



Distributed on:

AUG 14 2009

by City Manager's Office

## Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Debra Figone

**SUBJECT:** City Manager's Weekly Report

**DATE:** August 14, 2009

### INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

***Airport Passenger Activity Down 16% in July***—Passenger traffic at SJC dropped almost 16% in July compared to July 2008, continuing the negative trend over the past two years. Although the Airport had anticipated that traffic declines would flatten out in the coming year following steep airline capacity reductions since last summer, carriers are continuing to eliminate flights, reduce service, and park aircraft, affecting airports throughout the nation. The Airport continues to identify methods to reduce costs and increase revenues in response to the prolonged and deep recession that has caused both business and leisure travel to fall sharply. For more information, call Bill Sherry, (408) 501-7600.

***American Eagle to discontinue San José/Orange County Air Service***—American Eagle, a subsidiary of American Airlines, announced that it will be dropping its service between San José and Orange County effective November. The carrier currently has 7 daily departures on small “regional jets” to John Wayne Airport from SJC, with total seat capacity of about 300. After this reduction, American Airlines will have approximately 20 daily flights to five destinations from San José, down from the approximately 80 daily flights it had in 2000 prior to dismantling its small hub operations across the nation. Southwest Airlines continues to serve SJC/Orange County with seven daily flights on its larger 737 aircraft with a total capacity of about 1000 seats. For more information, contact Bill Sherry at (408) 501-7600.

***Governor Signs AB 767***—On August 6, the Governor signed AB 767 (Ammiano) which extends the funding for two voter-approved programs under Proposition 1C Housing Bond, the Homeless Youth Program and Building Equity and Growth in Neighborhoods (BEGIN). (The City Council voted earlier this month to support AB 767 due to the direct benefit the extension of these important state programs would have on San José's low and moderate-income residents). By extending the timeframe for applying to these two programs, staff anticipates the following outcomes 1) dozens more homebuyers will be able to receive assistance through BEGIN and 2) thirty-two youth from San José and Santa Clara, who are aging out of foster care or are otherwise at risk of homelessness, will be housed. Since 2006, San José has successfully competed for and received more than \$16.7 million in BEGIN grant funds which have assisted over 200 first-time homebuyers. The City also received a commitment under the Homeless Youth Supportive Housing Fund for a City-funded project, the Commons. For additional information, contact Leslye Krutko at 535-3851.

**HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Report

**Date:** August 14, 2009

**Page 2 of 5**

***Downtown High Rise Obstruction Study Deferral***—The Airport's evaluations of possible obstructions that could be created by some downtown high-rise construction in the future have been deferred for at least a year. This matter had been scheduled to be heard by the Community and Economic Development Committee in June and by Council this fall. Because additional technical and economic analysis remains to be done, staff has deferred the matter until this work is completed in order to achieve the optimum results for both the Airport and development of the Downtown core. The Airport has also learned that the FAA is working with five large airports to develop additional methodology related to obstructions and airspace safety that could affect how San José can address the issue locally. In the meanwhile, the City's development review process will follow current policy and practice for evaluating potential high rise applications on a case-by-case basis, and any proposals for new downtown high-rise buildings that might affect Airport operations will be brought to the full City Council for consideration. For more information, contact Bill Sherry at (408) 501-7600.

***Library to Pilot Text Reference Service***—On August 17, San José libraries will join a handful of other library systems around the country in inviting community members to "text" Library staff with questions. The pilot text reference program is ultra simple. Users simply send a text message to 66746 and start their question with "AskSJ;" e.g. "AskSJ What's the current exchange rate for the Euro?" Questions may be sent as they occur, but librarians will respond between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. All the other means of requesting reference help will continue to be available, including email and live chat reference. For more information, visit [SJLibrary.org](http://SJLibrary.org) and click on "Ask a Librarian" or call King Library Reference Help at (408) 808-2100.

***Major Program Series Opens in September at King Library***—On September 6, a new documentary—"*Soul of a People: Writing America's Story*"—will air on Smithsonian Channel HD. Beginning in September, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library will host a series of programs that promote discussion on the era that gave rise to the Federal Writer's Project and its parallels to modern times. The library program series kicks off on Saturday, September 12, at 12 p.m. with a screening and discussion of excerpts from the film, along with readings from Federal Writer's Project works led by SJSU Reference Librarian Paul Kauppila. All of the free public programs will be held in King Library Meeting Suites 225/229. For more information, visit [www.sjlibrary.org/soul.htm](http://www.sjlibrary.org/soul.htm) or call (408) 808-2397.

