### AdrianTepehua Vargas < Tue 6/30/2020 3:15 AM Support Increased Voter Turnout for City Council

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I support Councilmembers Carrasco and Esparza's memo to align districts with the lowest voter turnout with the Presidential election to give people of color representation and a voice. More people vote in the Presidential election which would increase voter turnout for these elections. East San José and the downtown districts are the poorest and most challenged have less than one-third of the voter turnout than the more affluent areas of San José. Of those who are voting, they are older, wealthier, and white.

If we do not move the election to the Presidential election, communities of color, young people, LGBTQ citizens, and low-income residents who are disproportionately burdened by policies impacting housing, homelessness, open spaces, libraries, and transportation, will continue to have their voice tampered in the current system.

Please support the alignment of the Council elections with the Presidential election in 2024 contained within the memo authored by Councilmembers Carrasco and Esparza.

Sincerely

**Concerned** Citizen

From: Ami Mina < Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 20	20 8:30 AM	
<b>To:</b> Jones, Chappie <	Davis, Do	ev < Khamis, Johnny
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Esparza, Maya <	Foley, Pam
<	Peralez, Raul <	Jimenez, Sergio
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	City Clerk <
Liccardo, Sam <		
Subject: City Charter Amer	ndment	
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[External Email]

My name is Amirissa Mina and I live in District 4.

I have listened in on meeting after meeting, and I've heard the people of San Jose call in and express their beliefs time after time, and consistently their voices go unheard when decisions are made. Providing additional power to someone who clearly does not act in the interest of the people is incomprehensible. If he doesn't listen to us now, why give more power? How can you justify this without first asking the people of San Jose if we want to allow our mayor more power? Who is he acting on behalf of if not the voices of the people of this city? Furthermore, extending his term arbitrarily seems to be a move made out of fear that public favor will not see him re-elected and this is an attempt to hold on as long as possible.

I urge you all to consider what will be remembered when it is time for your reelection.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

From: Jennifer LaBreche	e <	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 8:30 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

Subject: NO on Strong Mayor Proposal, YES on Councilmember Arenas' Memo

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The proposed change to the city charter would dramatically shift the way our local government runs and affects every single resident. Our voices should count but we are being shut out of this process as it's being rushed through without real and substantial community engagement. You have the current power to halt this proposal and allow for our voices to be heard.

I ask the council to vote NO on the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo. Instead, VOTE YES ON COUNCILMEMBER ARENAS' MEMO which would:

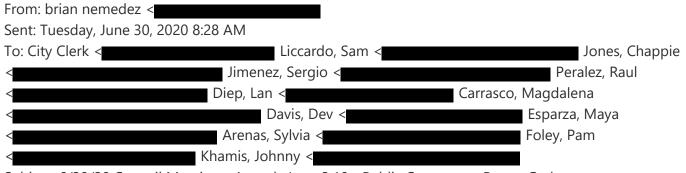
- Convene the City Charter Commission;

- Move all Council elections to presidential years while creating a special 2-year term election for the Mayor/Council to implement this change; and

- Refer the campaign finance reforms proposed to the San José Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.

The Council needs to take the time necessary to genuinely engage a diverse coalition of community members across San Jose. We as residents deserve a say in how our city is run and we won't have that opportunity if this proposal moves forward. We need you to VOTE NO WHILE YOUR VOTE STILL COUNTS!

Thank you Jennifer LaBreche



[External Email]

My name is Brian Nemedez and I live in the Evergreen area.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

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It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

From: Marisa Pinero <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2	2020 8:27 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Marisa Piñero and I live in district 6.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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From: Rachael Burnham <			
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020	) 8:23 AM		
То:	City Clerk <	Davis, Dev <	Khamis,
Johnny <	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena	
<	Esparza, Maya <	Foley, Pam	
<	Peralez, Raul <	Liccardo, Sam	
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Arenas, Sylvia	
<			
Subject: 6/30/20 Council Me	eting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Con	nment - Power Grab	

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[External Email]

My name is Rachael Burnham and I live in the Berryessa neighborhood.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely, Rachael Burnham

From: adriana.f4busines	55 <	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 8:20 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Subject: Item 3.10: Vote	e No on the Strong Mayor Proposal	

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[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

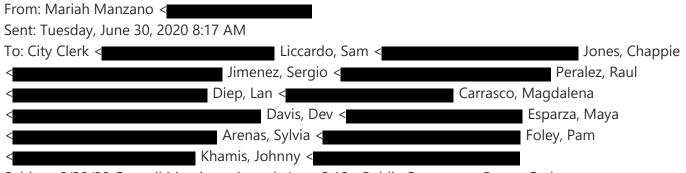
This is a big change to our city government. While I personally don't believe a strong mayor system is right for our community, ultimately, I think this decision needs more than 6 days of discussion and public outreach. The points laid out in Councilmember Peralez's memo about a Charter Review Commission being able to thoroughly study the need and report back to council is the right way to go. There is not the time to rush to make this decision without proper community input.

