



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Carrasco

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: June 15, 2020

Approved by:

Date: June 15, 2020

SUBJECT: JUNE'S BUDGET MESSAGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

RECOMMENDATION

Accept Councilmember Peralez's memo dated June 15th that includes accepting the Mayor's Budget with the following amendments:

1. Restore \$700,000 to the cuts from the Community Service Officers budget on a one time basis for two years, \$1,400,000 total. (Source: Police Budget)
2. Accept Recommendation 4 from Councilmember Esparza and Councilmember Arenas's memorandums dated 06/11/2020 and double the funding for the Office of Racial Equity from \$200,000 over two years to \$400,000 for up to four years. (Source: Police Budget)
3. Add up to \$150,000 to fund an independent after action incident report of the recent protests. (Source: Police Budget)
4. Add up to \$15,000 to the IPA budget to fully update their online complaint form so the community can upload photos and videos to their complaints. (Source: Police Budget)

BACKGROUND

Due to the rapidly changing financial projections, the Governor's proposal to eliminate \$15 million from the City San Jose and the public comments we received at the special hearing on the discussion and actions related to police use of force, I support these amendments to the Mayor's June Budget message.

I am lobbying against the Governor's cuts that would not only create a significant shortfall in our budget, it would devastate critical services for the community including school linked services, mental health treatment, and our Family Resource Centers that are desperately needed as our children return to school traumatized by the impacts of COVID-19. These changes mandate us to review the proposed budget and make changes as necessary.

We have heard from many in the public who would like to see a more equitable distribution of funding and would like to restore community services that are currently proposed for elimination. The Community Service Officer (CSO) program has been very successful at addressing some of our public safety gaps with a very diverse workforce that reflects the community.

We are in a historic moment and now more than ever we need to do a deep dive into the racial inequities that are within the DNA of the City of San José. I have been supportive of integrating additional equity analysis in our budgetary and policy decision making process. The investment into the Office of Racial Equity is an opportunity to formalize that process. With future budget deficits predicted, it is critical more than ever to review every budget reduction to ensure that we are not removing any lifeline for our communities survival in one of those worst depressions in modern history. Additionally, it offers an opportunity to review processes as decisions are made and ensure that a more equitable city for all.

The public hearing on the police use of force and crowd control measures was impactful and had many speakers detailing accusations of abuse and mistreatment. It is important as the Independent Police Auditor (IPA) collects reports from the protests that the office has the appropriate resources to complete the work of reviewing over 1,000 complaints. I support an independent after action report conducted by IPA and funding to upgrade their website capability.

These additions would support the work of equity, transparency, and accountability within our community.

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