***SJFD Aids in Great America Roller Coaster Rescue***—On August 10, San Jose fire fighters were dispatched to aid in the rescue of 24 Great America Amusement Park patrons on a roller coaster that malfunctioned and became stranded in mid air. SJFD worked in conjunction with the Santa Clara Fire Department and proved an invaluable asset to the rescue effort. In addition to providing staff, SJFD was also able to provide guidance and coordination in the rescue effort by using the Departments Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) High Angle training and equipment. The rescue effort garnered national attention and proved a successful collaboration between the two fire departments. No injuries were reported. For more information, contact Scott Kouns at 277-8741.

***Human Resources will host an Employee Wellness Conference and Fair***—On August 21, the Human Resources Department will be hosting an Employee Wellness Conference and Fair at City Hall. The Citywide employee/retiree wellness event is designed to celebrate wellness and provide participants an opportunity to learn more about how to maintain or achieve personal wellness through its 47 seminar sessions and other events. Details and instructions on how to register for the seminars are listed on the wellness pages of the *internet* at: [www.sanjoseca.gov/wellness](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/wellness) or

**HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Report

**Date:** August 14, 2009

**Page 3 of 5**

can be viewed via the WELLNESS Quick Link on the *intranet* home page at [www.csj.gov](http://www.csj.gov). In addition, a table-top wellness fair will be held in the Rotunda from 11 am – 2 pm. For more information, contact Debbi Bohnet-Nuttall at (408) 975-1431.

***New Community Garden Fully Irrigated with Recycled Water***—On August 14, the City will celebrate the grand opening of Guadalupe Community Gardens, the first community garden in California irrigated solely with recycled water. The project, which helps meet the City's Green Vision goals, already has a full roster of gardeners and a waiting list for Phase II, tentatively scheduled for development in the next year. The City's Community Gardens Program is a volunteer program that provides residents with a plot of land to grow organic vegetables, herbs, flowers and fruit. For more information on Guadalupe Community Gardens, please visit [www.grpg.org](http://www.grpg.org) or call (408) 298-7657. For more information on the Community Garden Program, please visit <http://www.sjcommunitygardens.org/> or call 793-4165.

***The City of San José Works with HealthTrust on Water Fluoridation***— On August 5, an article published in the Mercury News stated that the water supply for most of the City is not fluoridated. The article correctly stated that San Jose's Municipal Water System does supply fluoridated water. Under California law, neither water systems nor their customers are required to fund the cost of fluoridation. Health Trust, a local non-profit, is researching possible next steps in an effort to fluoridate Santa Clara County's entire water supply. The City will be working with Health Trust, as Health Trust continues their study and attempt to find potential funding sources for the project. For more information, contact Mansour Nasser at 277-2558

***Teens Roll Up Their Sleeves in SNI Areas***—Approximately 120 teen volunteers spent a portion of their summer picking up litter, hauling away debris, painting graffiti and pulling weeds at 17 locations within several of the City's Strong Neighborhood Initiative (SNI) areas. The work of the teen volunteers had an estimated value of more than \$108,000. The young volunteers were recruited by the Downtown SNI Team from the YMCA, Children's Discovery Museum, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Community Center, McKinley Teen Center and the East Side Union High School District and the developmental needs program at Yerba Buena High School. They worked in the Five Wounds Brookwood Terrace, 13th Street, Market/Almaden and University SNI Areas. The young volunteers filled two dumpsters, 120 bags of litter and used 40 gallons of paint to wipe out graffiti. They also spruced up parks, trails and neighborhood gateways. For more information, contact Paul Pereira at (408) 535-8506.

***National Night Out Events Draw More Than 10,000***—On August 4, the City's annual National Night Out events drew an estimated 10,139 participants in SNI and pilot project areas. The 39 events ranged in size from a dozen neighbors at a home in the LeyVa area of West Evergreen to a 3,500-person gathering at Emma Prush Park. Entertainment activities included ethnic dance and music performances, outdoor movies, band concerts, raffles and resource fairs including connections with San José Police Officers. Additionally, the City's Solar Program participated in events in the Seven Trees and Greater Palm Haven neighborhoods by providing community members with information on solar technologies including the basics of solar, how to find a solar contractor, and various financing options and incentives available to property owners. National Night Out was launched in 1984 by the National Association of Town Watch to heighten awareness in local crime prevention efforts across the country. Nationally, an estimated 37 million people took part this year. For more information, contact the SJPD Crime Prevention Unit

**HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Report

**Date:** August 14, 2009

**Page 4 of 5**

at (408) 277-4133. For more information on the City's Solar Program, contact Jessie Denver at 975-2588.