The Fair Elections Initiative had almost a year of community engagement through it's signature collection process. This helps to make clear the language of the ballot initiative to voters and give the community time to discuss. I support the Fair Elections Initiative as good campaign finance reform needed to build trust with our community and the elected officials that serve them as well as align the Mayoral Election to a presidential year to improve voter turnout. Adding the strong mayor provisions to the Fair Elections Initiative language adds an additional complex piece to a ballot initiative that will mask the desires of the community for these two very different important discussions.

There are many good points brought up in the Carrasco, Esparza and Arenas memos about the nuanced changes we could be adding to the electoral reform process that also deserve consideration.

But with their memos and the most recent memo from the City Manager discussing the need for community input, I urge you to Vote No on the Strong Mayor Ballot Proposal.

Sincerely, Adriana Farkouh District 6



[External Email]

My name is Mariah Manzano and I live in Campbell, CA.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

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It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

From: Dany Tran <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	, 2020 8:16 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Dany Tran and I live in Sunnyvale California.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the San Jose City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

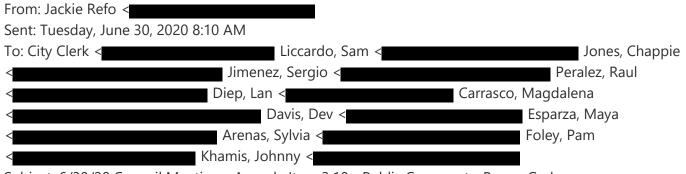
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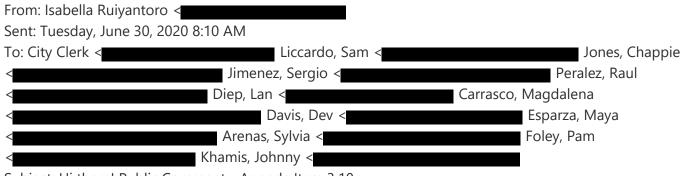


[External Email]

I live in Japantown, San Jose. I would like to comment that the agenda 3.10 proposal should be slowed down, and adding years to the mayor's term should be allowed to be discussed by members of the community first instead. Many issues have not been properly vetted regarding the impact of this potential measure. Community review should happen first, and the Council should reject the current proposal to add the measure to the November ballot.

Mayor Liccardo has had questionable decisions and comments related to the SJPD, and I believe he would want the opportunity to address these issues and residents' concerns about them in an open transparent way and earn our support, rather than going for a power grab.

Sincerely, Jacqueline Refo



Subject: Hi there! Public Comment - Agenda Item 3.10

[External Email]

My name is Isabella and I live in the Berryessa community in San Jose .

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

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From: Annie K <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:09	AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
< D	iep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
< Kha	mis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Annie and I live in the Country Lane neighborhood of San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming and upsetting.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

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From: Nicole Palacio <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 8:07 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

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# [External Email]

My name is Nicole Palacio and I live in District 3. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted. Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen.

From: Claudia Zavalza ł	Hough-Snee <	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 7:59 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Subject: 6/30/20 Counc	cil Meeting - Power Grab	

My name is Claudia Zavalza Hough-Snee and I live in District 6.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without holding an election for those 2 years.

This appears to be an undemocratic power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

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From: Deanna Sisneros <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2	020 7:54 AM	
To: Jones, Chappie <	Davis, Dev	Khamis, Johnny
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Esparza, Maya <	Foley, Pam
<	Peralez, Raul <	Jimenez, Sergio
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	City Clerk <
Liccardo. Sam <		

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# [External Email]

My name is Deanna Sisneros and I love my city, the city of San José. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

-Deanna C. Sisneros

From: Anna L <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 7:50 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Anna Ledesma and I live in South San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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Sincerely, Anna Ledesma

From: Cole Cameron <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30	, 2020 7:47 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

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# [External Email]

Dear Councilmembers, The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists. I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality. Thank you Cole Cameron



My name Vanessa Emperador and I live in the Berryessa neighborhood of San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

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It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

From: Delayna <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 7:29 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is [INSERT NAME] and I live in [INSERT DISTRICT OR NEIGHBORHOOD NAME].

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A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

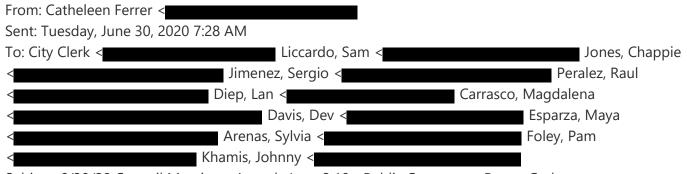
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[External Email]

My name is Catheleen and I live in District 4.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen Catheleen

From: Hillary Smith <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 202	0 7:26 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Hillary Smith and I live in District 5.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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Hillary

From: Todd Keating <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 7:32 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

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### [External Email]

My name is Todd Keating and I live in College Park and find the proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming on a number of levels.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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I was also disgusted by Sam Liccardo, "whataboutism" tweet about teachers that he's now deleted. I and the people of our district will hold you all accountable for your actions

Sincerely,

Todd

From: Jonathan Gomez < Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 7:33 AM To: City Clerk < Subject: Agenda Item 3.10

?

