



COUNCIL AGENDA: 04/27/2021

ITEM: 3.8

FILE NO: 21-903

# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Toni J. Taber, CMC  
City Clerk

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** April 27, 2021

**SUBJECT: Request for Additional Financial Resources Allocated by the San José City Council to the Charter Review Commission**

## Recommendation

(a) As recommended by the Rules and Open Government Committee on April 14, 2021, the Charter Review Commission has overwhelmingly voted to request that the Council provide adequate resources to accomplish the following goals and outcomes:

(1) Adequate budgetary resources to ensure that outside legal counsel can provide support in crafting legislative language and recommendations from the Commission to the Council. This is a recommendation comes after we received presentations from 1985 Commission members, who also noted that inclusion of independent outside counsel was critical to the success of the Commission.

(2) Adequate budgetary resources to hire a consultant, or consultants, to provide qualitative research so that the Commission can understand best management practices in other municipalities, or agencies and consider what Charter changes are best for the City of San Jose.

(3) Adequate budgetary resources to ensure outreach can be conducted, by up to 10 community based groups and organizations, to ensure that the voices of all of the residents of San Jose are heard, and included, in the important task of updating the Charter.

(4) Adequate Budgetary resources to ensure that translation of the Commission's documents and interpretation at meetings can be accomplished so that no community is excluded.

(b) Adopt the following 2020-2021 Appropriation Ordinance amendments in the General Fund:

(1) Decrease the Office of the City Manager's Personal Services appropriation in the amount of \$110,000; and

(2) Increase the Office of the City Clerk's Non-Personal/Equipment appropriation in the amount of \$110,000.

CEQA: Not a Project, File No. PP17-010, City Organizational and Administrative Activities resulting in no changes to the physical environment. (City Clerk/City Manager)

[Rules Committee referral 4/14/2021 - Item G.2]



## CITY OF SAN JOSÉ, CALIFORNIA

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Charter Review Commission  
Frederick Ferrer, Chair

March 22, 2021

Mayor Sam Liccardo and Council  
San Jose City Hall  
200 E Santa Clara St  
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Liccardo and City Council Members;

On behalf of the Charter Review Commission (Commission) I am writing this correspondence to request that additional financial resources be allocated by the San Jose City Council (Council) to the Commission so that we can do our job effectively, transparently, and with full community involvement and engagement.

The Commission has overwhelmingly voted to request that the Council provide adequate resources to accomplish the following goals and outcomes:

1. Adequate budgetary resources to ensure that outside legal counsel can provide support in crafting legislative language and recommendations from the Commission to the Council. This is a recommendation comes after we received presentations from 1985 Commission members, who also noted that inclusion of independent outside counsel was critical to the success of the Commission.
2. Adequate budgetary resources to hire a consultant, or consultants, to provide qualitative research so that the Commission can understand best management practices in other municipalities, or agencies and consider what Charter changes are best for the City of San Jose.
3. Adequate budgetary resources to ensure outreach can be conducted, by up to 10 community based groups and organizations, to ensure that the voices of all of the residents of San Jose are heard, and included, in the important task of updating the Charter.
4. Adequate Budgetary resources to ensure that translation of the Commission's documents and interpretation at meetings can be accomplished so that no community is excluded.

We request that City of San Jose staff provide the estimated cost to accomplish our request. In order to accomplish the goals that the Council has charged the Commission with, time is of the essence in your consideration of our request.

Thank you in advance for your timely support and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Frederick J. Ferrer*

[Frederick J. Ferrer \(Mar 26, 2021 13:29 PDT\)](#)

Frederick Ferrer  
Chair