



Memorandum

TO: Honorable Mayor &
City Council

FROM: Toni J. Taber, MMC
City Clerk

SUBJECT: The Public Record
September 18, 2025 – September 25, 2025

DATE: October 1, 2025

ITEMS FILED FOR THE PUBLIC RECORD

Letters from Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Letters from the Public

- 1-8. Letters from eight members of the public received on September 18, 2025, regarding: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station.
- 9-19. Letters from 11 members of the public received September 21-22, 2025, regarding: Conservancy Initiative regarding Plaza de Cesar Chavez.
- 20. Letter from Leanne Bernhardt, received September 23, 2025, regarding: Re: Recommendation For Enhanced Policies on Prolonged Residential Construction Projects to Mitigate Community Impacts – Case Reference: 1163 Fairview Ave, San Jose, CA 95125.
- 21. Letter from Brian Darby, received September 24, 2025, regarding: The Economic and Psychological Toll of Crime in California: A Two-Page Synopsis.

Toni J. Taber, MMC
City Clerk



FW: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Thu 9/18/2025 3:25 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: BART Transit Village Advocates [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 1:37 PM

To: [REDACTED] Davis, Martina <Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. Learn more <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>]

Dear VTA and City of San Jose Planning Department,

I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station behind Five Wounds Portuguese National Church. The current plan of record 120-foot-tall policy should not change in the new Five Wounds Urban Village Plan.

Sincerely,
Christina Tindall

[REDACTED]
95112

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the subject above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

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FW: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Thu 9/18/2025 3:25 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: BART Transit Village Advocates [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 3:21 PM

To: [REDACTED] tod@vta.org; Davis, Martina <Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. Learn more <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>]

Dear VTA and City of San Jose Planning Department,

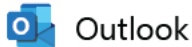
I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station behind Five Wounds Portuguese National Church. The current plan of record 120-foot-tall policy should not change in the new Five Wounds Urban Village Plan.

Sincerely,
Vera Fischer

[REDACTED]
95119

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FW: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Thu 9/18/2025 3:27 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: BART Transit Village Advocates [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 3:26 PM

To: [REDACTED] tod@vta.org; Davis, Martina <Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

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Dear VTA and City of San Jose Planning Department,

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Sincerely,

Teresa sousa
[REDACTED]

95123

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FW: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Thu 9/18/2025 4:40 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: BART Transit Village Advocates [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 3:27 PM

To: [REDACTED] tod@vta.org; Davis, Martina <Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. Learn more <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>]

Dear VTA and City of San Jose Planning Department,

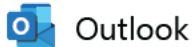
I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station behind Five Wounds Portuguese National Church. The current plan of record 120-foot-tall policy should not change in the new Five Wounds Urban Village Plan.

Sincerely,
Mario sousa

[REDACTED]
95123

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FW: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 9/19/2025 8:53 AM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: BART Transit Village Advocates [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 5:06 PM

To: [REDACTED] tod@vta.org; Davis, Martina <Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

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Dear VTA and City of San Jose Planning Department,

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Sincerely,
Rosemary Caso

[REDACTED]
95128

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From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 9/19/2025 8:53 AM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: BART Transit Village Advocates [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 5:10 PM

To: [REDACTED] tod@vta.org; Davis, Martina <Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

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Dear VTA and City of San Jose Planning Department,

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I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station behind Five Wounds Portuguese National Church. The current plan of record 120-foot-tall policy should not change in the new Five Wounds Urban Village Plan.

Aside from destroying the historical visual aspect of the church and school, the need for such office space in today's technological age does not make sense. Also, the roads around that area cannot support the extra traffic that these offices would generate.

Sincerely,
Brian Caso

[REDACTED]
95128

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FW: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 9/19/2025 8:53 AM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: BART Transit Village Advocates [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 5:34 PM

To: [REDACTED]; tod@vta.org; Davis, Martina <Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

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Dear VTA and City of San Jose Planning Department,

I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station behind Five Wounds Portuguese National Church. The current plan of record 120-foot-tall policy should not change in the new Five Wounds Urban Village Plan.