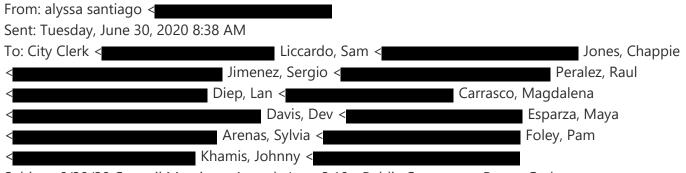
[External Email]

Greetings,

I oppose the potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter. The \$1.7 million this will cost is urgently needed to support the vulnerable communities for whom eviction and displacement due to COVID-19 looms large.

---

Dr. Jonathan D. Gomez



[External Email]

My name is alyssa and I live in san jose.

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From: Carolyn Straub <	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 7:12 AM	
To: City Clerk <	
Cc: District7 <	District5 <
Subject: Re: Item 3.10 Tuesday, June 30	, 2020

?

[External Email]

We support identifying Item 3.10 in support of establishing a Charter Revision Commission PRIOR to implementing a new government structure..

We support the proposal forwarded by Councilmembers Esparza and Carrasco:

"The following for a potential ballot measure this November:

- Convene a Charter Revision Commission that includes a diverse cross-section of stakeholders and residents from throughout the City to publicly study and consider what expansions to the mayoral authority may best address the needs of the City, and what this new government would look like.
- Accept the proposed Campaign Finance & Conflict of Interest Reforms.
- Accept the proposed change to amend the City Charter to move the next mayoral election, <u>and</u> include all City Council District elections, to the November 2024 Presidential election, and provide a one-time term extension of the current mayor and respective Councilmembers to December 31, 2024."

Thank you.

Carolyn Straub Stephen McHenry San Jose District 7 From: Lawrence Thoo < Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 7:10 AM To: City Clerk < Subject: For Item 3.10 on the June 30 Council Agenda

?

[External Email]

Honorable Mayor and Council members,

I am writing in support of Council members Carrasco and Esparza's proposal to put on the November ballot the establishment of a Charter Revision Commission to study and consider what expansions, if any, to the mayoral authority may best address the needs of the city PRIOR to granting executive authority to the mayor.

While I am not opposed, in principle, to the conversion of San Jose's form of government from Council-Manager to some form of Strong Mayor arrangement, I am of the firm opinion that the the community must participate in shaping the details of such a momentous change before it is put to voters.

The proposed Charter Revision Commission offers us an appropriate vehicle for such participation. Unfortunately, Mayor Liccardo's proposal does not. Instead, it has all the appearance of having been shaped by an elite few, with no opportunity for broad community input.

I urge the Council to adopt the Carrasco-Esparza proposal in place of the proposal on the agenda.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Thoo Resident of District 7

From: Linda <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 7:09 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Linda Hong and I live in North san jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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From: Megan Gage <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 7:01 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Megan Gage and I live in West Hollywood.

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Sincerely, Megan Gage From: Jennette Holzworth <jennette@517transformed.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 6:49 AM

To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment - Power Grab

?

[External Email]

My name is Jennette Holzworth and I live in District 1.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely,

Jennette Holzworth

From: Aricka <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 6:47 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
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Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality.

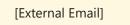
Thank you

Aricka Arana

From: Jena Diminich <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	, 2020 6:35 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Subject: NO on Strong	Mayor Bronosal, VES on Councilmombor	Aronas' Momo

Subject: NO on Strong Mayor Proposal, YES on Councilmember Arenas' Memo

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Dear Councilmembers,

The proposed change to the city charter would dramatically shift the way our local government runs and affects every single resident. Our voices should count but we are being shut out of this process as it's being rushed through without real and substantial community engagement. You have the current power to halt this proposal and allow for our voices to be heard.

I ask the council to vote NO on the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo. Instead, VOTE YES ON COUNCILMEMBER ARENAS' MEMO which would:

- Convene the City Charter Commission;

- Move all Council elections to presidential years while creating a special 2-year term election for the Mayor/Council to implement this change; and

- Refer the campaign finance reforms proposed to the San José Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.

The Council needs to take the time necessary to genuinely engage a diverse coalition of community members across San Jose. We as residents deserve a say in how our city is run and we won't have that opportunity if this proposal moves forward. We need you to VOTE NO WHILE YOUR VOTE STILL COUNTS!

Thank you

From: Giavanna Vega < Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 5:58 AM To: City Clerk < Subject: Item 3.10

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[External Email]

Identifying Item 3.10- I am in support of establishing a Charter Revision Commission PRIOR to implementing a new government structure.

