

Fw: Special Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Operating/Capital Budgets and the 2021-2022 Proposed Fees and Charges

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/10/2021 8:15 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

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

From: Brahms/Edgeview Neighborhood Association [REDACTED] >

Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 6:53 PM

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

Subject: Special Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Operating/Capital Budgets and the 2021-2022 Proposed Fees and Charges

[External Email]

Honourable San Jose City Council Members:

My name is Andres Solomonoff, and I am the president of the Brahms/Edgeview Neighborhood Association, a small community in the heart of East San Jose. During the past year and a half, our neighborhood has been hard hit by the pandemic. Nowhere is this more evident than the impact it has had on our working community members, many of whom are living near the poverty line. There is a deep need that exists in our community to serve children and families. Numerous studies have shown that early investment in child enrichment and support programs reduces crime, substance abuse and psychiatric problems later. A dollar invested today will save the City millions in the future.

Currently, the City plans to dedicate almost no funds to children and families through the city's annual budget process, despite the staggering need. Without a plan to authorize emergency appropriations, many children will be left behind.

I urge that the City Council appropriate a portion of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to meet the needs of San José's children and families by:

- *Requesting that the City Manager present a budget that prioritizes childcare and supports working families returning to work without having to worry about the welfare and safety of their children.*

- *Requesting that a portion of the ARP funds be dedicated to developing programs that primarily benefit children in neighborhoods hardest hit by COVID-19 and investing enough funds to serve every minor in San Jose so that this burden is not shouldered by working families alone.*
- *Requesting that funds be dedicated to providing new or expanded services to address the concerns and needs raised by parents, teachers, and community members on behalf of children such as: childcare, tutoring support to address learning loss, and social/emotional wellness programs.*

In Community Spirit,

Andres Solomonoff
President, Brahms/Edgeview Neighborhood Association

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Sent from PC.

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Fw: Special Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Operating/Capital Budgets and the 2021-2022 Proposed Fees and Charges

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/10/2021 8:16 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

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

From: Youth Commission 3 <YouthCom3@sanjoseca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 4:46 PM

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

Subject: Special Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Operating/Capital Budgets and the 2021-2022 Proposed Fees and Charges

Dear Mayor and City Council,

As a student that lives in District 3, I have seen the need created by the pandemic, and the problems of disadvantaged communities only exacerbated by the pre-existing inequities. A city should serve the people, and right now, the people need funding in order to support themselves and their children during these trying times. Therefore, I'm personally advocating for the fair allocation of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) in our city funds.

My friends' families have all been affected horribly by COVID-19. I know many whose parents have lost jobs and still are yet to find a replacement for income. With children to take care of, parents will only have a harder time just getting by if there is not proper funding to support them.

I'm requesting that the City Manager presents a budget that prioritizes childcare. Working parents cannot be expected to simply take care of their kids while attending to their jobs. If one does not have a job, then they cannot support their children; similarly, if you cannot support your children, then what is the point of going to a job where you are worried about your child's safety? It is an impossible choice that working parents should not face.

I'm requesting that a portion of ARP funds be dedicated to developing programs that primarily benefit children in neighborhoods hardest hit by COVID-19. We need to invest enough funds to serve every minor in San Jose because it is our duty as a city during a world-wide pandemic to take care of our constituents.

In addition, I'm requesting that funds be dedicated to providing new or expanded services to address the concerns and needs raised by parents, teachers, and community members on behalf of children such as childcare, tutoring support to address learning loss, and social/emotional wellness programs. We have an

entire generation growing up during a pandemic, and we need to do what we can by making our budget serve the people.

Thank you for your time,
Nicole V. Hoang

Fw: 6/14 Council Meeting Agenda item 3.1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/10/2021 2:07 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

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

From: Jennifer Hern <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2021 1:08 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** 6/14 Council Meeting Agenda item 3.1

[External Email]

Letters from the Public item 3.1

To City of San Jose Council

I would like to voice my support for all of our city workers. We have carried this city for the past several years with minimal staff, low pay, sacrifice to our families, working hundreds of hours of overtime and commuting hours at a time. There is all this talk and money being spent to support the most vulnerable in the city, but you haven't put forth the same effort to support and take care of all the people working to allow you to do just that. If you don't start supporting and valuing your own employees how can you expect us to continue to give our best efforts to helping the community? We love this city just as you all do. Help us to continue to support it, by supporting us.

Thank you,

Jennifer

Fw: City Council Budget Meeting June 14, 2021 Agenda Item 3.1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/14/2021 9:10 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Sandy Flores [REDACTED] >**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 9:03 AM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Cc:** sandycapitolparkgossna [REDACTED] <sandycapitolparkgossna [REDACTED]>; Gambelin, Vanessa <vanessa.gambelin@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** City Council Budget Meeting June 14, 2021 Agenda Item 3.1

[External Email]

My name is Sandy Flores, I'm the President of Capitol Park Goss Dobern Neighborhood Association in District 5.

This email is to inform the council and the Mayor of the dilemma we're experiencing in our neighborhood.

We've been battling Illegal dumping; graffiti tagging; speeding cars up and down S. Jackson Ave and the neighborhoods streets; a large group of men gathering in our neighborhood park gambling in the picnic area; automobiles parking on sidewalks and front lawns of homes; on special events at the park we have drivers double parking in red zones and fire hydrants.

We had numerous illegal dumping of human waste into the creek with indecent exposure of people, car break-ins, folks going thru our garbage & recyclable bins looking for something to eat, walking across the street during peak hours of traffic, illegal dumping of trash creating a blight zone.

For the past 30 years, we've been experiencing graffiti tagging in the neighborhood, it appears for the past 3 years it has been increasing each year. The graffiti team has been doing a great job of abating the tagging within a timely time frame. It's time to upgrade the existing city program to tackle this issue and find a long-term solution.

We've been having seeing an increase in traffic accidents in our neighborhood, we had a representative from Calwalks.org who created a safety report in our neighborhood. According to the report between 2015 to 2021, there have been at least seven fatal or severe injury crashes (3 pedestrians, 1 bicyclist, 3 vehicles). We definitely need safety measures in place to prevent these types of accidents from occurring in our neighborhood. We have an elderly resident that lives in the corner of Jackson and Bambi Ln whose house has been hit 20x by incoming cars from the 680 Jackson freeway exit, he has been approached by local and state officials for help. This poor resident is still waiting for help.

We have been having a large group of men in our picnic area in our neighborhood park who have been gambling and they basically have high jacked our park, children and families feel threaten with these men in the park. Something needs to be done about it. It's so disappointing that our residents can't enjoy the park in our own neighborhood because of these gamblers.

Our neighborhood has been having automobiles parking double parking and parking on the front lawn of homes because of the lack of parking in the neighborhood street. We have brought this issue to the attention of Parking Compliance Officers this is still occurring in the neighborhood.

Occasionally we have large gatherings at Capitol Park, we have guests parking on park premises, red zones, and fire hydrants because of the lack of parking in the neighborhood street. If we could have more Parking Compliance Officers patrolling the neighborhood that would really help.

Our residents deserve to have a safe and clean neighborhood.

Thank you for your time, support, and service.

Best regards,
Sandy

Have a WONDERFUL day! 

Working Together We Can Make a Difference!

Sandy Flores

President

Capitol Park Goss Dobern NA

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Fw: 6/14 Council Meeting Agenda Item 3.1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/14/2021 8:10 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Leeza Save [REDACTED] >**Sent:** Sunday, June 13, 2021 10:49 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** 6/14 Council Meeting Agenda Item 3.1

[External Email]

To the City of San Jose Council,

The purpose of this letter is to express the importance of our department receiving compensation for the exceptional service we provide to our community. This year has been especially challenging on our department as well as the community. Working through a pandemic was extremely stressful and worrisome especially as the cases in our own office were on the rise and the influx of calls we received from members of our community falling ill to this virus. We are not in a career where working from home is an option. From my own experience...I am now 7 months pregnant and have a 5 year old son at home. I have a history of asthma and other respiratory related illness so needless to say I am in a high risk group but was still committed to my job regardless of the risk of catching covid or bringing it home to my own loved ones. This career path involves sacrifice...working holidays, missing family events, etc.. Health should not be one of them but it was and we should receive fair compensation for that. Furthermore, to keep the staff that we have we should receive an increase in pay to keep up with the cost of living in the city we strive to serve. As employees we invest so much of our life to our community that now it is time for our community...our city...to invest in us.

Kind Regards,

Leeza Save
SJPD, Public Safety Communications Specialist

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Item 3.1 I DO NOT APPROVE of a 2021-2022 Budget Resource Allocation Plan Without Equity for Youth and Adults with Disabilities

Tiffany Maciel <[REDACTED]>

Mon 6/14/2021 9:40 AM

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

Cc: Liccardo, Sam <sam.liccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; Peralez, Raul <Raul.Peralez@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

[Link to Google Doc of letter with references](#)

For reference:

Council Meeting Agenda item 3.1 City Clerk city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov
Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov

Office of the City Clerk | City of San José 200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14th Floor San Jose,
CA 95113

June 14, 2021

Re: Item 3.1 I DO NOT APPROVE of a 2021-2022 Budget Resource Allocation Plan Without
Equity for Youth and Adults with Disabilities

Dear Honorable Mayor Liccardo and San Jose City Council Members-

I am writing to express my concern and utter disbelief that the Mayor's 2021-2022 Budget Message once again fails to address the EQUITY gap across all city policies, programs, and practices for the disability community. Especially our youth.