Yes absolutely this should be built!!!

This will help increase affordability of housing, and create more housing to help the crisis California is currently in. Also helping increase ridership to protect our critical transit services, double win!

VTA is using this land right.

A lot of these issues stem from local governments and task forces that block or significantly reduce density with the worry of it effecting SFH, or "small town" charm.

San Jose isn't a small town, and it shouldn't pretend to be one. We need to fix the mistake of having so many suburbs stitched for a city that is a HUGE part of the US Economy.

VTA has been doing an amazing job with TOD

VTA, please don't be adverse to this TOD.

To the SFH owners and older generation against this. Please, Instead of having a NIMBY mindset, please have more of a YIMBY one. Think of the future of this land, and for the young generation that have little to no housing options.

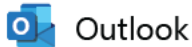
Sincerely,
Edwin

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

N/A

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I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station

From BART Transit Village Advocates [REDACTED]

Date Thu 9/18/2025 6:22 PM

To [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@vta.org> <[REDACTED]@vta.org>; Davis, Martina <Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. Learn more <<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>>]

Dear VTA and City of San Jose Planning Department,

I oppose 300-foot-tall buildings at the 28th St/Little Portugal BART Station behind Five Wounds Portuguese National Church. The current plan of record 120-foot-tall policy should not change in the new Five Wounds Urban Village Plan.

I was raised in San Jose, went to San Jose High School, and married at the Five Wounds Portuguese National Church. I oppose the planned project at many levels. First and foremost, skyscrapers will negatively affect this iconic San Jose City treasure. This place of worship for over 100 years-along with the I.E.S. building next door- was built by the Portuguese of East San Jose. For generations these two structures were the heart of the Portuguese community in the city. Skyscrapers will not only interfere with the ability of the viewer to appreciate the beauty of this magnificent temple, but the church will literally forever be under the shadows of 30-story high-rises.

Why not build single-family-owned homes or duplexes, or even low-density apartments, to conform with much of the current housing in the area? Must East Siders be burdened with additional suffocating vehicular traffic, and unbearable congestion?

What of infrastructure? City Fathers know how to plan for buildings, but how about roads, and garages to accommodate those approximately extra two thousand people, and their vehicles? How about a park nearby for adults to enjoy, and children to play in, as well as a swimming pool for the children to swim during hot summers?

San Jose needs more housing, for sure. Why not give the tony precincts of the city the opportunity to also enjoy those gleaming skyscrapers in their backyards? The East Side deserves better.

Maria A. Carty

Sincerely,
Maria A. Carty

[REDACTED]
95361

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the subject above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

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Fw: Investing in Our Future: Plaza de César Chávez Improvements

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:04 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 7:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Investing in Our Future: Plaza de César Chávez Improvements

From: E. Aclan [REDACTED] >

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 5:25 PM

To: District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>; Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Investing in Our Future: Plaza de César Chávez Improvements

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I'm writing as someone who enjoys attending events in San Jose and cares about the experiences we create in our public spaces.

Plaza de César Chávez, which has long been the heart of the city, should be prioritized for improvements. The Plaza could become a more welcoming, comfortable, and vibrant gathering place if enhancements are made.

This area is a vital part of our community where families, friends, and visitors come together. We have the opportunity to make it even better by fostering engaging public programming and thoughtful design.

I strongly support the vision put forth by the Plaza Conservancy. Their plan to enhance the park with a permanent stage, quality sound system, and artistic amenities can elevate our city's cultural scene.

Let's make Plaza de César Chávez a shining example of what public spaces can be.

Best regards,
Elaine "E." Aclan

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Fw: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision: Advancing San José's Community Spaces

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:04 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 7:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision: Advancing San José's Community Spaces

From: Mike Salas [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 5:35 PM

To: District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>; Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision: Advancing San José's Community Spaces

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I'm writing as someone who enjoys attending events in San José and cares about the experiences we create in our public spaces.

