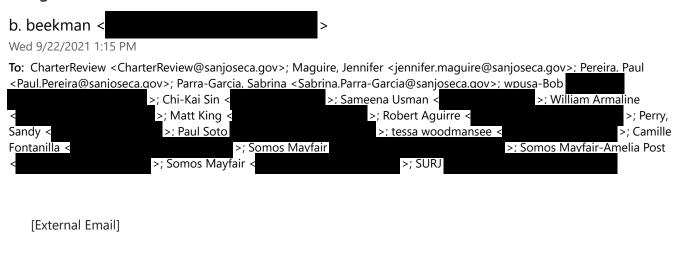
Blair Beekman.. Wednesday September 22, 2021. ____ SJ City Charter Commission & C.Mgr. letter.



Dear si city govt, community, & advocacy,

The recent letter, from City Mgr. Jennifer Maguire, should be seen, as a way, to better negotiate & realign, previous concepts & practices of re-imagine, for the city charter commission. And not, as an end to reimagine concepts, altogether, for the future of the city charter commission.

The next few weeks, can be an important time, to negotiate, how the city charter commission process, can better study & coordinate, with other city govt. depts., committees, commissions, and local sj neighborhood communities. For in the least, I am understanding, the city charter commission, is assigned the role, to coordinate, a city ballot language, within the city charter, from any reimagine task force studies, about the future, of sipd community oversight.

I think there can be, an open, continued, good negotiation process, for all sides, in this sort of thinking. And in fact, we may be at a place, to actually broaden the scope, of study & good community good intentions, of the si city charter process.

To continue the work, toward important community goals - the very knowledgeable, Robert Brownstein, of Working Partnerships USA, recently suggested, that city charter subject matter, like affordable housing, does not have to be fully specific, but simply to provide, good guidelines and directions, within the future, of the city charter. I feel, the 2007 SJ Sunshine Ordinance, and 2014 ACLU Surveillance & Technology Ordinance, can offer, some good beginning guidelines & examples, of good community practices, much in the same way. As the goal, of the future dcity charter, can be, how to create & frame, initial good policy ideas & practices. And from this place, it can then give,

everyday sj community, the good guidelines needed, for themselves, to then develop, their own good policy ideas.

This should continue to allow, a certain openness & flexibility,, in how we will continue to work and study, with the current city charter process. A reminder, that with all of our good study, at this time, in what we cannot accomplish, for the city charter, at this time - we need to learn, how to openly prepare, what ideas & concepts, can make for a more clear return, to the next city charter public process - as needed. And from this, perhaps, what can be introduced, and currently continue - as day to day,, good community practices, efforts, & instruction.

To conclude, in what can be, a difficult memo, from the new C.Mgr, Jenfier Maguire, about reimagine issues, it is hopeful to consider, how we can have positive choices, at this time. All of us, may be at some interesting beginnings, in a better learning, of equity, reimagine, open democracy, and everyday community. With a few adjustments, I feel we can continue, this good language & study, in how to define, the future of a city charter, based on everyday community.

I am actually hopeful, that from this place, we can begin to ask, how the ideas of equity, can include, green sustainability ideas. As I am also hoping, current ideas of equity, with local neighborhoods, and with local Ohlone indigigneous traditions, can become, more of a part, in the overall future language, of the city charter, as well.

sincerely, blair beekman

- can someone, pass this letter along, to pancho guevara, and to persons, of the sj city charter commission -

Blair Beekman. Friday. September. 24, 2021. _____ The future of Homeless Transitional Housing. State/Federal Funding & Subsidies. Councilperson Mahan.

b. beekman Fri 9/24/2021 3:16	PM	>		
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Dear san jose city govt. and community,

To address, councilpersons Mahan ideas, of homelessness, in the future of homeless funding and subsidies.

I have been describing, since early August, important subsidy funding, that is being developed, for local Bay Area cities. as homeless persons, who are currently trying to be placed, in transitional housing, can finally have, steady, continual, larger subsidy programs, to help pay for permanent housing needs.

For decades, it has been a condition, that only, 1 in 3 homeless persons, working with local Bay Area city govts. and that use, transitional housing services, can then take the next step, to permanent housing. Based on the simple fact, that their limited incomes, cannot afford to pay, for permanent housing.

This new subsidy program, from state & federal govt. agencies, in this era of Covid-19, is meant to change that. Quite possibly, 2 in 3 persons, in transitional housing programs, can soon be placed, into permanent housing. This can be, an extraordinary, hopeful statistic, when more considered. And this, is the exact sort of program, that local govt housing agencies, have been waiting for, in how to help define, a better relationship, of local govt, being able, to help find housing, for the homeless & persons of low income.