Thank you.

From: Josh Munchel <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 202	0 5:23 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Josh Muncheland I live in DISTRICT 2

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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Sincerely, Josh Munchel

From: Tevel Matas <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 5:16 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Subjects 6/20/20 Course	il Maating Aganda Itam 2.10 Dublic C	ammant Dawar Crah

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[External Email]

My name is Tevel and I live in Sunnyvale CA

I am contacting you due to the recent proposal to amend the city charter. I have gone ahead and changed this line because I know that the government will not pay attention unless they personally have to pay the price. In this case it is your time and your money. I am not doing this because I despise the government, I am doing this because I love my country!

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

From: Phil Hamilton < Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:34 AM To: City Clerk < Subject: Agenda Item 3.1

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Phil Hamilton and I am a City of San Jose employee from the ESD Department.

I'm writing to express my opposition to giving the Mayor more power without community feedback. This measure would eliminate the independence the city manager and department heads should have to the whims of politicians when making budget and other city management decisions.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Phil Hamilton

From: elizabeth silva < Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:26 AM To: City Clerk < Subject: Charter Revision Commission Support

?

[External Email]

Item 3.10 I am in support of establishing a Charter Revision Commission PRIOR to implementing a new government

Thank you, Elizabeth Silva

From: Mindy Tran <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 202	0 4:01 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Mindy Tran and I live in Evergreen.

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It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

From: D N < Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 4:00 AM To: City Clerk < Subject: Public Input for City Council Agenda Item 3.10 Thursday June 30, 2020

[External Email]

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Reference to City Council Agenda Item 3.10 Thursday June 30, 2020

TO: The San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and the San Jose City Council

I am definitely against placing any proposed measure to amend the City Charter on the ballot that would grant executive authority to the mayor to bypass the Charter Revision Commission. Sounds like a selfish power grab attempt by the mayor. Another executive privilege tool to "stick it to the constituents" by a mayor who supposedly "knows whats good for them".

To uphold fair open democratic governance that we all claim to champion, "we must follow the appropriate process for a Charter Amendment that ensures public discourse, debate, and community engagement **prior** to placing a charter amendment on the ballot". Otherwise, rushed, biased, self serving decisions, likely leading to negative consequences to unravel will be a foregone conclusion.

-Delbert Ng - Resident of San Jose

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ez, Raul
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[External Email]

My name is Simi and I live in Los Altos.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

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It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

From: Ambar Gonzalez	<	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30	, 2020 3:49 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Subject: 6/30/20 Coup	cil Maating - Aganda Itam 3 10 - Public C	omment - Power Grah

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[External Email]

My name is Ambar Gonzalez and I live in District 3.

Straight to the point: Any major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

It is unecessary to grant the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. If we didn't get a chance to vote, they do not get to stay extra years. Especially since it's Sam Liccardo, who has consistently harmed community members with the power already granted to him. This proposed charter amendment is a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted. Sincerely, A **Concerned** Citizen

You don't get to bypass us in your decision-making. City council members, start acting like representatives, and stop self-serving and wasting our money on Sam. It's embarrassing.

Ambar Gonzalez

From: Eugenia Xu <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2	020 3:19 AM	
To: Jones, Chappie <	Davis, Dev <	Khamis, Johnny
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Esparza, Maya <	Foley, Pam
<	Peralez, Raul <	Jimenez, Sergio
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	City Clerk <
Liccardo. Sam <		

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## [External Email]

My name is Eug Xu and I live in Palo Alto. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer. P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

From: L Togami <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 20	020 2:46 AM	
To: Jones, Chappie <	Davis	, Dev < Khamis, Johnny
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Esparza, Maya <	Foley, Pam
<	Peralez, Raul <	Jimenez, Sergio
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	City Clerk <
Liccardo, Sam <		

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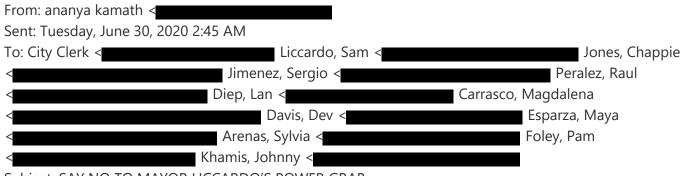
[External Email]

Dear San Jose City Council,

My name is Lanna Togami and I live in DISTRICT 4. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted. It offends me as a public school teacher that cops are a comparison - education is severely underfunded compared to policing and incarceration systems.

Sincerely, Lanna Togami



Subject: SAY NO TO MAYOR LICCARDO'S POWER GRAB

[External Email]

My name is Ananya Kamath and I live in San Jose city council district 9.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

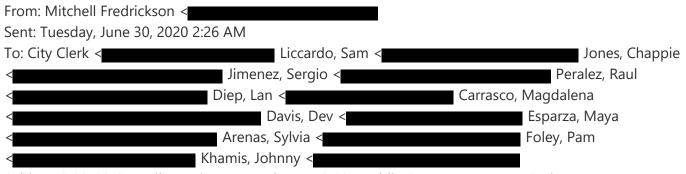
I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

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[External Email]

My name is [INSERT NAME] and I live in [INSERT DISTRICT OR NEIGHBORHOOD NAME].