Plaza de César Chávez, which has long been the heart of the city, should be prioritized for improvements. The plaza could become a more welcoming, comfortable environment for families, friends, and visitors alike.

I strongly support the vision put forth by the Plaza Conservancy. Their plan to enhance the park with a permanent stage, quality sound systems, and more seating reflects the community's voice and desire for a vibrant gathering place.

It's essential that we continue to invest in our public spaces, especially ones as significant as Plaza de César Chávez. Let's make it a point to ensure that this space can host diverse events while providing a safe and inviting atmosphere.

I urge you to consider these improvements to fulfill our civic duty to create inclusive public spaces. Together, we can foster a community where everyone feels welcome.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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Fw: Plaza de César Chávez: Key to San José's Cultural Future

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:04 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 7:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Plaza de César Chávez: Key to San José's Cultural Future

-----Original Message-----

From: Lina Baeza [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 5:41 PM

To: District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>; Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Plaza de César Chávez: Key to San José's Cultural Future

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I am reaching out to express my enthusiasm for the events held in San José and how they shape our community.

The Plaza de César Chávez has historically been a focal point for our city. It deserves attention and enhancement—not just for the events but also for the diverse community it serves.

I wholeheartedly support the plan proposed by the Plaza Conservancy to improve the park. Their vision includes a permanent stage and upgraded facilities that will make this space even more inviting and functional.

This isn't merely about hosting events; it's about creating a vibrant atmosphere that fosters connection and creativity. I encourage you to consider the positive impact of these improvements and advocate for the Plaza's transformation.

Let's work together to enhance our public spaces and strengthen our community bonds.

Sincerely,
Lina Baeza

Sent from my iPhone

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Fw: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision: Advancing San José's Community Spaces

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:04 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 7:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision: Advancing San José's Community Spaces

-----Original Message-----

From: noreen macias [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 5:34 PM

To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision: Advancing San José's Community Spaces

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I hope this message finds you well. It is with great enthusiasm that I write about the importance of the Plaza de César Chávez in San José.

This area is not just a venue; it's a community cornerstone where families and friends come together. It's

vital that we prioritize its improvement, not only for events but for ongoing community engagement.

I stand behind the Plaza Conservancy in their endeavor to enhance the park. Their proposal for a permanent stage and better amenities will elevate the experience for everyone who visits.

This is an opportunity to strengthen our community ties and celebrate our rich cultural fabric. I urge you to support this initiative and help create a space that reflects our shared values.

Let's make our public spaces a source of pride for all.

Best wishes,
[Your Name]

Sent from my iPhone

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Fw: Elevating Plaza de César Chávez: A Thoughtful Proposal for San José

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:05 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 7:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Elevating Plaza de César Chávez: A Thoughtful Proposal for San José

-----Original Message-----

From: priscilla quinonez [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 5:55 PM

To: Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Elevating Plaza de César Chávez: A Thoughtful Proposal for San José

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

As a resident invested in the vibrancy of San Jose, I write to share my thoughts on the importance of revamping our public spaces.

Plaza de César Chávez has been a cornerstone of community life, yet it has the potential to be so much

more. By investing in improvements, we can create a space that invites all to gather and connect.

The Plaza should reflect our community's values and aspirations. Supporting the Plaza Conservancy's vision for enhancements will not only uplift this area but also enrich our cultural landscape.

I urge you to consider the lasting benefits of these changes. Let's work together to make Plaza de César Chávez a true centerpiece of our city.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Sent from my iPhone

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Fw: Community Enrichment Through Plaza de César Chávez Improvements

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:05 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 7:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Community Enrichment Through Plaza de César Chávez Improvements

-----Original Message-----

From: vanessa ward [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 6:01 PM

To: District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Community Enrichment Through Plaza de César Chávez Improvements

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns and suggestions regarding our beloved Plaza de César Chávez.

As a frequent visitor, I feel that this space is crucial for community engagement and should reflect the lively spirit of San José. Currently, it lacks the necessary attention and improvement to truly shine as a central hub.

