

blair beekman. sj city council. August 11, 2020. Item 2.9

BB

b. beekman <[REDACTED]>

Reply all

Today, 1:55 PM

Agendadesk

[External Email]

Dear community, and VTA,

As the final stop, of a Bart line, that will serving, all parts of the entire Bay area -

It seems, 5-15, shotspotters, at the new, Berryessa/North San Jose Bart station, would accomplish, about the same thing,

In comparison with, the current imposing fortress, of 60+ shotspotter speakers, that are spaced, at 5 feet apart, across the entire station.

I feel, good minimal use practices, offers a respectful logic.

And can still, very well serve, the deterrence element, you are looking for.

We are beginning to open up questions, not just for govt.- but how all of us, can better consider, options of peace, sustainability, and equity,, in our local neighborhoods, at this time.

And how to address, the constant over-use, of surveillance & technology, in low-income communities.

And to ask, long-term questions, of how good community practices, for everyone, is how to help reduce, gun violence & gang activity, in the Bay area.

This is some of the same logic, of how the San Jose Eastside schools, can end their SRO programs, at this time.

To lessen, the wall of defense, from the prison/military-industrial complex,

And instead work toward, more open, shared, community practices and conversation.

This can actually work towards, ideas of peace, and community harmony, you are looking for, as local governments.

This is how, to minimize the concepts of intimidation & fear, from all sides.

As the future of eavesdropper technology itself, should always be used, only sparingly.

And that its civil rights and civil protection questions, should always be considered, as highly questionable.

I hope this letter, can begin, a more open discussion, around the VTA, and everyday community, in the next few months.

And that Shotspotter eavesdropper technology, should simply not be flouted as, a cure-all, defensive weapon, or used as ostentatious gimmickry.

As shotspotter technology, simply has, an important, secondary purpose, to record every single word, of every human being, in its presence.

This is simply the future, to some. I hope someone can write back, to explain this logic, to myself. And its civil rights and civil protection ideas.

sincerely,  
blair beekman