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Memorandum
by City Manager's Office

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Debra Figone

SUBJECT: City Manager's Weekly Report

DATE: November 21, 2008

INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

Early Distribution Packet & City Manager's Weekly Report Update —Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the December 9 Early Distribution Packet will be released by the City Clerk's Office on Wednesday, November 26. Additionally, the City Manager's Weekly Report will be suspended next week.

Grants Up to \$5,000 Available to Schools to Promote Environmental Stewardship—The City's Go Green Schools Program is now accepting applications for its Mini-Grants Program. The goal of this program is to foster school-wide and in-classroom recycling and other environmental education in San José schools. This year, the program will partner with the Krause Center for Innovation to integrate new media and technology to green schools and encourage cross mentoring opportunities among educators. Mini grants can range from \$500 to \$5,000. Applications are due by December 5, and can be downloaded from the City's website at <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/gogreen/mini-grants.asp> or contact Deb Bogart at 975-2533.

Airport Passenger Activity Continues to Decline —Preliminary data shows a 12% decline in October passenger activity at the Airport compared to October, 2007. Furthermore, activity for the past twelve months is down by 6.6% compared to the prior year. Airline schedule projections for December indicate that the Airport's overall capacity, measured by available seats, will be approximately 13% lower than last December, as carriers continue to cut flights throughout the nation in response to uncertainty in the economy. For more information, contact Bill Sherry at 501-7669.

Agreement for Helping Passengers on Delayed Aircraft —The Airport has obtained a commitment from LSG Sky Chefs, an airport tenant that services airlines, to provide food and water to passengers if an airplane were delayed for an extended period of time on the airfield in San José due to weather or other operational problems. This voluntary agreement based on mutual cooperation is an outcome of the Airport's commitment to customer service and emergency preparation to minimize problems passengers have experienced at other airports when airlines have had lengthy delays. For more information, contact Vicki Day, SJC Customer Services Director, at 501-7619.

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Live Homework Help (Tutor.com) —The Library's free online tutoring services have been renewed for another year, with the following enhancements:

- Grade coverage has expanded to include lower grades. Now students in K – 12 and the first two years of college can get free access to one-on-one assistance with English, Math, Science or Social Studies from a qualified tutors; daily, 2 p.m. to midnight. All tutors go through a comprehensive application process and have passed a background check for the safety of the students who use the service.
- Assistance in Spanish will now be available daily from 2 p.m. to midnight; assistance in Vietnamese is expected to become available during the first quarter of 2009.
- Adult learners who come to a library for assistance with GED studies, continuing education, re-training, or grammar and punctuation assistance for resume writing or work-related projects will also be able to utilize this service.

Users will need an active San José library card and personal identification number. Visit the library's web site at SJLibrary.org/live_tutor.htm to get started.

Best Green Project Award for Gish Apartments —Readers of *The Affordable Housing Finance* magazine have named Gish Apartments as a 2008 Outstanding Green Project in the Readers' Choice Awards. Gish Apartments is the first multifamily development in the United States to earn Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold certifications in two categories – new construction and homes—from the U.S. Green Building Council. The project also obtained a *Build It Green* rating of 145 points, the highest point total known to date for a multifamily development. Gish Apartments is one of the City's subsidized affordable housing projects, offering 35 rental units affordable to households between 30% and 50% of Area Median Income, with 13 of the units set aside for adults with developmental disabilities. For additional information, contact Jacky Morales-Ferrand at 535.3855.

Gang Prevention Summit Successful —On November 15, over 300 residents attended the City's first Gang Prevention Summit. The event offered community members an opportunity to attend relevant workshops and receive resource information from 16 different programs and agencies. The Summit was hosted by the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force and was designed to increase community awareness and participation. For more information on the Summit, contact Mario Maciel at 277-2741.

AOPA Expo a Success in San José —The exposition and conference of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) hosted by the Airport this month had attendance of 9,500 participants, making it one of the most successful AOPA expos in its history. There were a record number of exhibitor booths at the convention center, in addition, a popular display of nearly 100 small aircraft at the Airport was open to the public during the three days of the event. Airport staff worked very closely with Convention Visitors Bureau and AOPA staff to ensure that the expo met the expectations of participants and organizers. The Airport will seek to host the event again in 2012. For more information, contact John Aitken at 277-4705.

