
FW: Written public comment Item 3.4 for meeting of 03172026

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 3/10/2026 5:01 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (77 KB)
item 3.4 written comment from LPC 03102026.docx.pdf;

From: Matthew Tinsley [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 4:53 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Written public comment Item 3.4 for meeting of 03172026

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To Whom It May Concern

Please find attached, written public comment on Item 3.4 Childcare Policy Opportunities Status Report from the Local Early Education Planning Council of Santa Clara County (LPC). Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best, Matt Tinsley
Co-Chair, LPC Advocacy Committee



Matthew Tinsley, Ph.D.
Director, Education Initiatives & Policies
Executive Services Division
Santa Clara County Office of Education
1290 Ridder Park Drive MC 243
San Jose, CA 95131-2304

[REDACTED]
Maximizer – Input – Strategic – Relator – Ideation
Pronouns: he / him / his

March 10, 2026

San José City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113

Re: Item 3.4 Childcare Policy Opportunities Status Report

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council members,

As the co-chairs of the Local Early Education Planning Council of Santa Clara County (LPC), we are writing to thank you for your discussion of promoting childcare as a goal within the city's Growing Our Economy Focus Area.

Expanding access to childcare in San José directly supports the city's economic strategy to grow jobs, strengthen workforce participation, and connect residents to high-growth industries¹. Over 60% of working parents report lateness, missed days, or distractions due to childcare issues, reducing productivity and earnings². Greater access to childcare increases workforce participation rates, especially for women³, and generates significant return on investment. A recent study in Washington DC estimated that a \$139M annual increase in childcare subsidies would lead to "\$1.7 billion in economic growth in the first year alone"⁴. Statements from the Bay Area Council and Silicon Valley Leadership Group⁵ and research⁶ from the Silicon Valley Institute for Regional Studies provide local evidence for the business case that "childcare is work that supports all other work"⁷.

We are mindful that the City of San José faces significant budget constraints. Below we respectfully suggest three low-cost, feasible, and meaningful actions for the Council to consider.

1. Educate landlords and tenants about family childcare homes (FCCH) as a by right use of residential property.

The City of San José Housing department provides landlord and tenant resources and education⁸. This channel could be used to provide landlords and tenants with information about state law (SB 234, Skinner) that requires home-based childcare be a by right use of rental housing and prevents discrimination against tenants operating licensed FCCH. Links could be added to the site that explain the law⁹ or to existing fact sheets in eight languages from the

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<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/office-of-the-city-manager/city-council-focus-areas/growing-our-economy>

² <https://www.ffyf.org/2026/02/11/readynation-report/>

³ https://www.nado.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Childcare-Report_Final.pdf and

⁴ <https://www.dcfpi.org/all/expanding-child-care-subsidies-would-boost-the-districts-economy/>

⁵ <https://sanjosespotlight.com/op-ed-building-back-our-economy-requires-child-care-for-all/>

⁶ <https://jointventure.org/images/stories/pdf/universal-preschool-study-2022-09.pdf>

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<https://www.americanprogress.org/article/playbook-for-the-advancement-of-women-in-the-economy/providing-affordable-accessible-and-high-quality-child-care/>

⁸ <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/housing/tenants>

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<https://www.childcarelaw.org/content/frequently-asked-questions-sb-234-the-keeping-kids-close-to-home-act/>

California Department of Fair Education and Housing¹⁰. The Council could also consider passing an ordinance requiring this information to be included in rental agreements, as was done by the City of San Diego in 2023¹¹, to ensure all parties were aware of this change in state law.

2. Include childcare in the City of San José General Plan

The City is required to regularly review and update its General Plan. Including childcare in the General Plan would leverage this existing process to support the integration of childcare into its long-term land use, housing, transportation, safety, and environmental planning. This would also ensure that childcare is considered in zoning, specific plans, and development moving forward. This action is aligned with the Child Care Policy Opportunities Status Report consideration of addressing childcare in zoning code (Item 2.4)¹². Should the Council wish to demonstrate leadership on this topic, it could also consider actively supporting recently introduced state legislation (AB 1914, Schiavo¹³) through its Intergovernmental Relations department under the “Advocate for Educational and Employment Opportunities that Foster Equitable Outcomes for San José Families” state legislative advocacy priority.