There is possibly, a very large amount, of subsidy money involved, for this program. And that, I have continually tried to make clear to yourselves, over the past few months. This program, should be arriving soon. Obviously, there is the natural inclination, to develop these well-intentioned, homeless

subsidy programs, now. It can also be planned, to work at a slower pace, over the next few years, as needed. I have been trying to state, since early August, new subsidy and funding ideas, simply has to have, responsible practices, and a good vetting & review process. We cannot simply turn, these sort of good minded, homeless/low income subsidy plans, into a cash bonanza, for the real estate market. Or for our own city govts - to overuse, and spread this funding, too thinly, over many well-intentioned, city govt. dept. projects & ideas.

These are ideas & plans, that have to have, a very human element, of how to directly work, with low income people, themselves. If we can know, how to better address & limit, 'ghettoization' issues, and to acknowledge, the good standards, of the more regular, San Jose eastside and progressive communities, Councilperson Mahans current proposals, of pre-fab housing, and what can be, smaller, sj govt. sponsored encampments - may actually have important concepts, in what we often consider, in homeless planning. And in what we can work towards, as a community, at this time. As I feel, we can again, mostly dismiss, the fairgrounds, as a viable future housing option, the overall awkwardness, in some of Councilperson Mahans, early, ambitious ideas, may simply need to be modified, in some ways.

With all of our homeless efforts, in the next year, whatever they may be, I feel most importantly, we have to continue the efforts, of what can be, responsible planning, in budgeting, and money management. And with simply, a surprising amount, of subsidy & funding, now available, from the state and federal level, in this new era, of Covid-19.

To also note, the state & federal transitional housing subsidy plans, I often talk about - is only, one, of what must be, several, new, funding and subsidy plans, for housing, homeless, and low income issues, that may become, more available, in this new era of Covid-19.

I feel, Councilperson Mahan's inexperience, may have inaccurately described, at RaOG Sept. 22 upcoming Bay Area homelessness funding, as a competition, with other Santa Clara Co. cities. As San Jose, is a large city, with the largest amount of homeless population. A large amount, of state funding, should be more readily available, than in years past, for local cities. Competition & pressure, between cities, may not be as intense, as in years past.

I am interested, in Councilperson Mahans ideas, to begin to consider, what can be, a few smaller, si city govt. sponsored encampments, placed, throughout the city. This is an idea, homeless advocacy of San Jose, has been trying to help develop, for years. But to also note, and what may be key, to this process - sj city govt. has also been trying to develop, for years, good permanent housing solutions, for the homeless community. They now can, with this upcoming, state & federal homeless funding & subsidy plans. But again, first & foremost, there simply needs, responsible money management, at this time, in funding, future homeless projects.

I hope, Councilpersons Mahans attempts, can make clear, we simply may be at, important new beginnings, of how city govts. can connect, good housing services, to the community. Councilpersons Mahans, initial, possibly over-ambitious approach & inexperience, may be, a bit off-putting - but his housing ideas, seem like concepts, many are already considering. To learn, a well reasoned prioritization, of responsible budgeting, of new subsidy and funding programs, first - and to then consider this subsidy/funding money, for more traditional city govt. housing, programs - can then allow for, some interesting prep work, in this next year, to better develop, more experimental ideas, including, Councilperson Mahans ideas, of what can be, small local govt sponsored encampments. And possibly, the portable housing ideas. If we do make the efforts, now, to plan well, with many project ideas & concepts, already, years in the making - hopefully, by this time, next summer, more clear ideas, of how to then, budget & spend, subsidy and funding dollars, more responsibly, for these housing projects, should start to be more clear.

I think the current situation, of Apple property, on 1st st., that has had some good planning, by city govt. and Apple, and that has had, plenty of money to work with. It can be a good example, of the important need, of overall, better community input. And simply learning, how to better trust & invite, everyday community, to the process. I think, there can be lessons learned, from previous years, of what can be, good, community dialogue & negotiation,. And there can now be, better agreements, in how to place, a few, homeless encampments, in the future, of local San Jose neighborhoods.

I think many options, can be good, and worked on, at this point. There can be, continued good efforts, of the housing dept, to develop, permanent housing solutions for people. And, a better planning, in the next 10 months, of small, sj city govt. sponsored encampments. And possibly, of prefab homes. All of this, should be with the condition, that subsidy and funding structures, continued to be developed, only in, responsible, good terms.

