



**MINUTES OF THE
SMART CITIES AND SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021

Consistent with the California Governor's Executive Order No. N-29-20, Resolution No. 79450 from the City of San José and the Santa Clara County Health Officer's March 16, 2020 Shelter in Place Order, the City Council meeting was not physically open to the public. Public comments were accepted via eComment, email, by phone/Webinar or online.

The Council meeting was teleconferenced from remote locations and convened at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers - Mahan, Cohen, Jones, Liccardo, Foley.

Absent: Councilmembers - All present.

Staff: City Manager's Office, Kip Harkness; Mayor's Office, Jordan Sun; City Attorney's Office, Neelam Naidu; City Clerk's Office, Toni Taber; and Yasmin Garcia, City Clerk's Office.

B. Review of Work Plan

None presented.

C. Consent Calendar

None presented.

D. Reports to Committee

1. Smart City Roadmap Update. (Information Technology/Civic Innovation)

Public Comments: Blair Beekman spoke on the surveillance technology ordinance, open public policies, and violent crime mitigation.

Chief Information Officer, Rob Lloyd and Division Manager, City Portfolio Products Projects Office, Michael Foster offered the presentation.

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D.1 (Cont'd.)

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Pam Foley, seconded by Vice Mayor Chappie Jones and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the verbal update on project highlights for Smart City Roadmap and City technology initiatives. (5-0.)

2. Digital Inclusion Status Report. (Library/Civic Innovation)

Public Comments: Blair Beekman spoke on digital inclusion, renewable energy ideas, broadband efforts at the federal level, and healthcare services.

City Librarian, Jill Bourne; Senior Civil Engineer, Mathew Nguyen; Public Works Director, Matt Cano; Program Director, San José Digital Inclusion Partnership at California Emerging Technology Fund, Charlene Tatis; and ITD Products Projects Manager, Sudheer Vangati offered the presentation.

Councilmember Pam Foley thanked the staff for working so hard to push the Digital Inclusion Fund for children and students to have access to Wi-Fi during the Pandemic.

Vice Mayor Chappie Jones thanked the staff for working continually throughout the pandemic to close the digital divide through broadband access.

Mayor Sam Liccardo requested information on how many students still need devices and what percentage of homes are getting a signal inside their homes in the areas where the Wi-Fi was set up. Program Director, Charlene Tatis answered the question.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Pam Foley, seconded by Councilmember David Cohen and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the verbal status report on the implementation of Wi-Fi access projects for school attendance areas with education partners. (4-0-1. Absent: Liccardo)

3. CC 21-093 Small Cell and 5G Update Report. (Civic Innovation)

Public Comments: (1) Mariana Damian addressed her concerns of the current 5G cell tower devices currently installed and asked if the city is monitoring the radiation of those towers. (2) Blair Beekman addressed the cautions and possible health issues regarding the broadband installations and to allow communities to decide if they're okay with 5G networks in their neighborhoods.

Assistant to the City Manager, Civic Innovation, Abigail Shull offered the presentation.

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D.3 (Cont'd.)

Councilmember Pam Foley, Councilmember David Cohen, and Vice Mayor Chappie Jones requested information and addressed their concerns about the possible effects of radiation, low and high frequency radiation concerns, receiving recently updated and accurate studies, and the monitoring being done. City Manager's Office, Kip Harkness answered the Committees questions and concerns.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Pam Foley, seconded by Councilmember David Cohen and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the verbal report on small cell and 5G network construction in San José which will review progress, performance against goals, investments made in the City, and continuous improvement steps in permitting. (4-0-1. Absent: Liccardo)

- **Open Forum**

1. Blair Beekman thanked the staff for their conversations on the last item, the importance of local government on federal policies, and giving communities the choice for cell towers in their neighborhoods.
2. Mariana Damian asked the following questions: the assessment of the impact to the environments, the benefits to the city after deployment of the small cell towers, and who is monitoring the small cell tower radiation.

- **Adjournment**

Councilmember Matt Mahan adjourned the Committee meeting at 3:44 p.m.

Approved at the 5/11/21 Council Meeting

Councilmember Matt Mahan, Chair
Smart Cities and Service Improvements Committee

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