Did you know that 90% of San Jose students with disabilities graduate NOT READY for college, career, and or community. These students enter adulthood not a path to career or college, rather on a path to poverty, prison, or park bench. While over the past 10 years there has been a decline in juvenile crime, youth with disabilities are being incarcerated at rates of more than four times higher than youth without disabilities. The National Coalition for Juvenile Justice has called the current levels of incarcerated youth with disabilities in the U.S. ***"an epidemic."***

<https://www.juvjustice.org/blog/971>

YOU MUST DO BETTER. These are all of our children, how can the council engage in hours and hours of discussion about equity and building back better, yet hold firmly to outdated ableist

ideas and ignore the research?

How many of our children must experience exclusion so great that they develop mental health conditions? Ask questions such as, "I guess the world hates autistic kids." or "I guess I am just broken."

Our children are not welcomed in preschool, summer recreation, or after school programs because the support and understanding for neurodiverse children is not built into these programs. What must parents and concerned community members do to get the attention of our City? What must families do to get you to care? I have been writing to, meeting with, and volunteering for this city council for nearly 5 years. I have watched my children's childhood pass them by, they are now middle school and high school aged young men. However, as they continued to grow, I have seen little to no growth in the awareness or recognition of the systematic ableism that perpetuates structural and socially mandated segregation of children with disabilities in and across all City of San Jose programs, policies, and practices.

We are the community members that leave our homes to go to work, many of are treading water, not able to get ahead, but not quite "needy" enough to qualify for support. We struggle to compensate for a failing public education system, a disintegrated healthcare system, and scrape together any resource available to pay for the very expensive specialized services that exist. Our families do not have special needs, we have human needs. We do not want accommodations we want equitable access.

We might not have the political power or bandwidth to engage in the BIG organized numbers of the very generously funded Community Based Organizations representing other marginalized groups. But, we are here, we are watching, and we are disappointed that our city leaders have not represented our needs in the 2021-2022 proposed budget.

*The school-to-prison pipeline is no longer shrouded in mystery. Scholars and researchers have elaborated on how and why this is happening. The issues have been made abundantly clear. The only mystery remaining is **"Now, knowing what you know, can YOU let it continue to happen?"***

Equity for Disabled Adults and Youth With Disabilities

The Council should prioritize reinstating a full-time ADA Coordinator and adding a Youth Disability Specialist to the Mayors Gang Prevention Task Force Leadership Team in to 2021-2022 budget.

The Council has stalled on the topic of establishing an Office of Disability Affairs because of an inability to agree upon which member of the city leadership team will be responsible for overseeing the use of \$150,000.00 earmarked for a feasibility report. The city should invest that money in a way that directly supports the community. We ask for the Mayor and City Council to

reinstate a full time ADA coordinator and the addition of Youth Disability Specialist position on the Mayors Gang Prevention Task Force leadership team.

As we embark on our journey of Post Pandemic recovery it is important to acknowledge that people with disabilities are the most vulnerable members within all groups of vulnerable populations.

It has never been more urgent than now for our city to have an “in house” expert to provide a disability informed lens during all post pandemic planning efforts.

The Americans with Disabilities Act was passed 30 ago. It’s time that our city prioritizes equitable access to city programs, services, and spaces. San Jose is the only major U.S. city without a Mayor’s Office for Disabled People and has not had an ADA Coordinator since 2013, when the position was eliminated, along with the Disability Commission.

A recommendation to reinstate the position was presented to the council by the Human Services Commission (HSC) in 2015 and again in the [2017 Audit of The Office of Equality Assurance report](#), and again in the October 2020 HSC [Juvenile Justice Involved Youth with Disabilities](#)

It has been roughly four years since the last recommendation by the City auditor, a recommendation that has been echoed by two separate Human Services Commission’s. The City’s new focus on re-imaging community safety and delivering a budget **“that centers all budget decisions on equity”** has highlighted the urgent need for the Administration to evaluate the gap in disability leadership once again.

Recent budget meeting discussions about the establishment of an Office of Disability Affairs have stalled because the current city infrastructure lacks a knowledgeable person or department to lead the effort. For example, a knowledgeable ADA coordinator could work with the City manager’s office, the council, and the community to:

- Provide the community and staff with a specific contact person with knowledge and information about the ADA, so that questions can be answered in a timely and efficient manner.
- Refine the equity tool and ensure that disability is represented along with race and income to determine risk and needs that inform budget, infrastructure development, and program design priorities.
- Initiate a disability lens to all current and future DEI training and staffing needs assessments across city departments and programs.
- Provide answers to many of the unknowns surrounding the establishment of a City of San José Disability Affairs Office.

In addition, this individual would coordinate compliance measures and be instrumental in ensuring that compliance plans move forward as we reimagine public spaces and safety in a post-pandemic world.

Budget Priority Recommendation: Add a Youth Disability Specialist position to the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Team

Recent research on intersectionality explains how the multiple identities of people intersect and build upon one another. In the case of youth of color with disabilities, for example, these intersections often create compounded disadvantages, increasing the risk of incarceration and numerous other problematic life outcomes.

Decades of research and statistics have established that disability is a known risk-factor for youth involved with gangs or the criminal justice system. Three out of 10 youth in placement (30%) report that an expert (such as a doctor or a counselor) has told them that they have a learning disability. This percentage is about six times greater than the prevalence of learning disabilities in the general population, where only 5% of youth between the ages of 10 and 20 have specific learning disabilities.

Yet, disability is not recognized as a risk factor by MGPTF. Risk factors are key drivers in the selection and development of MGPTF programs and partners.

The disability community recognizes the spike in elevated risk for youth with disabilities in the upcoming post pandemic summer and school year. Youth with social communication based disabilities have regressed and will need extra support to self regulate, communicate and navigate the peer group environment. We anticipate many students that were struggling in a pre pandemic world to not return to school, to experience even greater academic and social anxiety upon their return to school, to miss more days, exhibit trauma response behaviors that elevate an already elevated risk of being restrained and secluded at school, and ultimately an increase in children that decide to leave school altogether. The city programs and services that are in place to support youth should be prepared to respond to the elevated trauma that youth with disabilities have experienced as a result of the pandemic.

With knowledge about the intersection of disability-especially when applied to children interacting with other systems of oppression (i.e., racism, sexism, and homophobia)- and the juvenile justice system, programs and policies can be developed to address unmet needs, reduce delinquent behaviors, and disrupt the school to prison pipeline. Disability informed programs are universally designed, center efforts on addressing underlying lagging skills and unmet needs associated with elevated risk. The goals of such programs are focused on intermediate outcomes, such as improved reading abilities, cognitive flexibility, and improved relationships; all of which are known to reduce risk for involvement with law enforcement.

Having a disability disproportionately predicts placement on the preschool to prison pipeline (PsTPP), especially when applied to children interacting with other systems of oppression (i.e., racism, sexism, homophobia). Information about a youth's disability is relevant at every stage of program development for at risk youth. It often helps to explain behavior in a way that facilitates child centered preventative programs, effective intervention programs that will meet the youth's rehabilitative needs and comply with IDEA requirements, and programs that provide the ongoing support need to maintain any gains into adulthood. Adding the position of Youth Disability Specialist (YDS) to the Mayor's Gang Prevention Taskforce leadership team will fill a gap in understanding about the underlying root cause of risky and delinquent youth behaviors and compliment the current teams efforts to promote wellness programs that protect against vulnerability to the PsTPP. Together we can keep all youth-without exception or excuses- on a healthy developmental trajectory. The question is not "how" the question remains, "WHY NOT?"

With hope and respect-
Parents and Community Members

Tiffany Maciel,
Parent
Voter
Lifetime resident of D3-95112
City of San Jose Human Services Disability Seat Representative
Founding Parent Eureka! Inclusive
Learning Disabilities Association California, Executive Board Member

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Mayfair, East San José | sspcmayfair.org | gabriel@sspcmayfair.org

June 11, 2021

City of San Jose Mayor and City Council Members
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Special Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Operating/Capital Budgets and the 2021-2022 Proposed Fees and Charges

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

The Si Se Puede Collective which is comprised of five community organizations, including Amigos de Guadalupe Center for Justice and Empowerment, Grail Family Services, School of Arts and Culture at Mexican Heritage Plaza, Somos Mayfair, and Veggelution, have budgets that collectively invest in our communities, families and future that include:

- A shared vision and sense of belonging that honors the artistic and cultural identity of Mayfair and empowers community.
- Quality learning opportunities for all children with a focus on success in school and life.
- Culturally competent youth who can navigate, experience, and contribute to the broader world.
- Culturally competent, impactful and coordinated services and resource referrals to meet the needs of families.
- Community-led advocacy and organizing efforts for policy and systems change.
- Smart development without displacement in the Mayfair community.