From all of this, to ask openly, and to ask for clarity - should we be worrying, of a possible, large bay area earthquake, by 2023? Yourselves, can hopefully develop, more clear ideas, from this question & rumor. In possible, earthquake planning questions - is it safer to house, or to not house - I feel, we should be very much planning, safe, organized, homeless services, at the time, of such a natural disaster event. This can also be applicable, to future wildfire, flood, or sea-level rise issues, for san jose, as well. The ideas of this letter, try to address & work in ways, that can be open & flexible, to everyone. It is a system developed, meant to work the same, if there is. or is not, an earthquake, in the next few years. It is a process, that is meant to work, to be open, to all sides, to all ideas, and to all points of view.

Again, it is to be sure, to first budget & prioritize responsibly, and to directly address the needs, of low income & homeless, first - in however, we move forward, in the next few years. I hope we can much work on, and perhaps better define, Councilpersons Mahans offerings. in this next year. I may not have, a depth of knowledge. But I hope, this can be some practical ways, to talk about, homeless issues, of the next few years.

sincerely, blair beekman

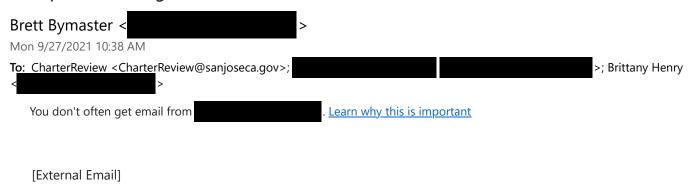
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c.SCCo.D4.Supv.Susan Ellenberg. <
c..SCCo.D3.supv.Otto Lee. <
D2. S.C.Co.Brd.Supv- Cindy Chavez <
D1. SC.Co.Supv-Mike Wasserman. <
VTA Board Secretary <
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9/25 public meeting comments & recommendations



Charter Review Commissioners,

Based on the extensive data (see presentation & full data at https://bit.ly/sjcharter2021) collected by Healing Grove Health Center's Madre-A-Madre volunteers I wanted to pass along some comments & recommendations related to the 9/25 commission meeting.

- 1. Our data suggests that the vast majority of Spanish speaking immigrants support the commission's recommendation to keep the Council-Manager form.
- 2. We would encourage the commission to consider moving the police chief appointment to the City Council, instead of being under the City Manager. This is supported by a 2/3 majority of low income Spanish speakers -- the constituency that has the most interactions with law enforcement. We believe that the police chief must be directly accountable to the elected officials of the City Council.
- 3. We **DO NOT** support increasing the size of the City Council. While we do not have polling data on this subject (since it's a late addition), we have some serious concerns about the proposal. Practically speaking, one of the most significant barriers to public access is simply the length of the Council meetings. City Council meetings start at 1:30pm and regularly go past the midnight curfew. Adding additional City Council members would mean either longer meetings, or less public conversation from council members. We believe that diluting the representation will not enhance the low income community's ability to advocate for necessary changes.

Best, Brett Bymaster Executive Director, Healing Grove Health Center

https://www.healinggrove.org/

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Blair Beekman Monday September 27, 2021. ____ SJ City Charter Commission & C.Mgr. letter.



To: CharterReview <CharterReview@sanjoseca.gov>; Maguire, Jennifer <jennifer.maguire@sanjoseca.gov>; Parra-Garcia, Sabrina <Sabrina.Parra-Garcia@sanjoseca.gov>; Pereira, Paul <Paul.Pereira@sanjoseca.gov>; Matt King

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Dear si city govt, community, & advocacy,

A revised letter, from Monday, Sept. 20. Can this letter be passed along, to Charter commission persons, and to Poncho Guevara, of the Reimagine Task Force Commission.

I hope, the recent letter, from City Mgr. Jennifer Maguire, can be seen, as a way, to better negotiate & realign, previous concepts & practices of re-imagine, for the city charter commission. And not, as an end, to reimagine concepts, altogether, for the future of the city charter commission.

The next few weeks, can be an important time, to negotiate, how the city charter commission process, can better study & coordinate, with other city govt. depts., committees, commissions, and local sj neighborhoods & advocacy. For in the least, the city charter commission, is assigned the role, to coordinate, any future city ballot language, of future community oversight of police studies, from the reimagine task force.

I think there can be, an open, continued, good negotiation process, for all sides, in this sort of thinking. And in fact, we may be at a place, to actually broaden, the scope of study & good community good intentions, of the sj city charter process. And to honestly begin, to better consider, green sustainability, and Oholone indigeneous issues, for the future language, of the city charter, at this time.