The Plaza Conservancy has proposed a commendable vision to revitalize this area. Enhancements like a permanent stage and improved sound facilities would not only beautify the Plaza but also attract more events and foot traffic, bringing our community together.

I urge the council to consider these changes. By investing in the Plaza, we make a commitment to our community's culture and well-being. Let's work together to transform this space into a vibrant gathering point for everyone in San José.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Vanessa Ward

Sent from my iPhone

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Fw: Advancing San José: The Plaza Conservancy's Proposal for Improvement

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:05 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 7:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Advancing San José: The Plaza Conservancy's Proposal for Improvement

-----Original Message-----

From: Brenda Anzures [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 7:32 PM

To: Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>; Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Advancing San José: The Plaza Conservancy's Proposal for Improvement

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[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I hope you are all doing well.

As someone who actively participates in the wonderful events in San Jose, I want to express my enthusiasm for the proposed improvements to Plaza de César Chávez. This space has the potential to

become an even more cherished part of our city.

The Plaza Conservancy has outlined an inspiring vision for revitalizing this area, including a permanent stage and engaging programming. These enhancements would not only beautify the space but also enrich the community experience.

I believe it is essential to involve local residents in this process. By gathering public input, we can ensure that the final plans resonate with the community's desires and needs.

I encourage the council to take this opportunity to invest in our Plaza and make it a vibrant destination for all.

Warm regards,

Brenda Anzures

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Fw: Supporting Plaza de César Chávez: A Vision for San José's Future

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:06 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 8:00 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Supporting Plaza de César Chávez: A Vision for San José's Future

-----Original Message-----

From: D'Marcus Butler [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 7:48 PM

To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Supporting Plaza de César Chávez: A Vision for San José's Future

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I am reaching out to express my enthusiasm for the events held in San José and how they shape our community.

The Plaza de César Chávez has historically been a focal point for our city. It deserves attention and enhancement—not just for the events but also for the diverse community it serves.

I wholeheartedly support the plan proposed by the Plaza Conservancy to improve the park. Their vision includes a permanent stage and upgraded facilities that will make this space even more inviting and functional.

This isn't merely about hosting events; it's about creating a vibrant atmosphere that fosters connection and creativity. I encourage you to consider the positive impact of these improvements and advocate for the Plaza's transformation.

Let's work together to enhance our public spaces and strengthen our community bonds.

Sincerely,
D. Butler

Sent from my iPhone

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Fw: Plaza de César Chávez: A Vital Project for San José's Growth

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:06 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 8:00 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Plaza de César Chávez: A Vital Project for San José's Growth

-----Original Message-----

From: wedge@shutdown.com [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 2:49 AM

To: Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Plaza de César Chávez: A Vital Project for San José's Growth

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I'm writing as someone who enjoys attending events in San José and cares about the experiences we create in our public spaces.

Plaza de César Chávez, which has long been the heart of the city, should be prioritized for improvements.

The Plaza could become a more welcoming, comfortable, and vibrant space, incorporating community input and fostering a sense of belonging.

As we seek to enhance our city's environment, it's essential to consider how we can make our public spaces more inclusive for everyone. The Plaza should not just be a venue for events, but a gathering place that reflects the diversity and spirit of our community.

I strongly support the vision put forth by the Plaza Conservancy. Their plan emphasizes creating a permanent stage, quality amenities, and an inviting atmosphere to boost engagement. Building a vibrant community hub can transform the Plaza into a dynamic space where residents and visitors can connect.

I urge you to prioritize these improvements for the Plaza de César Chávez, as they will significantly enhance the community's spirit and connection. Together, let's create a space that truly represents us all.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Fw: Investing in Community: The Future of Plaza de César Chávez

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Mon 9/22/2025 5:04 PM

To Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 7:58 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Investing in Community: The Future of Plaza de César Chávez

From: Correy Johnson [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2025 5:09 PM

To: District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>; Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Investing in Community: The Future of Plaza de César Chávez

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I'm writing as someone who enjoys attending events in San José and cares about the experiences we create in our public spaces.