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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From: Kayla Wells < Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:23 AM Subject: 6/30/20 Council Meeting - Agenda Item 3.10 - Public Comment

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[External Email]

My name is Kayla Wells and I live in District 4 of San Jose.

For the first time in my life, I am riddled with anxiety. I feel as though my city is falling apart. The citizens are not being listened too. I do not want our police union contract to expand. I do not want Mayor Liccardo to stay in office unless it has been voted on again by the people.

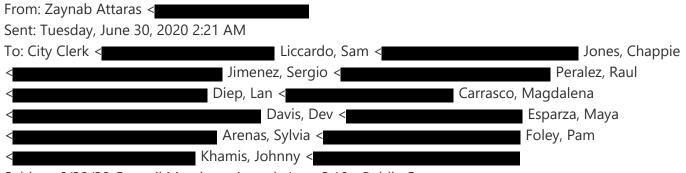
The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. I am very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

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[External Email]

My name is Zaynab Attaras and I live in District 8.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This is an abuse of power.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

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Sincerely, Zaynab Attaras

From: ravioli naomi <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 2:02 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

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[External Email]

My name is Naomi Shishido and I live in East Side San Jose, District 5.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely, Naomi Shishido

From: Julie Nguyen <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2	2020 2:00 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
	Kildinis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Julie Nguyen and I live in Evergreen.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

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From: Amy Garcia <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 1:22 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Amy Garcia and I live in East Side San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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From: Bobbi Vie <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 1:10 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

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[External Email]

My name is bobbi vie and I live in District 8.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted!

From: Cindy Cuellar <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 12:46 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Cindy Cuellar and I live in downtown San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

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Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

From: Kathryn Li <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30	, 2020 12:43 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Kathryn and I live in Almaden.

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Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

From: Gabe Horn <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2	020 12:33 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

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It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

P.S. Sam Liccardo, no one respects you at all. You're a little bitch and everyone knows it.

Sincerely, Gabe

From: Rocio Palacios <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2	2020 12:33 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

Subject: NO on Strong Mayor Proposal, YES on Councilmember Arenas' Memo

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers,

The proposed change to the city charter would dramatically shift the way our local government runs and affects every single resident. Our voices should count but we are being shut out of this process as it's being rushed through without real and substantial community engagement. You have the current power to halt this proposal and allow for our voices to be heard.

I ask the council to vote NO on the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo. Instead, VOTE YES ON COUNCILMEMBER ARENAS' MEMO which would:

- Convene the City Charter Commission;

- Move all Council elections to presidential years while creating a special 2-year term election for the Mayor/Council to implement this change; and

- Refer the campaign finance reforms proposed to the San José Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.

The Council needs to take the time necessary to genuinely engage a diverse coalition of community members across San Jose. We as residents deserve a say in how our city is run and we won't have that opportunity if this proposal moves forward. We need you to VOTE NO WHILE YOUR VOTE STILL COUNTS!

Thank you Rocío Peña A concerned San Jose educator

From: Sour Patch <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 202	0 12:32 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Mary and I live in San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

Please show the kindness and humility everyone deserves.

Mary S

From: Lauren Madison	<	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 12:28 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
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# [External Email]

My name is Lauren Pinkston Madison and I live in council district 2. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor.

Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process.

I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted. Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

From: Sahana Noru <		
Sent: Monday, June 29, 202	0 9:00 PM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

[External Email]

My name is Sahana Noru and I live in Evergreen.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

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Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

From: Rhea Munoz <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 12:26 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Subjects 6/20/20 Course	ail Maating Aganda Itam 2.10 Dublic C	ammant

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[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Rhea Muñoz and I live in the Rose Garden, District 6. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit.

Thank you, Rhea Muñoz, MPA

From: Jennifer Alva Lew	vis <	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 12:18 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

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[External Email]

My name is Jennifer Lewis and I live in district 9.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

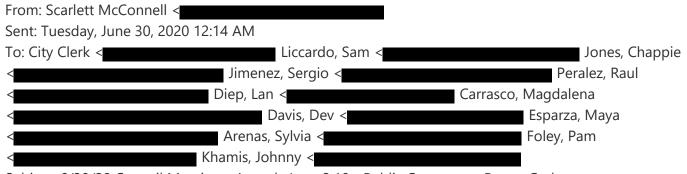
It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

Finally, Sam Liccardo, please don't compare hard working, loving teachers with the SJPD who killed my friend's son, Anthony Nunez.

Sincerely,

Jennifer



[External Email]

My name is Scarlett Kelly and I live in district 3.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is incredibly concerning.