3. Continue funding for the FFN Support Network.

The Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) Support Network Program is an invaluable component of the city’s childcare landscape, as demonstrated in the Status Report presented to the Neighborhood Services and Education subcommittee¹⁴. It has supported 641 caregivers, in 34 ZIP codes and 19 languages, increasing the quality of care for over 2,000 children through 15,000 hours of professional development. It is a unique, existing asset aligned with the goal of promoting childcare within the city’s Growing Our Economy Focus Area. Continuing to fund this program would allow the city and its residents to continue to benefit from its demonstrated effects on workforce development, program quality, and economic equity.

Thank you for your consideration of promoting childcare as a goal within the city’s Growing Our Economy Focus Area, and for your thoughtful review of our suggested actions. We look to implementing expanded access to quality childcare in partnership with the City of San José.

Sincerely,

Cathy Boettcher and Melissa Roth, Co-Chairs
Local Early Education Planning Council of Santa Clara County

¹⁰ <https://civildrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2022/01/ChildCareFactsheetPR2022-01-10.pdf>

¹¹ https://docs.sandiego.gov/council_reso_ordinance/rao2023/O-21708.pdf

¹²

<https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=15172145&GUID=14097A52-4399-4B55-9A80-29A2D175F4C1>

¹³ https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB1914

¹⁴

<https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=15172250&GUID=DB112E07-D15E-4D32-B1E6-D9125EEF38EB>

Fw: Public Letter for City Council Agenda # (3.4)

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Fri 3/13/2026 11:19 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc Reyes, Rachel <Rachel.Reyes@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? Your [feedback](#) is appreciated!

From: SJPL FFN Caregiver Support Network Program [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2026 11:01 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Public Letter for City Council Agenda # (3.4)

Letter Sent on Behalf of Tracy Wang:

Dear City Council Members,

My name is Tracy, and I am a parent and a former participant in the Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFN) program in San José.

I am deeply grateful for the FFN program and the support it has given me. Through this program, I went from being a full-time stay-at-home mom to becoming a parent with stronger knowledge about healthy and safe child care. The training and guidance helped me better understand how to support children's growth and development.

The program also encouraged me to connect with other caregivers and parents. I became more confident sharing experiences, learning from others, and supporting families around me. What once felt like an isolated journey of parenting became a

supportive community where we learn together, grow together, and help children thrive.

Because of the support I received, I have been able to take better care of my own child and sometimes help friends, neighbors, or former colleagues care for their children when they need help. The program gave me the knowledge and confidence to contribute positively to my community.

My gratitude for this program is truly beyond words. It transformed me from an isolated individual into part of a supportive network where caregivers work together to support children and families.

This program is essential to children, families, and caregivers in our community. Children are our future, and they deserve strong foundations and caring relationships. Programs like FFN empower caregivers with the knowledge and support needed to nurture the next generation.

I respectfully ask the City of San José to continue funding and supporting child care programs, especially the FFN program. It provides valuable training, community connection, and support to caregivers who are helping children and families every day.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracy

FFN Support Team | Early Education
City of San José | San José Public Library
150 E. San Fernando St., San José, CA 95112
[REDACTED]

Learn more about the FFN Caregiver Support Network [here](#)
Learn more about SJPL's Early Education Services [here](#)

Fw: Public Letter for City Council Agenda Item 3.4

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Fri 3/13/2026 2:16 PM
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? Your [feedback](#) is appreciated!

From: Preetha AP <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2026 2:12 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Public Letter for City Council Agenda Item 3.4

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Dear City Council Members,

My name is Preetha Aithur Poovappa and I am a parent in San José.

The Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFN) program has helped me by providing college classes and helped me to learn new skills about parenting and kids mental health , nutrition etc

Because of this support, I have been able to
Successfully support my kids daily routine by upgrading their nutrition (healthy) , learned about my plate,
gentle parenting and many more .

This program is essential to children, families, and caregivers in our community because they provide access to resources, provides good knowledge about kids health and especially mental health and nutrition.

I respectfully ask the City of San Jose to continue funding and supporting
childcare programs, especially because this might support the family who doesn't know about kids mental health or good nutrition. They will get good access or exposure to good upbringing of their kids. Or it helps

to increase childcare services .

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Preetha

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