Plaza de César Chávez, which has long been the heart of the city, should be prioritized for improvements. The Plaza could become a more welcoming, comfortable, and vibrant place for everyone.

Please consider the possibilities. With community involvement, we can transform the Plaza into a lively venue that fosters connection and joy. Let's work together to bring back events, support local businesses, and enhance our shared spaces.

Hopeful for positive changes,

[Your Name]

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Outlook

Fw: Advancing San José Together: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision

From Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>**Date** Mon 9/22/2025 5:03 PM**To** Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

From: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Sent:** Monday, September 22, 2025 7:58 AM**To:** Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** FW: Advancing San José Together: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision

-----Original Message-----

From: Roger Sanford [REDACTED]**Sent:** Friday, September 19, 2025 4:35 PM**To:** District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Cicirelli, Jon <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>**Cc:** Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>; Yotam, Avi <Avi.Yotam@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Advancing San José Together: The Plaza Conservancy's Vision

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Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

In the spirit of civic duty, I write to express my concern about our beloved Plaza de César Chávez. As a regular attendee of events in San José, I believe this public space needs our attention.


The Plaza is more than just a location; it's where memories are made and community bonds are

strengthened. By investing in its revitalization, we can create a more vibrant atmosphere that welcomes all.

Let us work together to shape a Plaza that embodies the values of our city—community, connection, and joy. Your leadership can make a significant difference.

Together, we can inspire positive change!

Warm regards,

Stay Tuned!
Roger Sanford
Hcare Health, CEO


Sent from iPhone15, please forgive any informality, all email restrictions apply.

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RECEIVED
SAN JOSE CITY CLERK
2025 SEP 23 4:09:53

US Mail
R. R. M.

Leanne Bernhardt

[REDACTED]
San José, CA 95125
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

September 19, 2025

The Honorable Members of the San José City Council
c/o City Clerk's Office
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113

Re: Recommendation for Enhanced Policies on Prolonged Residential Construction Projects to Mitigate Community Impacts – Case Reference: 1163 Fairview Ave, San José, CA 95125

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council,

I am writing as a concerned resident of San José to bring to your attention an ongoing issue with a residential construction project that exemplifies broader systemic challenges in our city's permitting and enforcement processes. Specifically, I have recently become acquainted with the property owner and the general contractor associated with a single-family home development at 1163 Fairview Ave, which has now exceeded nearly 10 years in duration without substantial completion. This property is next door to my home. This protracted timeline has not only resulted in a multi-year visual blight and neighborhood disruption but also raises significant questions about compliance with local building codes and the adequacy of current oversight mechanisms.

While I appreciate the City's efforts to streamline permitting through initiatives like the [SJPermits.org](https://www.sjpermits.org) online portal and the Best Prepared

Designer Program, which aim to expedite approvals. The lack of robust enforcement for inactive or stalled sites remains a critical gap. Under the California Building Code (CBC) Section 105.5, as adopted by San José Municipal Code (SJMC) Title 24, building permits are generally valid for 180 days from issuance, with extensions possible upon request to the Development Services Call Center. However, prolonged inactivity, such as the nearly 10 years observed here, can lead to automatic expiration, necessitating re-application and potential revocation if work ceases without notification. In this instance, neither the owner nor the contractor has demonstrated consistent progress or follow-through as outlined in their approved plans, despite the City's prior awareness of related complaints. Another unfortunate process has been what the owner at 1163 Fairview Ave has done: perform just enough work, every 4-6 months to keep the project from being considered abandoned; an obvious effort to game the rules.

This situation not only contravenes the spirit of SJMC Chapter 1.08 (Code Enforcement), which empowers the City to abate public nuisances—including unsafe, unsightly, or abandoned construction sites through administrative citations, fines (up to \$1,000 per day for ongoing violations), or even misdemeanor charges under California Penal Code Section 372—it also imposes undue burdens on surrounding residents. Prolonged projects contribute to environmental hazards (e.g., erosion, debris accumulation), diminished property values, and aesthetic degradation, all of which undermine San José's commitment to high-quality urban living as outlined in the Envision 2040 General Plan.

