

Fw: Rose Garden

Gregory, Barbara

Fri 12/4/2020 6:53 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Thank You,

Barb Gregory



Analyst II

Office of the City Clerk

200 E Santa Clara St FL T-14

San Jose, C-A 95112

408-535-1272 Fax: 408-292-6207

e-mail: [REDACTED]

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: JoEllen Victoreen [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 5:27 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Fwd: Rose Garden

[External Email]

Subject: Study Session : BeautifySJ - Programs and Strategies to Address Trash, Debris and Blight Across the City.

I want to add my plea to the city to monitor and clean up the accumulation of trash that has been created by the explosion of homeless encampments in the Guadalupe River Park area.

I am a volunteer at the park, in the Heritage Rose Garden, and over the last two months additional, new encampments have been established and have created trash, debris, and blight as well as an atmosphere that is detrimental to inspiring citizen to volunteer in our public gardens.

Thank You

JoEllen Victoreen

30 Clayton Ave, San Jose, CA 95110

I

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jason Su [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, Dec 3, 2020 at 10:34 AM

Subject: Re: Rose Garden

To: David Giroux <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Joe <[REDACTED]> Sarah Dreitlein <[REDACTED]> Jill Perry <[REDACTED]> Jo Barrett <[REDACTED]>
Marianne Sugg <[REDACTED]> Pat Roesch <[REDACTED]> Scott Papenfus <[REDACTED]> Mary Ellen Hawkins
<[REDACTED]> Trang Bui <[REDACTED]> Jo Victoreen <[REDACTED]> John Seyfarth
<[REDACTED]> Yumiko Ready <[REDACTED]> Linda Brasswell <[REDACTED]> Erika Ricketts
<[REDACTED]> Kathy Schiffner <[REDACTED]> Cathe Papenfus <[REDACTED]> Eve Gantley
<[REDACTED]> Ken Farris <[REDACTED]> Sumiko Yoshii <[REDACTED]>

Hi David,

You are right, the situation is unacceptable in the Guadalupe Gardens, particularly given all the work you all have committed. I both deeply regret and share the frustration around all the challenges that make it harder for volunteers and community members to help improve our park and community.

As you all consider sending this email to [REDACTED] I will also circulate through contacts GRPC has in the City.

You all have already done so much, and if you all can do one more thing, I ask that you also send this email (or variation of it) to [REDACTED] by 10:00 a.m. this Friday, December 4, with the email subject "**Study Session : BeautifySJ - Programs and Strategies to Address Trash, Debris and Blight Across the City.**" Note, your email will be attached to the final memo as part of the public record, though your email address will not be shown. You can also choose to comment during the session.

BeautifySJ is a cross-department program from the City that supports a broad range of community priorities: anti-graffiti, illegal dumping, parks maintenance and litter removal, outreach services to encampments. They received a one-time increase through COVID-19 aid because the issues around illegal dumping, trash, and encampments have worsened in 2020. While funded, we did see a noticeable improvement in the Guadalupe River Park in the summer and fall. The study session is intended to evaluate their work and potentially consider more support for it. The impacts of encampments are one of those issues that become cross-department issues.

Correspondence from the City's BeautifySJ Team:

Over the past six months I have spoken with many of you to address concerns related to blight and trash at encampments. The City of San Jose's BeautifySJ Program will be providing an update on the strategies that the City has implemented to address trash, debris and blight across the City during a December 4th Study Session. We encourage residents to join the Zoom for more information about these strategies. During the Study Session there will also be an opportunity to speak during the Public Comment period. You can also have your comments entered into the public record by following the process outlined in the agenda.

BeautifySJ Study Session Information:

Date: Friday, December 4th
Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm
Location: Via Zoom (<https://sanjoseca.zoom.us/j/91325378626>)
Agenda/Presentation: [BeautifySJ - Council Study Session Agenda](#)

Once again thank you for your continued partnership as we work to beautify our City!

I hope we can all see some action soon to ensure that you all feel safe supporting our park.

Jason

On Wed, Dec 2, 2020 at 9:56 AM David Giroux <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Jason,

This is in regards to the homeless problem at the Heritage. Upon arriving today I found: 1. A new tent attached to the homeless encampment in the parking lot & a significant amount of garbage strewn around in the parking lot from that camp, 2. a person setting up a camp close by, 3. a new tent at the encampment in front of the orchard gate, & 4. a new tent further on down from the shed.

At your request, I did forward my letter that I sent you last week to the city & received this case number in reply: **#131912**

Given that this increase in the homeless population will lead to increased sanitation & health issues within the garden and surrounding areas, I held a meeting with the regular volunteers prior to our usual work day. A majority of volunteers, including me, have decided that, until the homeless problem is taken care of, we will not work at the garden.

We are all sorry to have come to this decision as we all love the garden & want to see it flourish.

I encourage all of you to write E-mails of concern to: [REDACTED] Please include the case number posted earlier in this note.

Sarah, please contact anyone who is signed up for work at the rose garden & tell them not to come in & post a note that there will be no work days for the near future.

Thanks
David

LLAP

--

Jason Su

Executive Director | [Guadalupe River Park Conservancy](#)

[REDACTED]

| [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

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Fw: "Study Session: Beautify SJ - Programs and Strategies to Address Trash, Debris and Blight across City". ***

Gregory, Barbara

Fri 12/4/2020 6:52 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

Thank You,

Barb Gregory



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San Jose, C-A 95112

408-535-1272 Fax: 408-292-6207

e-mail: [REDACTED]

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: Jo Barrett <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:31 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: "Study Session: Beautify SJ - Programs and Strategies to Address Trash, Debris and Blight across City". ***

[External Email]

re: Heritage Rose Garden, maintained and cared for year-round by Volunteers

The current situation is unacceptable in the Guadalupe Gardens, particularly given all the work you all have committed. I both deeply regret and share the frustration around all the challenges that make it harder for volunteers and community members to help improve our park and community.

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*** *We need to add sanitation to this list.* ***

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We are all sorry to have come to this decision as we all love the garden & want to see it flourish.

From: Jo Barrett, Ms

A long time member of this Volunteer Group

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Gregory, Barbara

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Thank You,

Barb Gregory



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San Jose, C-A 95112

408-535-1272 Fax: 408-292-6207

e-mail: barbara.gregory@sanjoseca.gov

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

From: John Seyfarth [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:12 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Jason Su [REDACTED]; David Giroux [REDACTED]

Subject: Study Session : BeautifySJ - Programs and Strategies to Address Trash, Debris and Blight Across the City.

[External Email]

Subject: Heritage Rose Gardens and the Homeless Encampments case# 131912

Hello,

I have been a volunteer working at the Heritage Rose Garden for over ten years. Since the homeless encampments have pretty much completely taken over our beautiful rose garden, it is no longer safe, or sanitary, to work there. There is litter everywhere. The homeless use the roses as a bathroom. After all the work that was done to rescue the rose gardens after the weeds took over during the Covid work shutdown, **it is a shame to**

abandon the gardens but that is where we now are. **It is not safe/sanitary to work there.**

Please help!

Thanks!

John Seyfarth

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