



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Magdalena
Carrasco
Councilmember Sylvia Arenas

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: August 22, 2019

APPROVE:

DATE:

SUBJECT: TITLE X FUNDING GAP

RECOMMENDATION

Explore funding opportunities in the mid-year budget update to replace the loss of \$250,000 in federal Title X funding for Planned Parenthood clinics located in San José to enable the continued provision of health services for local women.

BACKGROUND

Last Friday, the Ninth Circuit declined to overturn a Trump Administration Rule that imposed a gag rule on local health providers causing Planned Parenthood to pull out of the Title X program. <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/about-us/newsroom/press-releases/9th-circuit-denies-relief-in-title-x-gag-rule-case>.

Planned Parenthood has withdrawn from Title X family planning program rather than comply with the new draconian Trump administration gag rules regarding abortion counseling.

The services provided by Planned Parenthood include breast and cervical cancer screening, pregnancy testing, contraceptive care, sexually-transmitted infection testing and treatment as well as infertility services funded by the federal Title X program. Planned Parenthood provides healthcare services at four locations in San José. Title X program funding has never been allowed to be used for abortion services.

Rules and Open Government Committee

Title X Funding

We have a rapidly rising rate of STIs like gonorrhea, syphilis and HPV which can lead to increased rates of cancer and have serious health risks to pregnant women. The loss of this funding will reduce direct health care services to our residents but also educational programs. Reduction in funding may require shifting other resources away from Planned Parenthood's educational branch which provides sex education and teacher training in multiple schools throughout the City.

While we support the County's lead role in improving public health in Santa Clara County, San José women face a health emergency that requires a fast and coordinated response. Supervisor Chavez has submitted an emergency funding proposal to provide immediate resources but this will not be voted on until September 10, 2019. Supervisor Chavez's proposal if support by the Board of Supervisors, would only provide funding for one year. We ask that the City Manager's office partner with the County to review longer-term funding options. The Planned Parenthood clinics within the City of San José are the busiest in the Mar Monte system, serving the most families in the region.

The federal changes have resulted in the loss of \$250,000 for San José Planned Parenthood locations which currently serves over 36,000 women in the City of San José, most of which are low-income women of color. Our residents who are mostly under-insured women and families will lose access to basic healthcare services because of the reduction in funding. I hope that we can look for opportunities within our budget and with our partners to provide the resources to ensure our residents can continue to have access to cancer screenings, birth control, pregnancy care, mammograms and health screenings.

The signers of this memorandum have not had, and will not have, any private conversation with any other member of the City Council, or that member's staff, concerning any action discussed in the memorandum, and that each signer's staff members have not had, and have been instructed not to have, any such conversation with any other member of the City Council or that member's staff.