To prevent such occurrences and foster accountability, I respectfully urge the City Council to consider the following policy enhancements:

1. **Mandatory Progress Reporting:** Require quarterly status updates for residential projects exceeding 12 months, with automatic permit suspension for non-compliance, aligned with CBC guidelines.
2. **Inactivity Thresholds and Revocation Protocols:** Formalize a 24-month inactivity limit before initiating revocation proceedings, coupled with streamlined resident reporting via an expanded Code Enforcement Services portal (accessible at sanjoseca.gov/codeenforcement).

3. **Community Impact Assessments:** Integrate nuisance abatement fees into permit fees for high-risk projects, with funds allocated to neighborhood revitalization efforts.
4. **Enhanced Oversight Collaboration:** Partner with the Santa Clara County Department of Planning and Development for joint inspections on stalled sites, ensuring swift resolution.
5. **Overall project time limit.**

I am confident that implementing these measures would not only resolve cases like the one at 1163 Fairview Avenue but also safeguard our community's livability and economic vitality — including but not limited to preserving and enhancing property tax revenues. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and can be reached at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Thank you for your dedication to making San José a model of efficient and equitable development.

Sincerely,

Leanne Bernhardt

Concerned Willow Glen Resident

September 24, 2025 Rules and Open Government Committee

The Economic and Psychological Toll of Crime in California: A Two-Page Synopsis

The costs of crime are far-reaching, extending well beyond the immediate loss of property or physical injury.¹ They impose a significant burden on individuals, communities, and the state as a whole, encompassing both tangible economic costs and devastating psychological impacts. In California, a state with a population of nearly 40 million, these costs are immense and multifaceted. This synopsis outlines the estimated economic and psychological costs of various crimes, with a specific focus on those affecting the everyday lives of Californians.

Economic Costs

The economic costs of crime can be broken down into three main categories: costs to victims, costs to the criminal justice system, and broader societal costs.

1. Costs to Victims:

This is the most direct and personal economic impact. It includes:

- **Property Loss and Damage:** This is a key component for crimes like car theft, burglary, and bicycle theft. For example, the average value of property stolen during a home burglary in the U.S. is estimated to be over **\$2,600**. For car theft, while the value of the vehicle is the most obvious loss, it's not the only one. Victims also face the cost of rental cars, increased insurance premiums, and the loss of personal items left inside the vehicle. California is one of the states with the highest rates of auto theft, and while the recovery rate for stolen cars is relatively high, the hassle and financial burden on the victims remain.
- **Loss to Businesses from Smash-and-Grab Robberies:** The economic impact of "smash-and-grab" robberies extends well beyond the value of the stolen merchandise.²

In California, these organized retail crimes have become a significant problem.³ While it's difficult to pinpoint an "average" cost for each incident due to the wide range in value of stolen goods, the total impact is staggering. A single incident can result in tens of thousands of dollars in losses from stolen goods alone, but the real costs are much higher. Businesses must also pay for the repair of damaged property, such as smashed windows and display cases.⁴ They face skyrocketing insurance premiums, lost sales from temporary closures, and the need to invest in costly security measures.⁵ This economic pressure can even lead to store closures, leaving communities with fewer services and fewer jobs.⁶

- **Medical Expenses:** Assault, robbery, and other violent crimes can result in significant medical bills for physical injuries, ranging from emergency room visits to long-term rehabilitation. The financial toll of these crimes is staggering. For instance, the costs of a single violent crime, such as a robbery, can exceed **\$19,000** when factoring in medical expenses, lost wages, and pain and suffering.
- **Lost Wages and Productivity:** Victims of crime often miss work to deal with the aftermath, including reporting the crime, meeting with law enforcement, and attending court proceedings. The psychological distress can also lead to long-term unemployment or reduced productivity.

