



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Raul Peralez

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: March 22, 2019

Approved by:

Date: 3/22/19

SUBJECT: FUNDING AWARD TO LIFEMOVES TO EXPAND THE SAFE PARKING PILOT PROGRAM BY TWO CITY-OWNED SITES

RECOMMENDATION

Approve staff recommendation and ensure the following is met:

1. Prioritize outreach to RVs and cars located along St. John Street between 15th and 17th.
2. All vehicles enter and clear the sites within established program hours, so that the community centers can resume normal business operations.

BACKGROUND

Thank you staff for your efforts in exploring every tool possible in response to the growing homeless crisis in our City. With over 4,300 homeless residents in San José, our long term goal of building affordable housing is not enough. There must be a variety of interim solutions to address the complexity of this issue. The rising cost of housing has individuals and families resorting to living in their cars and RVs. While we would agree this is not ideal, it offers a safe place without worry if they find themselves in this type of situation.

Close to the Roosevelt Community Center is the Julian St. James neighborhood that has been experiencing an uptick of parked RVs along St. John between 15th and 17th street. The neighborhood has been working diligently with vehicle abatement, however, the daily returns of the RVs has raised concerns from the neighborhood. I would like staff to

prioritize outreach to this area to accommodate both the neighborhood and the residents in the RVs. In addition, since the two sites will serve dual purposes, it is important that while we include new programming, we also maintain the current community programs. Therefore, the enforcement of the safe parking program's operating hours should be adhered to effectively serve all residents. We look forward to the opening of these two sites which will begin to provide the relief and stability needed to our unhoused residents.