The Si Se Puede Collective urges each of you to direct the City Manager to present a Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget:

- That is reflective of the City Council's direction to prioritize childcare as a path to COVID-19 recovery; and,
- That dedicates a portion of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to develop programs that primarily benefit children in neighborhoods most impacted by COVID-19 transmission and mortality rates, specifically in the neighborhoods in zip codes 95116, 95122, and 95127; and,



Amigos de Guadalupe
Center for Justice & Empowerment



School of Arts & Culture
Mexican Heritage Plaza





Mayfair, East San José | sspcmayfair.org | gabriel@sspcmayfair.org

- That dedicate a portion of ARP funds for the purpose of providing new and expanded services for children such as childcare, learning loss, and social/emotional wellness programs; and,
- Invest in your City Services personnel to address the hundreds of job vacancies that should be filled in order to provide our community with the needed services to make our community thriving and vibrant.

The Si Se Puede Collective has and will continue to be a proactive ally with the City of San Jose against COVID-19. We will continue to partner with you to fight COVID-19 in our communities and to address the systemic economic, racial, and social inequities that our East Side San Jose residents have endured for decades.

In community spirit,

Gabriel Hernandez

Si Se Puede Collective, Manager

Maritza Maldonado, Executive Director

Amigos de Guadalupe Center for Justice and Empowerment

Veronica Goei, Executive Director

Grail Family Services

Jessica Paz-Cedillos, Executive Director

School of Arts and Culture at Mexican Heritage Plaza,

Camille Llanes-Fontanilla, Executive Director

SOMOS Mayfair

Cayce Hill, Executive Director

Veggielution



Amigos de Guadalupe
Center for Justice & Empowerment



School of Arts & Culture
Mexican Heritage Plaza





SAN JOSÉ · EVERGREEN
Community College District

BYRON D. CLIFT BRELAND
Chancellor

40 South Market Street
San José, CA 95113
Phone: 408-270-6402

To Whom It May Concern,

As our community continues to suffer the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and works to recover both economically and socially, it is perhaps more critical now than ever that our City's budget priorities align with the needs of the most vulnerable in our community. Therefore, it is my pleasure to write a letter supporting Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas' budget proposal.

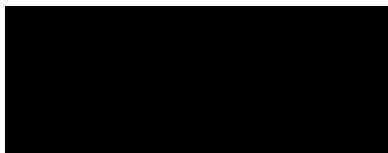
As Chancellor of San Jose – Evergreen Community College District, I have seen first-hand the ways the pandemic has impacted our students and their families. These individuals, who have gone to great lengths to ensure a better future for themselves and their families, would benefit significantly from focused priorities that would create a more equitable society and economy.

Ensuring that the City's resources focus on the areas that are poised to have the most significant impacts on the lives of many in San Jose would contribute to building an equitable society and economy. These areas include childcare services, constructive activities for youth, tutoring to help address learning loss brought on by the pandemic, mental and emotional health services for children, post-secondary educational opportunities and workforce development, educational programs and services dedicated to parents, and support for existing local small businesses and entrepreneurs in our community.

As a Community College District, we have been exploring ways to leverage our resources (human, facilities, and financial) by designing relevant educational programs and services, creating new partnerships, and building on existing partnerships at San Jose City College, Evergreen Valley College, and the Community College Center for Economic Mobility. In fact, 2021 marks the Centennial Anniversary of the opening of San Jose City College; for 100 years now, we have been working with the City to serve San Jose residents.

By being strategic with allocating resources, the City of San Jose can play a vital role in ensuring that we recover from the pandemic, and that the City and its residents receive the support necessary to thrive moving forward.

Sincerely,



Dr. Byron D. Clift Breland

Chancellor, San Jose – Evergreen Community College District

Fw: budget meeting

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/14/2021 9:51 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Trudy <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 9:47 AM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** budget meeting

[External Email]

Please ensure that there is funding for the following:

- Return of RLEI
- BSJ Grants
- Increased Code Enforcement
- Increased DOT Enforcement
- All (CSAs) that represent the policy-making level for strategic planning, policy setting, and investment
- decisions in the critical functions the City provides to the community.

Trudy Ellerbeck ~ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Subject: Agenda Item 3.1 Budget Priorities-Equity for Disabled Youth and Adult Residents of the City of San Jose.

Kristen Brown [REDACTED] >

Mon 6/14/2021 10:40 AM

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

Cc: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

I hope my comment isn't too late.

I am involved in the San Jose Unified School District as the Chairperson for the Community Advisory Committee for Special Education. This has me involved with our disabled community. There have been changes to our streets for bicycle safety that have made our streets more difficult for chair bound or vision impaired. I can't help but think that the city did not intend to become less inclusive, there was just a lack of awareness.

It is difficult for many with disabilities to access computers and be present at city meetings to express such issues. It would serve the community to have a Disability priority, and I am concerned to not see that in your budget! This disenfranchised group of our community can include any one of us at any time in our lives. As my aging body is slowly being crippled by arthritis, I know I will join my sons with Autism as a person with disability in San Jose in due course.

Please consider this priority for a community that rarely has a voice, but always has a need!

Thank you,

Kristen Brown

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Fw: San Jose Budget Must Prioritize Essential Worker Families & Children of High Infection/Mortality Communities

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/14/2021 10:44 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Serena Alvarez [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021 10:41 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Liccardo, Sam <sam.liccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; Jones, Chappie <Chappie.Jones@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Peralez, Raul <Raul.Peralez@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; Carrasco, Magdalena <Magdalena.Carrasco@sanjoseca.gov>; Arenas, Sylvia <sylvia.arenas@sanjoseca.gov>; Esparza, Maya <Maya.Esparza@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Sykes, Dave <Dave.Sykes@sanjoseca.gov>; Maguire, Jennifer <jennifer.maguire@sanjoseca.gov>; Senator Alex Padilla <senator_padilla@padilla.senate.gov>; senator_feinstein@feinstein.senate.gov <senator_feinstein@feinstein.senate.gov>; Rep. Zoe Lofgren <[REDACTED]>; Yvonne Gonzalez Duncan <[REDACTED]>; Jose Barrera <[REDACTED]>; Dave Rodriguez <[REDACTED]>; Kimberly Fuentes <[REDACTED]>; Sylvia Alvarez <[REDACTED]>; Michelle Pelayo <[REDACTED]>; Salina Esparza <[REDACTED]>; Salud Barragan <[REDACTED]>; Zarate, Sarah <Sarah.Zarate@sanjoseca.gov>; Rios, Angel <Angel.Rios@sanjoseca.gov>; Wilcox, Leland <Leland.Wilcox@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughey, Rosalynn <Rosalynn.Hughey@sanjoseca.gov>; Maciel, Zulma <zulma.maciell@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: San Jose Budget Must Prioritize Essential Worker Families & Children of High Infection/Mortality Communities

[External Email]

June 14, 2021

Mayor Liccardo, Vice-Mayor Jones, and Members of the San Jose City Council,

It is essential for the City of San Jose to allocate adequate resources to serve Latino children and families traumatized by high COVID -19 infection and mortality rates. Currently, the City plans to dedicate almost no funds to children and families through the city's annual budget process, despite the staggering need. Without a plan to authorize emergency appropriations for children enrichment and support programs, many Latino parents and children will continue to be left far, far behind.

This is to strongly urge, if not demand, fair and just allocation of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to meet the needs of low-come and extremely low-income essential workers in areas of San Jose hardest hit by COVID-19 infection and mortality rates: our physically and financially vulnerable and burdened Latino children and families.

You are strongly urged to direct the City Manager to present a budget that prioritizes childcare, to support working families that continue to have to worry about the welfare and safety of their children as they must work out of home. Appropriate significant ARP funds to develop programs that primarily benefit children in neighborhoods that have born highest COVID-19 infection and mortality rates. It is vital for funding to be dedicated to providing new or expanded services to address the concerns and needs raised by parents, teachers, and community members on behalf of children such as child care, tutoring support to address learning loss, and social/emotional wellness programs.

Hard-working, low-income and extremely low-income essential workers and their children have sacrificed, heroically rescuing all of us at greatest cost of infection and mortality and it's time for all of us to rescue them right back. All those signs thanking essential workers on lawns and social media posts... it's time to make those meaningful for Latino families, for sadly it was upon their unjust familiarity to work amid danger, their unjust need to financially survive by working outside their homes amid danger, their willingness to build and support the greater community, to sacrifice for their children, and to rely on generationally-developed resilience that rescued this city, this state and nation. These federal rescue funds must directly reach and meet their dire needs.

Respectfully,

Sylvia Alvarez, J.D.

CA LULAC State Executive Board Member, District 14 Director (Council #3270)

Michelle Pelayo-Osorio, M.P.A.

CA LULAC State Executive Board Member, VP on Women (Council #3262)

Serena Alvarez, Esq.

