

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Jose City Council Approves Mayor Liccardo's Proposals to Aid Tenants and Federal Employees Impacted by Shutdown

Council unanimously adopts an urgency ordinance to protect San Joseans from eviction during the federal shutdown and an interest-free loan program for San Jose Airport staff working without pay.

San Jose, Calif. – Today, the San Jose City Council approved an urgency ordinance that establishes a 90-day moratorium on evictions for non-payment of rent for tenants affected by the Trump-forced federal government shutdown and a short-term, no-interest loan program for vital federal employees currently working without pay at Mineta San Jose International Airport.

“With today’s votes, we have taken action to protect our residents who rely on the federal government to keep their homes and to ensure the safe operation of our airport,” said Mayor Sam Liccardo. “We are doing everything in our power to keep the political dysfunction in Washington from severely disrupting the lives of our residents.”

In approving the urgency ordinance, San Jose immediately establishes a 90-day moratorium on evictions for non-payment of rent for tenants who receive a federal housing voucher – for instance Section 8 including Veteran’s Administration Supportive Housing Vouchers (VASH) – or are federal employees or contractors who are unpaid due to the shutdown. If the shutdown ends before 90 days, then the moratorium will expire 30 days from the end of the shutdown.

The City Council also gave final approval to an interest-free loan program for the approximately 500 federal employees – air traffic controllers, TSA security employees, and Customs officers – who are being forced to work without pay. Under the program, the City will partner with Technology Credit Union (TechCU) to disperse loans equivalent to the take-home pay of San Jose’s federal airport employees. The program will be up and running next week.

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