The very knowledgeable, Robert Brownstein, of Working Partnerships USA, recently suggested, at a city charter public hearing, Thurs. Sept.9 - that future city charter subject matter & language, like with affordable housing issues, does not have to be fully specific. But simply to provide, good guidelines & direction, within the future, of a city charter. I feel, the 2007 SJ Sunshine Ordinance, and 2014 ACLU

Surveillance & Technology Ordinance, can offer, some good beginning guidelines & examples, of good community practices, much in the same way. As the goal, of the future city charter, can be, how to create & frame, initial good policy ideas & practices. And from this place, it can give community, the good guidelines needed, for themselves to develop, their own good policy ideas.

A reminder, that with all of our good study, at this time, in what we cannot accomplish, for the city charter, at this time, we need to learn, how to openly prepare - what ideas & concepts, can make for, its more clear return, to the next, city charter public process. And possibly, what current ideas, can be introduced, and can continue, in our more day to day, good community practices, efforts, & instruction.

To conclude, it is nice to consider, how we can have positive choices, at this time, in what can be, a difficult memo, from the new C.Mgr, Jenfier Maguire, about reimagine. We may only have to make, a few simple, adjustments, at this time. We all may simply be at, interesting beginnings, in a better learning, of equity, reimagine, open democracy, and practices of everyday community. And this can allow us, to continue, a good language & study, in how to define, the future of a city charter, based on the concepts, of everyday community.

I am actually hopeful, we may be at a place, we can still ask & work towards - how the ideas of equity, can include, green sustainability ideas. As I am also hoping, current ideas of equity, with local neighborhoods, can work with, local Ohlone indigneous traditions - and can become a part of, the overall future language, of the city charter, as well.

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To: CharterReview < CharterReview@sanjoseca.gov>; Maguire, Jennifer < jennifer.maguire@sanjoseca.gov>; Parra-Garcia, Sabrina < Sabrina.Parra-Garcia@sanjoseca.gov>; Pereira, Paul < Paul.Pereira@sanjoseca.gov>

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a list of people, also addressed, today. - blair.

On Mon, Sep 27, 2021, 10:55 AM b. beekman < > wrote:

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I hope, the recent letter, from City Mgr. Jennifer Maguire, can be seen, as a way, to better negotiate & realign, previous concepts & practices of re-imagine, for the city charter commission. And not, as an end, to reimagine concepts, altogether, for the future of the city charter commission.

The next few weeks, can be an important time, to negotiate, how the city charter commission process, can better study & coordinate, with other city govt. depts., committees, commissions, and local si neighborhoods & advocacy. For in the least, the city charter commission, is assigned the role, to coordinate, any future city ballot language, of future community oversight of police studies, from the reimagine task force.

I think there can be, an open, continued, good negotiation process, for all sides, in this sort of thinking. And in fact, we may be at a place, to actually broaden, the scope of study & good community good intentions, of the sj city charter process. And to honestly begin, to better consider, green sustainability, and Oholone indigeneous issues, for the future language, of the city charter, at this time.

The very knowledgeable, Robert Brownstein, of Working Partnerships USA, recently suggested, at a city charter public hearing, Thurs. Sept.9 - that future city charter subject matter & language, like with affordable housing issues, does not have to be fully specific. But simply to provide, good guidelines & direction, within the future, of a city charter. I feel, the 2007 SJ Sunshine Ordinance, and 2014 ACLU Surveillance & Technology Ordinance, can offer, some good beginning guidelines & examples, of good community practices, much in the same way. As the goal, of the future city charter, can be, how to create & frame, initial good policy ideas & practices. And from this place, it can give community, the good guidelines needed, for themselves to develop, their own good policy ideas.

A reminder, that with all of our good study, at this time, in what we cannot accomplish, for the city charter, at this time, we need to learn, how to openly prepare - what ideas & concepts, can make for, its more clear return, to the next, city charter public process. And possibly, what current ideas, can be introduced, and can continue, in our more day to day, good community practices, efforts, & instruction.

To conclude, it is nice to consider, how we can have positive choices, at this time, in what can be, a difficult memo, from the new C.Mgr, Jenfier Maguire, about reimagine. We may only have to make, a few simple, adjustments, at this time. We all may simply be at, interesting beginnings, in a better learning, of equity, reimagine, open democracy, and practices of everyday community. And this can allow us, to continue, a good language & study, in how to define, the future of a city charter, based on the concepts, of everyday community.

I am actually hopeful, we may be at a place, we can still ask & work towards - how the ideas of equity, can include, green sustainability ideas. As I am also hoping, current ideas of equity, with local neighborhoods, can work with, local Ohlone indigneous traditions - and can become a part of, the overall future language, of the city charter, as well.

sincerely,

blair beekman