CA LULAC Council #3090 (Santa Clara), President and Immediate Past District 14 Director

Salina Sotelo

CA LULAC Council #3262 (Silicon Valley Young Professionals) Member and Past District 14 Director

Salud Barragan

CA LULAC Council #3270 (Meadowfair), President

Cc: Federal Representatives; CA LULAC State Director, Deputy State Director and Members of State Executive Board



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June 14, 2021

Dear City Manager Sykes, Mayor Liccardo, and Council Members:

We are writing on behalf of East San Jose PEACE Partnership and in regards to the City of San Jose 2021/2022 Budget. The East San Jose PEACE (Prevention Efforts Advance Community Equity) Partnership is a group of residents and organizations working to build a healthy, peaceful, and empowered community by preventing and addressing violence and trauma. Supporting children and families in San Jose is an essential component to prevention and resiliency. During this transitional period from the COVID-19 pandemic through recovery, our families are in need of resources, support systems, and spaces for healing. Currently, San José plans to dedicate **limited funds to children and families** through the city's annual budget process, despite the staggering need. Without a plan to authorize emergency appropriations for children's programs, many children will be left behind.

We urge you to consider the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has taken on children and families in San Jose. There is an incredible need for children to be reconnected to education, social, emotional, and enrichment activities to thrive as we recover from the devastating impacts of the pandemic. One of the most important and effective ways to address this issue is by investing in children and families in the city's annual budget.

Sincerely,

East San Jose PEACE Partnership

The East San Jose PEACE Partnership is a community collaborative working together to build a healthy, peaceful, and empowered community in our city's 95116, 95122, and 95127 zip codes. We are made up of over 15 different stakeholders, representing East San Jose residents, youth leaders, grassroots community organizations, businesses, healthcare organizations, social services, as well as Santa Clara County and San Jose government agencies. The complete list of our membership can be found here <https://esjpeace.wordpress.com/>

Fw: Arts and culture funding in the FY21-22 budget

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/14/2021 10:52 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov> 1 attachments (327 KB)

SJAA Letter to Council re Arts Funding FY21-22 with cosigners 210614.pdf;

From: San José Arts Advocates <hello@sjartsadvocates.org>**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 10:51 AM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Re: Arts and culture funding in the FY21-22 budget

[External Email]

Good morning,

Please find attached the latest update of SJAA's letter, including new co-signers. We ask that you consider our requests during tonight's Special Budget Hearing (Item 3.1) and tomorrow's discussion of the Mayor's June Budget Message (Item 3.3).

Regards,

San José Arts Advocates**Web:** sjartsadvocates.org**Social:** @SanJoseArts**Newsletter:** [Sign up](#)

On Fri, Jun 4, 2021 at 4:31 PM San José Arts Advocates <hello@sjartsadvocates.org> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Please find attached our letter updated with **more than 50 individual and organizational co-signers** from San José's creative community.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

SJAA

On Wed, May 26, 2021 at 11:31 AM San José Arts Advocates <hello@sjartsadvocates.org> wrote:
Honorable Mayor and City Council,

We wish you well on this difficult day for San José. Please find attached a letter from San José Arts Advocates on behalf of our creative community related to arts and culture funding in the City's FY2021-2022 budget.

We are currently collecting co-signers and will share those with you at our earliest convenience.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

San José Arts Advocates

Web: sjartsadvocates.org

Social: @SanJoseArts

Newsletter: [Sign up](#)



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San José Arts Advocates

May 26, 2021

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

San José Arts Advocates (SJAA) is a collaborative project dedicated to education, advocacy, and action to support arts and culture. We write to you today on behalf of San José's creative community — including individual artists, nonprofit arts and culture organizations, creative businesses, and arts advocates — to ask that you use the City's FY2021-2022 budget to fully invest in our arts and cultural ecosystem, leveraging San José's projected \$212 million in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to fill funding gaps left in the wake of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The arts, culture, and creative industries in California, the Bay Area, and San José are vast and impactful. After more than a year of sheltering in place and Zooming in and out, there has never been a more critical time for hope, inspiration, healing, and the mental health benefits that arts and artists can bring to our communities.

The California creative economy **generates \$230 billion annually**, which is over 8% of the gross state product — ahead of the construction and transportation industries — and **employs over 750,000 workers**. According to Americans for the Arts, San José's nonprofit arts industry alone generates nearly **\$200 million in annual economic impact** and supports **more than 4,000 jobs**.

The impacts of COVID-19 on California's creative industry have been severe:

- **\$43.1 billion in lost revenue** for creative economy businesses in 2020;
- **453,332** creative businesses severely impacted by COVID-19;
- **59% unemployment** in the creative sector;
- **\$18,584 average loss of revenue** per creative worker (a 37% loss/person); and
- **60% of creatives with no savings**.

These impacts have been felt the hardest by small arts businesses and nonprofits, and predominantly in communities of color. After more than a year of lost revenue due to the pandemic, these organizations need help reopening and putting their people back to work.

While we thank the City Manager for including \$2 million for the arts in his Budget Addenda for Community and Economic Recovery to backfill COVID-related declines in Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) revenue, it is simply not enough. In order to support the recovery and resilience of our essential creative community, we call on city leaders to:

- ***Fully fund the Cultural Grants program administered by the Office of Economic Development and Cultural Affairs at pre-pandemic levels — approximately \$8.3M in FY19-20.***

- **Offset all shortfalls in TOT revenue dedicated to Cultural Affairs using ARP funds.** This is already being done in Los Angeles and other cities.
- **Invest \$5M of ARP funds in local creative workforce development,** including grants to creative nonprofits and small businesses to help them employ more local artists and creative workers on projects to rebuild civic life throughout San José.
- **Invest another \$1M in ARP funds in an economic relief program for individual San José artists** hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, similar to a monthly stimulus payment program recently implemented in San Francisco.
- **Use the core values of equity and transparency to guide all outreach, engagement, deliberations, and decisions** in order to keep these programs accessible to our entire creative community.

We thank you for your previous support of San José's creative community, and we are grateful for the opportunity to share our concerns and recommendations with you. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or to engage in a dialogue on these critical issues.

Sincerely,

San José Arts Advocates

hello@sjartsadvocates.org

www.sjartsadvocates.org

Core Team

Peter Allen
Julia Canavese
Dana Harris Seeger
Mighty Mike McGee
Ron P. Muriera

Amanda Rawson
Brendan Rawson
Yori Seeger
Eva Smith Glynn
Usha Srinivasan

Individual co-signers

Cheryl Barber
James Biala
Matthew Bien
Demone Carter
Karen Chou
Trami Cron
Mary Ellen
Cuykendall
Jemal Diamond
George Duran
David Eisbach
Carlo Epps

Brooke Finster
Leigh Henderson
Richard Hilovsky
Melissa Jones
Stacey Kellogg
Cathleen King
Randall King
Christine Koppes
Gary Masters
Patricia McDonald
Julie Meridian
John Moniz

Elizabeth Monley
David Navas
Karen Navas
Mona Palmer
Onstead
David Perez
Robert Pesich
Doll Piccotto
Laurel Picklum
Kathleen Powell
Jade Elyssa Rivera
Isabelle Rodriguez

Angela Schillace
Holly Shen
Elena Snyder
Jason St. Claire
Jerry Strangis
Annalisa Tkacheff
Barbara Turner
Wisa Uemura
James Williams
Leianne Wong
Lamb
Esther Young



San José Arts Advocates

Organizational co-signers

Bloco Do Sol San José
Chopsticks Alley
Cinequest
Contemporary Asian Theater Scene (CATS)
ICA San José
Mission Chamber Orchestra
Poetry Center San José
San José Chamber Orchestra

San José Museum of Art
San José Stage Company
San José Taiko
sjDANCEco
School of Visual Philosophy
Silicon Valley Shakespeare
Teatro Visión

cc:
City Manager
Budget Director
Economic Development Director
Cultural Affairs Director

Date: June 14, 2021

To: San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo
San Jose City Council
City Manager Dave Sykes



Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to urge the City Council to direct ARP funding to support the 6 priorities outlined in the Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery submitted by Silicon Valley Council for Nonprofits on 5/12/21 and supported by a coalition of 84 community-based agencies from all walks of life, including ICAN. We also want to request that the San Jose City 2021-2022 budget draft be revised to include meaningful funding to support children and families in the Vietnamese and other marginalized ethnic communities who have suffered greatly throughout the pandemic.

The road to rebuilding resiliency and recovery from the pandemic would undoubtedly be a very challenging one given the scale of losses and sufferings experienced by all of us, especially those from low income families from traditionally unserved or underserved ethnic communities. Families and children need a lot of resources and support to reconnect to education, social, emotional, enrichment and cultural connection to recover and thrive. Without adequate resources and a clear plan to study and address the issues, many children will be left injured and their future limited.

We appreciate that a number of the proposals described in the Community and Economic Recovery Budget (MBA #16) and a number of the Mayor's current budget proposals are very complementary to some of the priorities outlined in our coalition's Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery (such as proposed funding for cash assistance, eviction prevention, childcare, recovery planning in partnership with the community, and a promotora program). It is important that those harmed by the pandemic aren't further harmed by gaps in relief.

We urge the City Council to continue efforts on helping those harmed by the pandemic, and especially to allocate a percentage of the ARP funds comparable to the percentage of minors in San Jos to develop programs that primarily benefit children and families in neighborhoods deeply impacted by COVID-19.

Thank you for your consideration, vision and leadership.