A major change to the city charter should have a measurable and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about the proposed changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being allowed to vote on this proposal.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, which would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the effects of moving so much power into this office would reduce the power of communities of color would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

From: Christopher Lueb	cke <	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 12:14 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

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[External Email]

My name is Christopher Luebcke and I live in District 6..

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also strongly opposed to changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there have been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

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P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely, Christopher Luebcke

From: Gordon Lim <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30	, 2020 12:10 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
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Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

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# [External Email]

Dear Councilmembers, The global movement against police brutality and systemic racism is grounded in the call for greater accountability for those in power -- not greater authority for local leaders. Just because protesters showed up to Mayor Liccardo's house does not mean protesters want him, or any future mayor, to have more power. Using the current movement as a pretense to expand the mayor's authority flies in the face of what people have been marching for -- especially considering that the mayor has not previously shown interest in tackling systemic racism in San Jose and only recently acknowledged that it even exists. I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Instead work to truly listen and engage the community to solve for problems that our city and nation are facing, such as structural racism and systemic inequality. Thank you

From: Wendy Chung <

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:05 AM To: City Clerk <

**Subject:** Item 3.10 in support of establishing a Charter Revision Commission PRIOR to implementing a new government structure

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[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Regarding Agenda Item 3.1 on 6/30/2020.

I just hear about the Strong Mayor Initiative. This Strong Mayor Initiative advocates a big change to our city government. While I personally don't believe a strong mayor system is right for our community, ultimately, I think this decision clearly needs more than 6 days of discussion and public outreach. I feel like very few citizens are aware of this proposal and that very little effort has been made to explain it and get community feedback. The points laid out in Councilmember Peralez's memo about a Charter Review Commission being able to thoroughly study the need and report back to council is the right way to go. There is not the time to rush to make this decision without proper community input.

The Fair Elections Initiative had almost a year of community engagement through its signature collection process. This helped to make clear the language of the ballot initiative to voters and give the community time to discuss it. I support the Fair Elections Initiative as good campaign finance reform. Adding the strong mayor provisions to the Fair Elections Initiative language is inappropriate and convoluting. These two very different important discussions need to be addressed separately and the Strong Mayor provisions need to be delayed until appropriate community input discussion occurs.

I urge the Council to NOT vote in favor of placing the Strong Mayor charter amendment on the ballot NOR extending Mayor's term for 2 additional years. Sincerely,

G. Chung

From: KRISLYNN DUKE	<	
Sent: Tuesday, June 30	, 2020 12:05 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Cultingto Monara Ch	wawa Massan Duan anal	

Subject: Vote NO on Strong Mayor Proposal

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## [External Email]

Dear Councilmembers, Thank you for your work & support for San Jose! There is a great need for ALL to be well educated.

The disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 and police brutality in communities of color have highlighted the urgent need to address systemic racism in San Jose and the obligation to include residents from these communities when creating city policy. By expanding the authority of the Mayor%2 🏈 s office, the city would further exclude communities of color from having a voice at city hall. We have council members to speak on our behalf but their advocacy will not be enough against a Strong Mayor form of government. Many residents in my community work long hours, rely on public transportation, speak a language other than English, and may not have a computer or internet to keep up with City Council meetings -- but they vote for a councilmember to represent them and their interests at City Council. We voted you in to represent us, NOT to give in to the whims of a mayor who wants to extend his term by 2 years and have full control.

Allowing the Mayor to make unilateral decisions and yield power over other councilmembers or departments indiscriminately would not only suppress the voice of our communities of color but skew the checks and balances of our local government.

Please VOTE NO on the Mayor200, Vice Mayor200, and Councilmember Jimenez200, memo and use your authority wisely.

Thank you KD, Educator

From: Mel Chircop <		
Sent: Tuesday, June 30,	2020 12:04 AM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	

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## [External Email]

My name is Mel Chircop and I live in the Greater Rosegarden neighborhood of San Jose.

Firstly, the repetition of holding city council meetings during the time many working-class people are required to be at work is inconsiderate at the least.

Regarding agenda item 3.10, I don't think it is a good idea to increase the power of a mayor who laughs in the face of Google protestors, who speak out in the first place because he refuses to listen to them, while he makes back-door deals.

And now he refuses to listen to demands to defund the SJPD (which would reallocate unnecessary police funding into services that actually **protect** low-income people of color).

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. I thought the point of a Democracy was to have officials which represent the **people**? This is not what will happen if 3.10 is passed.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of **people of color**, who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and **more power for Sam** Liccardo isn't the answer.

