



Memorandum

TO: City Council

FROM: Mayor Chuck Reed

SUBJECT: Mayor's Gang Prevention Task
Force & San José BEST Update

DATE: June 20, 2011

APPROVED: *Chuck Reed*

DATE: 6/20/11

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the staff recommendation and formally thank the donors to the 2011 Safe Summer Initiative.

BACKGROUND

This year, a number of private donors have stepped forward to help fund the efforts of the Safe Summer Initiative, greatly expanding the number of at-risk young people the program will serve this summer.

According to the experts from our San José Police Department and Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force, the summer months can be a time of particular concern. Youth, who might be kept safe and occupied by school, sports, and other extracurricular activities during the school year, have free time and temptation to engage in destructive behaviors.

The Safe Summer Initiative started in 2008, and data shows a decline in gang activity in each of the last three summers. With this year's severe budget situation, Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force staff and my office worked to raise private funds to augment the available City funds (\$125,000 in BEST reserves and \$75,000 from the Mayor's office carryover).

I want to thank the following donors for their support of the 2011 Safe Summer Initiative:

- Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen – \$75,000 in asset forfeiture funds
- Shortino Family Foundation – \$50,000
- Reader's Digest *We Hear You America* Campaign – \$11,000
- The Health Trust – \$10,000
- Castellano Family Foundation – \$8,000
- Anne Bowers – \$5,000
- Boston Properties – \$5,000
- South Bay Islamic Association – \$500

Additionally, I want to thank the San José Parks Foundation for facilitating the gifts of numerous donors who were able to give online or by check in any amount to the Safe Summer Initiative or to support parks and recreation projects in the City of San José.