Sincerely yours,

Quyen Vuong
Executive Director

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN ASSISTANCE NETWORK

Headquarters: Sobrato Foundation Center for Nonprofits, 532 Valley Way, Milpitas, CA 95035
Family Resource Center: @Vietnamese American Community Center, 2702 Lucretia Ave, San Jose 95122
Tel: (408) 509-8788, Fax: (408) 935-9657, info@ican2.org, www.ican2.org



June 14, 2021

San Jose Mayor and City Council
200 E Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Special Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Operating/Capital Budgets

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council,

For your consideration in the upcoming City Budgeting cycle and use of the American Rescue Plan funds, the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy offers additional perspectives to guide funding prioritization. The Guadalupe River Park Conservancy provides community leadership for the development and active use of the Guadalupe River Park & Gardens through education, advocacy and stewardship.

We would first like to acknowledge the incredible work and efforts of our city leaders and colleagues in managing the dire complexities of COVID 19. The broad support they provide to our region addressing this novel pandemic while still providing their respective city services is nothing short of admirable, and incredibly difficult.

As we benefit from the privilege of looking towards recovery, we must do so keeping in mind the pivotal relationship of economy, equity, and environment in building sustainable communities. We have an opportunity to uplift our economy, equity, and environment to reimagine **prosperity, progress, and place**.

Parks and open spaces are physical, social, and green infrastructure

High-quality and well-maintained parks provide multiple layers of “infrastructure” services for our City. They support community connection, public health, transportation networks, and can create economic and civic value. Parks are also key elements of green infrastructure that support our environmental resilience and ongoing fight against climate change. They are necessary elements of urban forestry and green infrastructure initiatives, acting as environmental depots within the system. Access to parks also play a key role in systems change to promote sustainable communities, introducing youth to nature early and inspiring future environmental stewards and advocates.

It is necessary to reframe and support the values and multiple levels of a healthy and well-supported parks system as vital infrastructure - a physical connector, social bond, and ecological regenerator.

Parks as a vessel to achieve equity and public health priorities

The opportunity in parks and open spaces can serve many equity priority areas. Already, they are places that provide high-quality environment and science education, often serve as one of the first places for students, residents, and workers to engage with their community, enhance physical and mental health outcomes, and improve food systems security. They can support broad equity outcomes by acting as a

vessel for cross-sector partnerships and private and philanthropic investment supporting places and programs that directly benefit the surrounding community.

Prioritizing parks and open spaces in upcoming fund allocations means supporting broad equity priorities: access to nature, access to education opportunities, increased community capacity, better community health, and stronger local food systems network.

Parks as a vessel for economic recovery goals

Our community has been very creative in its use of public spaces to stabilize our economy. From dining in streets and parks, outdoor murals and performances, hybrid work environments, and others; our public spaces like parks continue to offer opportunities to support economic opportunity and resilience. Our parks also play a role in our future economic competitiveness. They have long served as economic generating engines such as: large scale events, street vending, tourism, vessels for public art, community economic resilience, and business attraction competitiveness.

Parks will continue to play a significant role in our economic recovery and prosperity, and we have an opportunity to invest in natural and community resources unique to our City. By leaning into assets that define our city and make our culture unique, parks can nurture economic development and recovery that is both driven and beneficial to our communities.

Prioritizing park maintenance is a vital element of community engagement and systems change

In the most recent City Auditor's Annual Report on City Services 2019-20, approximately 90% of respondents indicated that they visit a City park at least once a month or more, the most common way our residents engage with our City government. Ongoing maintenance is a necessary part of systems change, through the breadth and depth of ways we use our parks (and view our city), and to allow our neighborhoods the opportunity to benefit from the full value of parks.

There is also no lack of need within our parks, especially with a parks maintenance backlog of \$400 million. However, when combined with other priorities, we can reframe our maintenance backlog as unmet opportunities to direct funds to local communities, and we can achieve shared goals around economic recovery and open space stewardship. Consider the transformational opportunity to connect work opportunities for young adults, unhoused residents, and others to become gainfully employed - creating a major joint local workforce entry and environmental stewardship initiative possibility. We challenge the City to find opportunities that connect different needs with shared outcomes, and shift our thinking from cost and maintenance of parks to a pathway to sustainable communities.

Sense of place for our civic recovery

Our communities are recovering from trauma and a broad sense of disconnection. COVID 19 has distorted our sense of boundaries and place; prompting digital hyper-connection, a sense of isolation, and fear of the public realm. Parks offer a platform for our communities to heal, connect, and rebuild together better. They remind us of our resilience through the adaptation of its uses, the recovery of its ecology, and collective shared memories of parks.

Through supporting, investing, and co-creating our parks and public spaces; we can collectively recalibrate our sense of place, rebuilding one that is truly reflective and cherished by all, and share our journeys of collective community healing.

We will forever be marked by how COVID 19 has devastated our communities and exposed our civic disinvestments. We can balance that mark with an opportunity to fortify our communities: through parks, open spaces, and social infrastructure; and redefine for our city the outcomes of this pandemic. We can move forward with our economy, equity, and environment to support reimagined prosperity, progress, and place. In doing so, we can reach our vision of sustainable communities, and lead to it through parks.

We urge you to consider these frameworks to prioritize the power of parks in thoughtful recovery, community vibrancy, and universal resilience.

Sincerely,



Jason Su, Executive Director

Fw: SVCN Letter re: An Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery (06.14.21)

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/14/2021 3:30 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov> 2 attachments (404 KB)

Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery letter to CSJ 2021.06.14.pdf; Letter to County re ARP Expenditures 2021.06.14.pdf;

From: Alan Gouig <AlanG@svcn.org>**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 3:26 PM**To:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Cc:** Reed, Jim <Jim.Reed@sanjoseca.gov>; Gomez, David <David.Gomez@sanjoseca.gov>; Sandoval, Vanessa <vanessa.sandoval@sanjoseca.gov>; Ramos, Christina M <christina.m.ramos@sanjoseca.gov>; Brown, Stacey <Stacey.Brown@sanjoseca.gov>; Lupercio, Adan <Adan.Lupercio@sanjoseca.gov>; Groen, Mary Anne <maryanne.groen@sanjoseca.gov>; Kaspar, Nick <Nick.Kaspar@sanjoseca.gov>; McGarrity, Patrick <Patrick.McGarrity@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughes, Scott <scott.hughes@sanjoseca.gov>; Quevedo, Matthew <Matthew.Quevedo@sanjoseca.gov>; Sykes, Dave <Dave.Sykes@sanjoseca.gov>; Kyra Kazantzis <KyraK@svcn.org>; Nick Kuwada <NickK@svcn.org>; Harkness, Kip <Kip.Harkness@sanjoseca.gov>; Wilcox, Leland <Leland.Wilcox@sanjoseca.gov>; Hughey, Rosalynn <Rosalynn.Hughey@sanjoseca.gov>; Flores Shelton, Andrea <Andrea.FloresShelton@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** SVCN Letter re: An Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery (06.14.21)

[External Email]

Dear Councilmembers and Mayor Liccardo,

I write behalf of Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits (SVCN), an alliance of over 200 nonprofit and ally organizations working to support thriving and equitable communities in Santa Clara County.

Please find the attached letters below:

- Letter from SVCN to CSJ re: An Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery (6.14.21)
- Letter from SVCN to County re: ARP Expenditures (6.14.21)

I submit these letters in regards to tonight's 6 pm special meeting. If you have any questions about these letters, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Regards,
Alan

Alan Gouig | Nonprofit Catalyst Fellow | he/him/his

Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Phone: (408) 341-9751 | Web: svcن.org | Twitter: [@SVCN](https://twitter.com/SVCN)

It's Membership Renewal Time!

SVCN offers Nonprofit Memberships & Ally Memberships!

Towards a brighter future—together

**Join the
Nonprofit
Alliance**

RENEW OR JOIN SVCN MEMBERSHIP
2021-2022



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June 14, 2021

Honorable Board of Supervisors
Santa Clara County
70 West Hedding Street – East Wing, 10th Floor
San José, CA 95110
Sent via electronic mail

Re: An Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery

Dear President Wasserman and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

This letter was prepared by the Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits, in consultation with the Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL) coalition. The REAL community of nonprofit leaders and allies has been meeting since June 2020 to use our positional power to advocate for a more racially just and equitable society; to establish a peer network of leaders committed to fighting white supremacy and systemic racism in ourselves and our institutions; and to hold each other accountable to the promises we made in the [Nonprofit Racial Equity Pledge](#). The REAL coalition is broadly representative of the nonprofit community including human and community services, mental health and health, arts and culture, domestic violence, senior, food distribution, education, environmental, farming, legal, disability rights, LGBTQ rights, ethnic, immigrant rights, housing and homelessness, criminal justice reform, urban planning, and intermediary organizations, and others.

We write to request, principally, that you use the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to advance the recovery of those who have been hardest hit by the pandemic and its effects. To be explicit, we should focus this funding on communities of color, immigrants, women, and children and youth. Furthermore, we believe there should be an intentional focus on efforts to attack systemic racism that keeps the African-Ancestry community disproportionately underserved, under-resourced, targeted, and marginalized.

