



Memorandum

TO: Rules and Open Government Committee

FROM: Mayor Chuck Reed
Councilmember Nora Campos
Councilmember Madison Nguyen

SUBJECT: PUBLIC INTOXICATION POLICY REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

DATE: October 23, 2008

Approved Date

Chuck Reed *Nora Campos*

Madison Nguyen *JRF* *LM*

RECOMMENDATION

Add the following item to the November 18, 2008 City Council Agenda:

- o Review and discussion of the San José Police Department’s policies for handling individuals who are intoxicated in public.
- o Review and discussion of statistics and data related to public intoxication arrests.

BACKGROUND

Recent news reports call into question the current San José Police Department’s policy for dealing with public intoxication, as well as the rates of arrest for public intoxication. The report asserts that our arrest rates are disproportionate in comparison with other jurisdictions in California. Over the years, San José has taken different approaches to public intoxication. The questions that have been raised surrounding our current policies and data warrant a discussion so that the community continues to have confidence that the San José Police Department’s policies and procedures will keep us a safe community.