#### P.S. Sam Liccardo, we all saw that tweet about teachers that you've now deleted.

Sincerely, Mel Chircop

From: Mahi Gandhi <		
Sent: Monday, June 29	, 2020 11:49 PM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Subject: Re: 6/30/20 Co	ouncil Meeting & Alarming Power Grab	

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[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Mahi Gandhi and I live in Evergreen, San Jose, California. The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming. A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -- but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20. I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly. This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose. It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal. It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this? It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen

From: Shiloh Ballard <		
<b>Sent:</b> Monday, June 29, 2020	11:46 PM	
To: City Clerk <	Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
<	Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
<	Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
<	Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
<	Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
<	Khamis, Johnny <	
Subject: Governance Reform		
Subject: Governance Reform		

[External Email]

Hi Councilmembers,

Below is a form email that I'm inclined towards. Based on the little I know, here are my thoughts:

1. I love measures that increase voter turnout and make sure that elected officials are elected with more people participating. Moving the mayor election and others to be timed with the presidential cycle makes a lot of sense to me.

2. I love campaign finance reform, meaningful reform.

3. I do not love the new ideas that have surfaced lately around the notion of a strong mayor initiative. I would appreciate a more deliberative and inclusive process where the community was involved.

4. I do not love the idea of granting any of our current elected officials two more years. Term folks out or have a new election for a new person for a two year period.

On point 3, for me this is the heart of equity work. Without centering community voice and placing value on it, I don't believe we can solve our most serious problems. We must involve the voices who have been excluded from accessing power. Instead, it appears ideas forwarded by certain interests are now on the brink of being advanced without a process that involves those already tied to power.

Please slow down and involve the community in big governance reforms. Shiloh

Dear Councilmembers,

The proposed change to the city charter would dramatically shift the way our local government runs and affects every single resident. Our voices should count but we are being shut out of this process as it's being rushed through without real and substantial community engagement. You have the current power to halt this proposal and allow for our voices to be heard.

I ask the council to vote NO on the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmember Jimenez's memo. Instead, VOTE YES ON COUNCILMEMBER ARENAS' MEMO which would:

- Convene the City Charter Commission;

- Move all Council elections to presidential years while creating a special 2-year term for the Mayor to implement this change; and

- Refer the campaign finance reforms proposed to the San José Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices.

The Council needs to take the time necessary to genuinely engage a diverse coalition of community members across San Jose. We as residents deserve a say in how our city is run and we won't have that opportunity if this proposal moves forward. We need you to VOTE NO WHILE YOUR VOTE STILL COUNTS!

Thank you

20 11:43 PM	
Liccardo, Sam <	Jones, Chappie
Jimenez, Sergio <	Peralez, Raul
Diep, Lan <	Carrasco, Magdalena
Davis, Dev <	Esparza, Maya
Arenas, Sylvia <	Foley, Pam
Khamis, Johnny <	
	Liccardo, Sam < Jimenez, Sergio < Diep, Lan < Davis, Dev < Arenas, Sylvia <

Subject: City charter

[External Email]

My name is Vanessa and I live in Santa Clara County.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

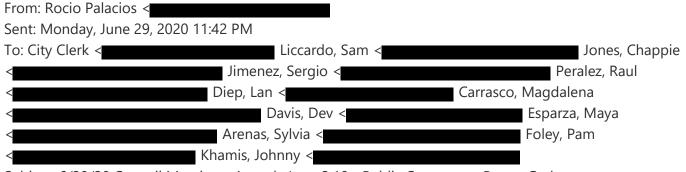
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It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

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It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

Sincerely, A Concerned Citizen



[External Email]

My name is Rocio Peña and I live in east side San Jose.

The proposal for a potential ballot measure to amend the City Charter is alarming.

A major change to the city charter should have a real and substantial process for community engagement -but that's something alarmingly missing from the proposal to the Council (Agenda Item 3.10) for 6/30/20.

I am also very concerned about changes that would give the mayor an extra two years in office without voters being given that question directly.

This proposed charter amendment appears to be a power grab, that would move power into the office of the mayor. This would diminish the voices of people of color -- who would find their council members' power reduced, and replaced with a stronger mayor. Given that there has been few people of color to hold this office, the net effects of moving so much power into that office will be to reduce the power of communities of color in San Jose.

It's these questions that would benefit from a thorough community process. I ask that the Council reject placing anything on the November 2020 ballot, and first convene a process for community review of our current council-manager form of government to provide recommendation for a ballot proposal.

It is irresponsible to hastily place an initiative on the November 2020 ballot which could cost up to \$1.7 million, while the City faces roughly a \$100 million deficit. The City Council spent hours debating how to shift around a little over a million dollars during the final budget meeting, so how do we suddenly have the funding for this?

It's appalling that Sam Liccardo, who has had over a decade of influence over SJPD as a Councilmember and Mayor, is using these awful incidents by the Police Department as reason that he needs more power. This PD behavior isn't new, and more power for Sam Liccardo isn't the answer.

Sincerely, A Concerned San Jose Teacher! Rocío Peña



June 30, 2020

Honorable Mayor Sam Liccardo & City Councilmembers 200 East Santa Clara Street San Jose, CA. 95113

# RE: POTENTIAL BALLOT MEASURE TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER June 30, 2020, City Council Agenda Item 3.10

Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers,

Please No Strong Mayor for San Jose.