The [Latino/a/x community have five times](#) the rate of COVID-19 cases than white residents; people of African Ancestry have twice the rate. Women have been hardest hit on the job front, with [four times as many women as men dropping out of the labor force](#). Immigrants (documented and undocumented) have had limited access to assistance and children and youth have faced housing and food insecurity and a lack of academic and mental health supports. Much of these impacts have been felt on the ground in our lowest income communities in the County. For example, in East San José

neighborhoods (95116, 95122) with the highest rates of COVID-19 transmission, over 40% of families live below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level; 74.4% of the working population are essential workers; and 25.5% are overcrowded households, compared to 8% SCC-wide (SOM).

We recognize that cities and counties have numerous needs and many priorities, including stabilizing their own operating budgets, reconstituting government infrastructure, and restarting shuttered services. We also appreciate that the County and numerous cities already currently fund a critically-important network of human services. However, the decisions made in the coming weeks, and over the next year with the second tranche of funding, will determine whether our community experiences a brief stimulus or seeds a new direction of inclusive economic and social well-being.

As a result, our coalition is recommending that \$140 million of the ARP funding be focused on the following six priority areas, furthered outlined in the **An Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery** attachment:

- Continue **robust relief** to ensure that those harmed by the pandemic aren't further harmed;
- Invest in solutions that will **build wealth** rather than just keep people's head above water;
- Make big investments in **alternatives to policing and incarceration** including prevention and alternative responses to community crises and trauma;
- Support and **stabilize the community-based organizations** who are responding to the disaster, contributing to recovery, and furthering equity;
- Build additional meaningful opportunities for **democracy and shared power** in our government institutions (empowerment/community engagement); and
- Improve health outcomes in our community, focusing on **health equity and community-based primary care**.

And, as we have requested in our May 3 letter—signed by 70 nonprofit leaders—we ask that as you make decisions about how to further our community's recovery from the pandemic and its effects and how to use federal funding to advance that recovery, you do so with transparency, in ways that further racial justice; in partnership with the community at the table; in coordination with other governments; and in furthering breakthrough achievements with an equity investment agenda for recovery that creates resilience and supports empowerment in disadvantaged communities.

While we appreciate the opportunity for the community to bring its ideas for ARP expenditures to the Board of Supervisors at the June 9 Finance, Government, and

Operations Committee meeting, we continue to believe that wider outreach and the establishment of a community advisory committee or task force is called for in this important moment in our community's recovery.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact Kyra Kazantzis at kyrak@svcn.org with questions.

Sarita Kohli
AACI

Louis Chicoine
Abode Services

Sandy Perry
Affordable Housing Network of Santa
Clara County

Milan Balinton
African American Community Service
Agency

Steve Eckert
Alum Rock Counseling Center

Maritza Maldonado
Amigos de Guadalupe Center for Justice
and Empowerment

Richard Konda
Asian Law Alliance

Elisa Koff-Ginsborg
Behavioral Health Contractors'
Association (BHCA)

Sparky Harlan
Bill Wilson Center

Jahmal Williams
Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet

Sameena Usman
Council on American-Islamic Relations,
SFBA

Shelley Swan
Carry the Vision

Gregory R. Kepferle
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County

Pascal Do
Center for Employment Training

Larissa Robideaux
Center for Excellence in Nonprofits

Frederick Ferrer
Child Advocates of Silicon Valley

Pete Settelmayer
City Year

Dolores Alvarado
Community Health Partnership

Erin O'Brien
Community Solutions

David Low
Destination: Home

Shawn Gerth
E.C.S.V.

Beth Leary
Family Supportive Housing, Inc.

Susie Rivera
Fresh Lifelines for Youth

Veronica Goei
Grail Family Services

Megan Fluke
Green Foothills

Jason Su
Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

Andrea Urton
HomeFirst Services

Chip Huggins
Hope Services

Quyen Vuong
International Children Assistance
Network

Mindy Berkowitz
Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley

Russell Hancock
Joint Venture Silicon Valley

Rose Mukhar
Justice at Last

Darcie Green
Latinas Contra Cancer

Chava Bustamante
Latinos United for a New
America/LUNA

Gabriela Chavez-Lopez
Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley

Alison Brunner
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley

Dr. Gel Cortez
LEAD Filipino

Aubrey Merriman
LifeMoves

Gisela Bushey
Loaves & Fishes

Anjee Helstrup-Alvarez
MACLA/Movimiento de Arte
y Cultura Latino Americana

Lana Nguyen
Mekong Community Center

Alyssa Lynch
Metropolitan Education District

David Mineta
Momentum for Health

Héctor Sánchez-Flores
National Compadres Network

Phillip Rodriguez
New Hope for Youth

Esther Peralez-Dieckmann
Next Door Solutions to Domestic
Violence

Federico Pacheco
NPower

Rhonda Berry
Our City Forest

Rev. Ray F. Montgomery
PACT (People Acting in Community
Together)

Maria Daane
Parents Helping Parents

Heather Cleary
Peninsula Family Services

Sharon Winston
Project Hired

Mary Cheryl B. Gloner, MPH, MBA
Project Safety Net, Inc.

Kathy Cordova
Recovery Café San Jose

Poncho Guevara
Sacred Heart Community Service

Dorsey A Moore
San Jose Conservation Corps

James Reber
San Jose Parks Foundation

Wisa Uemura
San Jose Taiko

Carlo Rosario
Santa Clara County Black Lawyers Assoc.

Jessica Paz-Cedillos
School of Arts & Culture @ MHP

Tracy Weatherby
Second Harvest of Silicon Valley

Shiloh Ballard
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition

Gina Dalma
Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Kyra Kazantzis
Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Camille Llanes-Fontanilla
Sí Se Puede Collective

William Armaline
SJSU Human Rights Institute

Camille Llanes-Fontanilla
SOMOS Mayfair

Elizabeth Gonzalez
South Bay Community Land Trust

David Cox
St. Joseph's Family Center

Marie Bernard
Sunnyvale Community Services

Leslye Corsiglia
SV@Home

Rita Marie Johnson
The Connection Practice

Michele Lew
The Health Trust

Yvonne Maxwell
Ujima Adult and Family Services

Kevin Zwick
United Way Bay Area

André Valisque Chapman
Unity Care

Eva Terrazas
Uplift Family Services

Cayce Hill
Veggielution

Mimi Nguyen
Vietnamese American Roundtable (VAR)

Josh Selo
West Valley Community Services

Jeffrey Buchanan
Working Partnerships USA

Sandy Walker
YMCA of Silicon Valley

Leif Erickson
Youth Community Service

An Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery

Submitted by members of Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL), a coalition of nonprofit leaders and allies pledged to further racial justice and equity in our community

June 2021

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding is not only a lifeline to address the harms caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and economic fall-out, it is a historic opportunity to invest in our future and begin undoing long-standing economic inequities that the pandemic exposed and worsened.

We believe that these funds should be spent on an equity investment agenda for recovery that creates resilience and supports empowerment in disadvantaged communities, particularly those who have been hardest hit by the pandemic and its effects. To be explicit, we should focus this funding on communities of color, immigrants, women, and children and youth. We should also use this resource to attack the systemic racism that keeps the African-Ancestry community disproportionately underserved, under-resourced, targeted, and marginalized.

Whereas this proposal is focused on six *areas of priority* and provides a number of examples and some specific programs requests, much more work needs to be done to determine which programs, within each priority area, would have the highest return. Additionally, we recognize that the County has already invested in many of these priorities, in which case ARP investments can boost strategies already in progress. These areas of priority are meant to be inclusive of requests from other communities and nonprofit collaborations, including the Sí Se Puede Collective; health equity nonprofits; La Comunidad for Justice, Equity & Inclusion; Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet (The 2020 Black Agenda); and the community of organizations and individuals working on reimagining public safety.

We continue to believe that wider outreach and the establishment of a community advisory committee or cross-sector task force is called for in this important moment in our community's recovery. As stated in PolicyLink's "[10 Priorities for advancing Racial Equity Through the American Rescue Plan](#)":

Rather than quickly choosing the most "shovel-ready" projects, city and county leaders should partner with the grassroots and resident-led organizations working in the communities most impacted by structural racism to prioritize and implement recovery projects. These groups bring crucial local knowledge to inform decisions about the most impactful equity investments. Local governments should **co-create policy and program strategies with them**, engage

them in determining how funds will be spent, and invest in the plans and demands they've already put forth.

The below-signed members of the REAL coalition respectfully submit our proposed focus areas for an equity investment agenda for recovery. **We believe ARP funds should be used to:**

Continue robust relief to ensure that those harmed by pandemic aren't further harmed -- \$30 million.

The flexible cash rent assistance that numerous community-based organizations partnered with the County and City of San Jose to create and deliver during the pandemic should be continued to prevent harmed families from falling deeper into poverty and destabilization. Financial assistance should cover not only rent but also essential needs like utilities, transportation, car repair, insurance, and the repayment of debt traps like payday loans.

Childcare subsidies and childcare business supports that are not covered by federal and state boosts should be prioritized so that our most affected workers, particularly women, can re-enter the workforce. Likewise, we should not prematurely end support for the intense food need and the need for other necessities like diapers and formula. Jobs programs, especially those that address the needs of hospitality workers and other impacted sectors should continue and be supplemented in partnership with the labor community.