2. Costs to the Criminal Justice System:

This represents the taxpayer burden of crime. It includes:

- **Law Enforcement:** The costs of police patrols, investigations, and responding to crime calls are substantial.⁷ In California, a significant portion of local government budgets is allocated to police protection. To combat organized retail theft, for example, California has awarded over **\$267 million** in grants to local law enforcement agencies for increased patrols and surveillance.⁸
- **Judicial and Legal Services:** Every crime that is reported and prosecuted incurs costs for the courts, public defenders, prosecutors, and all associated legal staff.
- **Corrections and Incarceration:** California has one of the highest per capita spending rates on corrections in the nation. The costs of operating prisons, jails, and parole and probation systems are enormous, and they are directly linked to the number of crimes committed.

3. Broader Societal Costs:

These are the indirect economic impacts that affect the entire community.

- **Decreased Property Values:** Neighborhoods with higher crime rates often see a decline in property values, impacting homeowners and the overall tax base.
- **Eroding Public Trust and Safety:** The constant threat of crime, including the visible and brazen nature of smash-and-grabs, erodes public trust and makes people feel unsafe. This can lead to reduced foot traffic in commercial areas, which hurts local businesses and slows economic growth.⁹
- **Lost Tourism and Business:** High-profile crime can deter tourism and new business development, slowing economic growth. A recent study estimated the cost of intimate partner violence alone in California to be over **\$73 billion** in 2022, a figure that includes lost productivity, healthcare costs, and criminal justice spending, which is a significant portion of the state's budget.

Psychological Costs

While the economic costs can be quantified, the psychological impacts of crime are often immeasurable and can be far more devastating. The effects are not limited to violent crimes; property crimes also have a profound psychological toll.

- **Emotional Trauma and Distress:** Victims of crime frequently experience a range of emotions, including fear, anger, anxiety, and a profound sense of violation. This is especially true for crimes that invade one's personal space, such as burglary, or for employees who witness violent retail crimes.
- **Loss of Safety and Security:** Crime shatters a person's sense of safety, both in their own home and in their community. This fear can lead to long-term changes in behavior, such as avoiding certain public spaces or constantly being on guard. One study found that two-thirds of California crime victims reported experiencing anxiety, stress, and difficulty sleeping.
- **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD):** Victims of violent crimes like assault and robbery are at a high risk of developing PTSD, which can lead to flashbacks, nightmares, and severe anxiety. But even victims of non-violent crimes, such as a home burglary or witnessing a smash-and-grab, can experience symptoms of PTSD.
- **Impact on Social and Family Life:** The psychological effects of crime can strain relationships with friends and family. A victim may become withdrawn, irritable, or unable to participate in activities they once enjoyed.
- **Erosion of Trust:** Crime, particularly in a community setting, can erode trust in neighbors, law enforcement, and the justice system itself. This can weaken community bonds and make it more difficult for people to work together to solve problems.

We recognize a myriad of other groups of individuals to bring about awareness Such as:

- **National Crime Victims' Rights Week:** During this week in April, events and ceremonies are held in communities to honor victims and raise awareness about victims' rights and services. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services supports these efforts across the state.
- **Advocacy and rallies:** Local groups advocating for crime victims' services often hold rallies, sometimes at San Jose City Hall, to bring awareness to their cause.
- **Vigils for specific tragedies:** After major crimes, such as the 2021 VTA shooting, the city has organized vigils to mourn victims and provide a space for grieving.

- Victim assistance programs: The San Jose Police Department and other local agencies provide resources and assistance year-round to help victims navigate the legal system and find support.

I would respectfully request that an item be placed on a future agenda to discuss the possibility of enacting a day of recognition and awareness for victims of crime. I would also like to suggest that there be a specific committee, if one does not already exist, that meets on a quarterly basis to take public input concerning trends in crime, lack of response, Ideas that are working, and programs that are not working. I believe this would give a voice to a group of people who are often ignored. Though there are specific events that help such as vigils and The national crime victims rights week. San Jose was recently acknowledged as being one of the safest big cities in America. Such a Day of recognition and a quarterly committee could help raise even more awareness for people who struggle with the economic, emotional, physical, and social effects of crime.

Thank you very much Brian Darby [REDACTED]