departments, and future plans on maintaining this task force as continuous and ongoing.