***City's Solar Program Provides Training on Photovoltaic and Fire Safety***—On August 5 and 6, the City's Solar Program hosted training workshops on Photovoltaic (Solar) and Fire Safety for 80 California firefighters from multiple jurisdictions including, San Jose, Milpitas, Palo Alto, Berkeley, San Francisco, Salinas, Albany, San Joaquin County, Santa Clara, Fresno, Tracy, Contra Costa County, Sunnyvale, Fremont, Soledad, Richmond, Woodland, Vacaville, and Cal Fire. Workshop topics included: Identifying the presence of a solar system when responding to a fire; components of the system – possible risks to firefighters; fighting fires on solar equipped structures; case studies of solar related injuries and fires; and tour of 600 kW solar system. The training was a collaborative effort among the City's Solar Program, local labor union (IBEW Local 332), San José Unified School District and Chevron Energy Solutions as well as SJFD's Matt Paiss, who conducted the training. For more information, contact Jessie Denver at 975-2588.

***Executive Director of Destination: Home is Leaving***—On September 7, Carol Lamont will be leaving Destination: Home – the public-private partnership to end homelessness in Santa Clara County. Maureen O'Malley-Moore will be the Destination: Home contact on an interim basis and will be responsible for ensuring that the initiative continues to move forward. For additional information, contact Leslye Krutko at 535-3851.

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

***Guadalupe Community Gardens Grand Opening***, August 14, 3pm - 7pm, Guadalupe Gardens, corner of Walnut and Asbury Streets, San José, 95110. For more information, visit [www.grpg.org](http://www.grpg.org) or call us at (408) 298-7657. RSVP to [reservations@grpg.org](mailto:reservations@grpg.org).

***Back to School Bash – Community Fun Night***, August 21, 6 pm at Willow Glen Community and Senior Center, 2175 Lincoln Ave. San José, CA 95125. For more information, contact Janine Bray at 448-6400.

***Sun Gallery-“Hottest Show in Town,”*** August 22-September 19 will feature the artistic talents of active and retired firefighters, located at 1015 E Street, Hayward, CA.

***San José Pension Plan Outreach Meetings***, August 26, 6:30-8:30pm in Wing Committee Rooms 118 & 119, and August 27, 1:30-3:30pm in Council Chambers. Both meetings are located at San Jose City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José, CA. For more information, contact Nadine Nader at (408) 535-8104.

***2009 National Corvette Caravan***, August 29, 7-11am, Club Auto Sport at 521 Charcot Avenue, San José, CA.

***East San José Carnegie Branch Library Grand Opening***, August 29, 11 a.m. dedication (1102 E. Santa Clara St. (corner of S. 23<sup>rd</sup> St.)). Welcome back after expansion, the oldest public library and the only Carnegie library still serving in Santa Clara County. For information, call (408) 535-8450.

**HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**Subject:** City Manager's Weekly Report

**Date:** August 14, 2009

**Page 5 of 5**

*Albertson's Parkway Trail Grand Opening*, August 29, 10 am, Conejo Dr. & Jagers Dr., San José, 95119. Please contact Nicole Morrison 794-6206 or [Nicole.morrison@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Nicole.morrison@sanjoseca.gov) for more information.

*7<sup>th</sup> Annual 'Golf for Jobs' Tournament*, September 7, 1pm, Los Lagos Golf Course, 2995 Tuers Road, San José, 95121. For more information please visit [www.cetgolftourney.com](http://www.cetgolftourney.com).

***Community Meetings on the Inclusionary Housing Policy*** – Below are upcoming meeting dates and locations:

- September 8, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Willow Senior Center located at 2175 Lincoln Avenue
- September 17, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the City Hall Public Wing Room 119 located at 200 E. Santa Clara Street – ***Joint Stakeholder Meeting***
- September 22, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Southside Community Center located at 5585 Cottle Road
- September 23, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the City Hall Public Wing Room 118-119 located at 200 East Santa Clara Street September 24, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Community Meeting West Valley Branch Library located at 1243 San Tomas Aquino Road



*for* Debra Figone  
City Manager