San Jose City Council will consider Tuesday a City Charter revision for the November ballot to change to a strong mayor form of government in San Jose.

As I read about changes to the City Charter, I was reminded of an old saying, "If it isn't broken, don't fix it."

As the only likely living member of the 1965 Charter Committee who wrote the present City Charter, I don't believe we need a strong mayor form of government.

We don't need an emperor. The current council-manager form of government favors the people of San Jose by providing a check and balance system between the mayor, council members and the city manager. For years, this system has proved to be effective in running our government and in keeping corruption out. Big California cities that have a strong mayor form of government like Los Angeles, San Francisco and Oakland, have suffered from institutional corruption for as long as I can remember. It hurts cities because it favors those in power and their close allies and neglects the public interest.

When we wrote the original charter in 1965, we defined mayor as the political head of the city. That meant the mayor could be as strong as he or she had the ability to be, which is exactly what we still have today.

San Jose has had good fortune since 1967, because the elected mayors have been good people and have done a great. If we change, someday we might elect an Al Garza or a

Donald Trump type as mayor, which would be disastrous under a strong mayor form of government.

Councilman Al Garza ran for mayor in 1978, and was luckily defeated, because a few years later while still a councilman he went to prison for corruption. I fear what a Trump type would do as mayor of San Jose. San Jose is a great city. If we want to sustain it, we should keep the charter as is, and only make changes after extensive public review.

Under our current system, the mayor and City Council have the power to hire and fire the city manager. The city manager is a trained professional who runs the City Hall staff. Under a strong mayor system, the mayor, a politician, would run everything. Mayors come and go more often than city managers do, and many mayors are not professionals trained to run city departments such as the police or fire department.

In 1960, the City Council decided to make charter changes without proper public input and proposed changes that would politically benefit councilmembers at the expense of good government, but the people were not fooled and overwhelmingly turned it down at the ballot. Today, we are faced with a similar situation where changes to the charter are being proposed without proper public input. I hope the City Council will do what is right Tuesday and vote against putting the proposed changes to the charter on the November ballot. The process has always been to organize a committee of citizens of San Jose to evaluate the pros and cons of proposed changes and bring back recommendations for Council consideration and approval. This is the prudent and right thing to do.

Soon I will be 90 years old, and I will be gone before things can go bad if things are changed, but I care too much about our city that I cannot stay quiet and no one else that cares should either. As far as I can remember, we have always had a good city, the best city in California and one of the best cities in the nation. I encourage the people of San Jose to become actively involved and turn down the proposal for strong mayor form of government.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Davidson

June 30, 2020

## RE: Council Agenda Item 3.10 – Potential Ballot Measure to Amend the City Charter

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

My name is Cay Denise MacKenzie, a San Jose resident.

The first time I heard about the proposed ballot measure was less than a week ago from the media and separately from my Councilmember yesterday. This suggests there has been limited coordination and stakeholder engagement from the communities and neighborhoods that each of you represent within San Jose on this item.

As a resident, I would like more community engagement and deliberative thought in crafting a ballot measure that will have enduring consequences to the City's governing structure – before being asked to vote in favor of it. This should include identifying the gaps in the current structure and how closing those gaps can be addressed while ensuring appropriate checks and balances.

That said, I would support a diverse "Blue Ribbon" commission or City Charter Review Commission to examine and recommend appropriate changes while ensuring whole community engagement, if the City Council wishes to pursue local governance changes.

However, I respectfully request your vote of "No" on Item 3.10 as it appears to have been hastily conceived and exclusive in stakeholder engagement.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cay Denise MacKenzie

Vietnamese American Roundtable

## VIETNAMESE AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE OPPOSED ANY PROPOSAL TO PLACE AN INITIATIVE ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT TO EXPAND MAYORAL POWERS IN SAN JOSE

The experience of the Vietnamese as refugees fleeing from a communist regime led many to place great value on the ideals of democracy. In a democracy, changes to the nature of government are studied, discussed, and deliberated by stakeholders to ensure that the form of government is the one desired by the people who are part of it. The Vietnamese American Roundtable stands in favor of these discussions.

However, we oppose the memo that would rush any such proposal to voters in November. The City of San Jose has operated under its current system for many decades. Ideas around expanding the powers of the office of the Mayor are worthy of consideration, but this idea comes as a surprise in this moment. Such changes should be considered thoughtfully and through a process that engages our residents. This is particularly necessary as no specifics have been outlined yet as to what powers would be expanded and how it would impact the delivery of city services and the sharing of critical information to our communities.

VAR does not take a stance on what powers should be expanded or even whether the powers should be expanded. We call attention to the fact that this is a rushed proposal, and such drastic changes to our government require transparency and community engagement.

We urge the Council to vote against placing any measure on the November ballot to expand the powers of the Mayor's office.