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ASH KALRA  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
CHAIR: LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE  
EDUCATION  
JUDICIARY  
WATER, PARKS, AND WILDLIFE

June 10, 2019

**RE: June 10, 2019 Special Meeting for the Budget Final Public Hearing, and June 11, 2019  
Item 3.3 – Mayor's June Budget Message for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

I would like to respectfully request your support for Councilmembers Jimenez, Peralez, Carrasco, Esparza, and Arenas' memorandum recommending the City of San José establish an Equity Fund to implement solutions to address inequities in resources, programming, and access to City services.

The City of San José has taken great pride in its diversity and ability to address the multifaceted concerns and needs of every community, especially the underserved. Although currently there are City programs that address the needs of these communities, there is no concrete procedure to track success, need for changes in policies and practices, or allocation of resources if we do not have a framework in place. Having an Equity Fund to establish a framework will proactively tackle systemic disparities and bias, and ensure that all communities, as unique as they each are, have the resources and services necessary to be successful.

Inequity has historically been rooted in racial and socioeconomic biases. The ten council districts are all diverse, but there is some form of inequity in each district, affecting many of your constituents, whether you know it or not. Let us lift our communities and ensure that we do not continue the systemic bias. Let us create a framework to address those underserved communities who are affected by inequity. Let us uproot these oppressive racial and socioeconomic biases, and make San José a leader in social progress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ash Kalra".

ASH KALRA