To the extent that cash rent assistance doesn't fully address the impending eviction threat, fund eviction legal help and eviction court reforms.

With respect to these needed supports, more coordination and strategic planning within the County and across government agencies will magnify these efforts. We have previously called on the City of San José to create a community health (or, human services or health communities) strategic plan; here we call for the establishment of specific health official roles in both County and the City of San José (see below).

As we continue to provide relief, we should assess whether our disaster response and relief efforts were effective and whether we were as prepared and resilient as we should have been, as a community. Invest in an "after action" study.

Invest in solutions that will build wealth rather than just keep people's head above water -- \$45 million.

This is the area of focus that we feel that the biggest investment should occur; we believe that the County should invest in the incubation or expansion of community wealth-building institutions and alternative economic mobility approaches that increase access to opportunity—as well as make preliminary capital investments in such institutions—such as:

- [Community Development Corporations](#) (CDCs) are community-based organizations focused on revitalizing the areas in which they are located, typically low-income, underserved neighborhoods that have experienced significant disinvestment. They are usually involved in a range of initiatives critical to community health such as affordable housing, economic development, sanitation, streetscaping, and neighborhood planning projects, cultural districts, workforce development, and oftentimes provide education and social services to neighborhood residents.
- [Community land trusts](#) are community-based organizations designed to ensure community stewardship of land. Community land trusts can be used for many types of development including housing, commercial, and retail. To do so, the trust acquires land and maintains ownership of it permanently. With prospective land or homeowners, it enters into a long-term, renewable lease instead of a traditional sale. When the owner sells, the family earns only a portion of the increased property value.
- [Community development financial institutions](#) (CDFIs) provide credit and financial services to people and communities underserved by mainstream commercial banks and lenders. CDFIs encompass a range of entities including community development banks, community development credit unions, community development loan funds, community development venture capital funds, and micro business loan funds. In addition to examining the community's need for additional CDFI institutions, investment in the community bank concept that the County recently approved and further investment of existing CDFI institutions might be a good place to start.

Also, now is the time to expand Universal Basic Income Pilots, focused on those most impacted by the pandemic and those who do not have access to other cash benefit programs. UBI would reduce poverty and income inequality and improve physical and mental health; it would also grow the economy by increasing output, employment,

prices, and wages. (For example, the [Alaska Permanent Fund](#) increased the purchasing power of UBI recipients, resulting in 10,000 additional jobs for the state.)

Lastly, another example of a wealth-building investment would be to partner with the City of San José's San Jose Promise program to pay for community college tuition, especially for those who are not eligible for college loans, grants, or other subsidies. Community colleges are an [important avenue to upward mobility](#) no matter the students' background, income level, or high school accomplishments. The County should explore partnership with community colleges that increase access for students and [support educational innovations](#).

Make big investments in alternatives to policing, including prevention and alternative responses to community crises and trauma -- \$20 million.

Many County services function as “alternatives” to policing, such as treatment programs for substance abuse, behavioral health services, and re-entry supports. But these services aren't always framed, targeted, or measured in that way. We believe that these services should be specifically held up in budget processes compared to policing and incarceration as less expensive, more just, and more lasting solutions.

Therefore, we believe that the County should go big on alternatives to policing. In terms of crisis and health emergency response, the County should commit further support to non-police crisis responses including neighborhood- and school-based peace initiatives and de-escalation trainings. The recent funding of community crisis mobile response pilots is a fantastic start. Communities will have to be supported in learning how to access these supports rather than involving police.

Given what we know about the potential of criminal justice involvement for folks who are returning to the community from jail or prison, re-entry services—and community release—should be robust and evidence-based, with advice from individuals and families who are currently or historically system-involved.

Likewise, domestic violence prevention and youth programming that is preventative of violence and criminal justice involvement should both be increased—but not in a way that increases law enforcement.

And, as suggested by the [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#), “States and other governments can simultaneously eliminate police presence in schools, a key step in moving from systems that criminalize Black and brown people—beginning in childhood—toward systems that help and invest in them.”

Support and stabilize the community-based organizations who are responding to the disaster, contributing to recovery, and furthering equity -- \$10 million

Even as life seems poised to return to a new normal, direct social services providers are still finding themselves overwhelmed by increased demand in food, shelter, health care, and other basic support. Many other nonprofits, such as arts and school-related nonprofits, are just starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel as more indoor gatherings are allowed and in-person school gradually returns. Many of these organizations laid off staff or dipped into reserves to survive. And now, with a high percentage of vaccinated individuals throughout California, nonprofits have difficult decisions to make about if and when to return to offices they may have left, partially or entirely, in 2020.

And nearly every nonprofit leader is worried about financial sustainability. Earned income is down; fundraising events have been cancelled or are being held online, often with a great deal less revenue; the 2021 fall event season promises to be confusing and fraught as restrictions on gatherings are lifted but legitimate fears of COVID-19 remain.

Although federal aid kept many nonprofits afloat last spring and summer, some of the new federal monies come with additional strings attached and it's clear that not all nonprofits will benefit. Virtually all foundations have discontinued COVID relief even though community need is still high and it's unclear how long the pandemic's economic impacts will continue to drive that need. There are legitimate concerns about donor fatigue. The bottom line is that nonprofits are not out of the woods.

Even in good times, nonprofit sustainability is often just an oasis on the horizon. Organizations that build healthy infrastructure—IT and data systems; financial systems; fund development processes; strategic plans; staff capacity building; and safe, efficient, and accessible physical spaces—are more likely to succeed than those that do not.

The effects of such limited overhead investment are felt far beyond the office: nonfunctioning computers cannot track program outcomes and show what is working and what is not; poorly trained staff cannot deliver quality services to beneficiaries. (*The Nonprofit Starvation Cycle*, A. Goggins & D. Howard, Stanford Social Innovation Review (2009).)

Nonprofit instability contributes to community instability. And the converse is true. The same nonprofits that were incredibly nimble during the pandemic and stepped up to respond to community needs and desires will be needed if we are to “build back

better.” Nonprofits play an essential role in building healthy communities by providing critical services that contribute to community stability and economic mobility. With their strong community relationships and intimate local knowledge, nonprofits often have a deep understanding about their communities’ needs.

Moreover, nonprofits often lift up the voices of the people they serve. One hundred fifty nonprofit organizations have signed the Nonprofit Racial Equity Pledge, in which they have committed to furthering racial justice, diversity, and inclusion in their organizations and without, and to center the voices of and to share power with the communities they serve. In that context, local nonprofits have been conducting focus groups to determine community desires around government budgets and public safety. Local nonprofits are gathering to learn how to bring the voices of the people directly to local government, rather than speaking *for* the community. The Pledge seeks to institutionalize racial justice as a core aspect of nonprofit infrastructure.

First, we ask the County to fund a Nonprofit Sustainability Fund for nonprofit organizations that would provide one-time financial assistance for:

- Professional services for planning, training, and implementation to institutionalize racial justice, community leadership development, and community power-building approaches within nonprofit organizations
- Technology and data management, especially infrastructure and evaluation services that allow nonprofits to measure progress toward desired outcomes
- Equipment
- Overcoming barriers to lease renewal, relocation, and expansion, including space planning, moving expenses, security deposits/downpayments, furnishings, and fixtures
- Support for leadership transitions and strategic alliances (e.g. mergers)

Grants should be prioritized for organizations that are actively working to further racial justice and equity and dismantle systemic racism, are Black or BIPOC-led, and/or are centering community voice in their work. A community advisory board should advise the fund manager regarding the eligibility criteria and giving priorities.

The Fund could include ARP one-time funds and also be a vessel for individual and corporate donations, funds from cities, and funding from foundation partners.

Second, as 150 nonprofit organizations in our community seek to implement the Nonprofit Racial Equity Pledge, many of these organizations will need support to keep the promise of power-sharing with the communities they serve; they will need to build

accessible and meaningful spaces within their organizations to include those with lived experiences in leadership and decision-making roles. Not only should the County invest directly in the grassroots, community-based organizations that have a track record of organizing communities (like tenants and workers) to engage with government and advocate for their rights, the County should invest in building the capacity of a larger pool of nonprofits to do that work.

Build additional meaningful opportunities for democracy and shared power to be present in our government institutions (empowerment/community engagement) -- \$15 million.

In recovery, it will be more important than ever to lead with community by bringing our community members to the table in a more meaningful way. This is more than engagement. Nonprofit staff and community members with lived experience of the challenges that the County is working to tackle should be invited to co-create the vision, planning, and implementation of the County's community economic recovery plan from the beginning. Taking the time to be grounded in community needs and priorities will help avoid mistakes and foster commitment from grassroots stakeholders that promotes greater sustainability of efforts.

Neighborhoods and their people, faith leaders, collective mutual aid groups, and nonprofit leaders (especially those that are not as resourced) should be supported in developing deep understanding of local government goals, processes, and services. They should be provided with numerous access points for all the varieties of engagement, they should receive updated and accurate information in multiple languages and accessible to people with differing abilities, and they should have an opportunity to advise and even co-create key decisions that impact their lives and neighborhoods.