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"Family Friendly" Security Lanes Open at the Airport —On November 20, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) opened family friendly lanes at Mineta International Airport and airports across the nation. TSA staff at these designated lanes will use their training and explosive detection technologies to assist passengers traveling with medically necessary liquids, gels and aerosols, including baby formula, insulin, cough syrup, contact lens solution, and prescription medications. Family friendly lanes are open at all checkpoints in Terminal A, Terminal C, and International Arrivals Building. For more information, contact John Aitken at 277-4705.

City Features Creek Protection Projects at Santa Clara County Creeks Coalition Conference — On November 15, the second annual Santa Clara County Creeks Coalition Conference brought together approximately 60 attendees from local environmental advocacy and 'friends of creeks' groups. This conference allows the City to highlight trash and integrated pest management pilot projects, such as trash screens, and the installation of bat and owl boxes, as well as environmental volunteer opportunities. Staff also presented on the erosive impacts of urban runoff flows to local creeks and opportunities for addressing this issue. For more information, contact Steven Osborn at 277-5635.

California-Israel Chamber of Commerce Members Visit WPCP —On November 13, at the request of the California-Israel Chamber of Commerce, 18 businesspersons from Israel toured the Water Pollution Control Plant, with staff from the Environmental Services Department's Water Resources Division serving as guides. The tour is an opportunity for exchange of ideas and information between City and Chamber personnel about future opportunities for water reuse in their respective countries and applications of new technologies. Currently, Israel stands as the nation with the highest water recycling rate, cleaning and reusing about 70% of its water supply.

Announcement of the Opening of Respite and One-Stop Centers and Movie Premier —On November 20, San José Mayor Chuck Reed and Santa Clara County Supervisor Don Gage, co-chairs of Destination: Home, announced the scheduled opening of two One-Stop Homelessness Prevention and Service Centers and a Medical Respite Center at a press conference at EHC LifeBuilder's Boccardo Reception Center. All three programs will serve homeless and at-risk residents throughout the county. The programs share the common goal of connecting people who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness with services and supportive housing. Also announced were three funding commitments that will help fill the critical gap in intensive case managers for chronic homeless residents:

- The Community Foundation - \$150,000
- Applied Materials - \$500,000 (over 3 years)
- Adobe - \$150,000 (over 3 years)

Following the press conference, the Housing Department, in coordination with Destination: Home, sponsored a reception and special advanced screening of the movie, "Where God Left His Shoes." The reception was attended by over 100 representatives of the faith based community, foundations, hospitals, local governments, social service agencies, and other interested parties. Chris Block, Executive Director of Charities Housing, and Carole Leigh Hutton, President and CEO of United Way Silicon Valley, spoke to the audience on Destination: Home's efforts to address the issues raised in the movie and made a call to action to inspire the attendees to get involved in the countywide effort to end homelessness. For more information, contact Leslye Krutko at 535-3851.

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Taking the Public to the Art —On November 7, approximately 40 people attended a Public Art Tour organized by the Office of Cultural Affairs. The tour included visits to Edenvale, Vineland and Pearl Branch Libraries, Fire Stations 35, 12 and 17, Almaden Community Center and Library, Camden Community Center, and the public art and exhibitions at City Hall. Attendees viewed more than 20 artworks in the City's collection. The tour complimented the exhibit on public art in San José currently on display in City Hall Lobby. A tour featuring public artworks in the east sector of the City will take place on Friday, December 5. For more information about the upcoming tour and Public Art Program of the Office of Cultural Affairs, visit www.sanjoseculture.org.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Planning Division Community Meetings – Due to the volume of community meetings conducted by the Planning Division, please visit <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/planning/calendar/> to view upcoming meetings and events.

Project Homeless Connect – Friday, November 21, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. McEnery Convention Center, South Hall, 435 S. Market Street.

Christmas in the Park Tree Lighting, Friday, November 28, 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Plaza de Cesar Chavez. For more information, please call Adriane Mertens at 793-5508.

Community Meeting on to Review the Inclusionary Housing Policy – Tuesday, December 2, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tully Library (Community Room), 880 Tully Road.

Pricing and Revenue Plan Stakeholder Meeting, Wednesday, December 3, 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Northside Community Center, 488 North 6th Street. For more information, contact Katie Crowder at 793-5590.

Heritage Holiday at History Park, Saturday, December 6, 12 p.m. – 6 p.m. History Park at Kelley Park, 1650 Senter Road.

San José Holiday Parade, Downtown Streets, December 7, 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. For more information, contact Edwin Cortez at 793-4192.

Roosevelt Community Center Grand Opening, Saturday, December 13, 10:00 a.m. 901 East Santa Clara Street. For more information, contact Brian Clampitt at 794-6203.

Christine J. Shippy

for Debra Figone
City Manager