The County should launch an initiative that creates community engagement protocols and builds that muscle County-wide, via a community engagement officer. The initiative should actively support and lift the voices of our neighbors who have been left out. One-time ARP funds could be used to design such a plan, create the procedures, train staff, and begin implementation.

Funding the community organizing, education, and outreach model referred to above (that nonprofits need support to lean into)—and in the health equity section below—is another powerful way for governments to reach community members with lived experience.

The County should also take the further step of strengthening the community's understanding of and participation in important County processes and decisions by funding participatory budgeting processes, such as [The People's Budget](#), that engage residents.

We also again call on the County and our other governmental institutions to create a community advisory committee or task force to provide input to ARP expenditures and the best specific programs within these six proposed priority areas (and to track results). Ideally, this group should be a public/private partnership that includes multiple sectors as well as strong representation by community members most harmed by the pandemic and its economic consequences.

Improve health outcomes in our community, focusing on health equity and community-based primary care -- \$20 million.

The community outreach and organizing work that we have recommended above has a specific and important application in the health equity context. Community Health Workers, or promotoras, represent a link between members of the community and existing health care resources. With a strong grassroots history, promotoras have shown the capacity to improve access to care among vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations in a variety of settings. The County should build on the success of the Community Health and Business Engagement Teams (CHBET) and other local promotora initiatives, focusing on health equity.

Local health nonprofits, that are also active members of the REAL coalition, are planning a comprehensive, coordinated approach to achieve quantifiable reductions in both racial health disparities and long-term health care costs. They are working on compilation of health data for a manageable subset of community health priorities, analysis of the information, development of an action plan, and implementation of projects based on evidence-based best practices. We support funding for this development of health metrics in Santa Clara County that we can collectively use to gauge progress.

We are also supportive of the health nonprofits' recommendation to create positions of Deputy Health Officer, Health Equity in the Santa Clara County Public Health Department, as well as Health Officer in the City of San José. SVCN has previously called on the City of San José to establish a healthy communities master or strategic plan and for a CSA-level Human Services Director to coordinate those services; creating a Health Officer position would complement that recommended staffing.

We also support expansion of culturally appropriate youth mental health counseling and substance use treatment as students return to in-person school.

“Children are uniquely suffering in ways we have barely begun to grasp. Isolation, depression, loss of sleep, loss of appetite, the rise in self-harm,” Michelle A. Williams, dean of the faculty at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, [recently said](#). “This is nothing less than a crisis.” As behavioral health needs are year-round, expansion should focus on community providers who are available when schools are closed, in partnership with schools.

And to come full circle on our continued relief recommendations—which call on the County and City of San José to continue supporting the food need until the crisis is clearly over—it is also important to make further investments in public health relating to healthy food and prevention of chronic disease (that compounded the morbidity and mortality of COVID-19), as well as resilient food systems. The County has already begun more comprehensive food system planning that is an important start.

In conclusion

As we have requested in our May 3 letter—signed by 70 nonprofit leaders— we ask that as you make decisions about how to further our community’s recovery from the pandemic and its effects and how to use federal funding to advance that recovery, that the County adopt the following principles: act with transparency; in ways that further racial justice and equity; in partnership with the community at the table; in coordination with other governments; and in furtherance of breakthrough achievements that create resilience and supports empowerment in disadvantaged communities.

With respect to setting racial justice and equity as key goals in the ARP expenditure plan and in recovery more generally, the County should make the tangible racial justice and equity objectives explicit and create specific targets to measure, as [Policy Link](#) has suggested. REAL members have also called on the County to invest in: liberation and dismantling systemic racism, Black and BIPOC-led initiatives, and solidarity efforts within and among BIPOC communities. Data on the effects on marginalized communities should be disaggregated.

Lastly, one-time funds may have one-time uses, but they also can be used to achieve ongoing objectives if the community works together to design strategies for sustainability of those objectives. There are historic investments coming from the State budget in immediate relief, prevention services, emotional well-being and social services including virtual and school-linked services, and community college investments, among others. These new funding streams very much complement the ARP one-time funds, potentially in a braided way, to address these six priority areas that we have recommended.

June 14, 2021

Mayor & City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: An Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

This letter was prepared by the Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits, in consultation with the Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL) coalition. The REAL community of nonprofit leaders and allies has been meeting since June 2020 to use our positional power to advocate for a more racially just and equitable society; to establish a peer network of leaders committed to fighting white supremacy and systemic racism in ourselves and our institutions; and to hold each other accountable to the promises we made in the [Nonprofit Racial Equity Pledge](#). The REAL coalition is broadly representative of the nonprofit community including human and community services, mental health and health, arts and culture, domestic violence, senior, food distribution, education, environmental, farming, legal, disability rights, LGBTQ rights, ethnic, immigrant rights, housing and homelessness, criminal justice reform, urban planning, and intermediary organizations, and others.

Please find attached a letter signed by 87 nonprofit and ally members of the REAL coalition. This letter requested that the County of Santa Clara use its American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to advance the recovery of those who have been hardest hit by the pandemic. Specifically, these leaders recommended that the County spend \$140 million of this funding on six priority areas, outlined in the Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery, also attached.

Likewise, the coalition asks that the City of San José spend its remaining \$50 million of ARP funding on these same six priorities.

We understand that the Mayor and City Manager that the decision about how to expend remaining ARP funds should be delayed until Fall. On the one

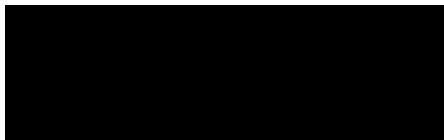
hand, deferral of the decision would allow the City's recovery task force to convene. We view this as a positive because we continue to believe that the City, County and other governmental institutions should empower a *joint* community advisory committee or task force to provide input to ARP expenditures and the best specific programs within these six proposed priority areas (and to track results). Ideally, this group should be a public/private partnership that includes multiple sectors as well as contain strong representation by community members most harmed by the pandemic and its economic consequences.

We are, however, concerned that waiting until Fall of this year to make such decisions could mean that much-needed relief is inappropriately delayed (and agree with Councilmember Arenas that childcare in particular is essential to immediate recovery). We encourage City staff to return to Council with an update as soon as the State budget is passed. It is important that those harmed by the pandemic aren't further harmed by gaps in relief.

Lastly, we appreciate that a number of the proposals described in the Community and Economic Recovery Budget (MBA #16) and a number of the Mayor's current budget proposals are very complementary of some of the priorities in our Equity Investment Agenda for Recovery (such as proposed funding for cash assistance, eviction prevention, childcare, recovery planning in partnership with the community, and a promotora program) and we strongly support those budget items.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this relief. Please contact me at kyrak@svcn.org with questions.

Best regards,



Kyra Kazantzis, CEO, SVCN

Fw: Special Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Operating/Capital Budgets and the 2021-2022 Proposed Fees and Charges

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/14/2021 5:03 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachments (54 KB)

Letter for Public Hearing on Proposed Budget.pdf;

From: Beiza, Benjamin <Benjamin.Beiza@sanjoseca.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021 5:00 PM

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

Cc: Perez-Cid, Maria <Maria.Perez-Cid@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Special Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Proposed Operating/Capital Budgets and the 2021-2022 Proposed Fees and Charges

Letter for proposed budget. Thank you.

Benjamin Beiza

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a life-long resident of San Jose in support of more targeted assistance to support the youth in our city. This past year has been difficult for everyone, but I ask that you consider the extra challenges that our youth have faced. The quarantines resulting from Covid-19 interrupted opportunities for social, academic, and emotional growth during important years in our children's development. They are our city's future leaders and residents. We must do all we can to help them during an unprecedented crisis that was out of their control.

In order to best serve our city's school-age residents, we have to support the adults in their life. This includes parents, teachers, tutors, and staff at community centers. Parents in our communities, especially those in low-income neighborhoods, have struggled with reduced work hours, rent repayment insecurity, and issues with paying for adequate child care. These problems affect the children in their households, resulting in worsening the effects that Covid-19 has had in their communities. Parents can be supported through more educational/social programming at community centers throughout low-income neighborhoods. Creating more opportunities to keep the youth engaged will help families in general.

This past year has been difficult for everyone, but especially for youth who have had to endure a major disruption to their growth and well-being. Please keep them in mind when planning budgets to help members of our community. We will all benefit from it.

Fw: 2021-2022 City of San Jose Budget

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/14/2021 3:59 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Adaeze Nduaguba [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021 3:57 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: 2021-2022 City of San Jose Budget

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo, City Manager Sykes, and Councilmembers:

I am writing to urge you to support the 2021-22 Budget for the City of San Jose, including Budget Item 111 which specifically names Next Door Solutions to Next Door Solutions is the largest and only stand alone agency focused on domestic violence, the most prevalent form of gender-based violence occurring i It is especially relevant given that 65% of the clients who are served are Latinx and many of those come from zip codes 95127, 95122, 95116 which are zip We appreciate your request for general operating costs as we continue to navigate uncharted waters of the recovery period.

Best,
Adaeze

- Adaeze Nduaguba
- Products & Agreements Legal
- adaezendu@google.com

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