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## Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Debra Figone

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

**DATE:** September 4, 2009

### INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

***San José Listed as #3 in America's 10 Best Places to Grow Up***—On August 19, *U.S. News and World Report* cited San José's 9-square miles of green spaces and great activities for children as two of the primary reasons it's a great place to grow up. The article also pointed out the City's six public skateboarding parks, including ***Lake Cunningham Regional Skate Park***. The article states San José has the key ingredients you need for a happy childhood; including low crime, strong schools, green spaces, and fun activities.

***Guadalupe River Park Featured in Conservation Education Campaign***—The ***Guadalupe River Park*** is featured in the ***Conserving California***, public education campaign that highlights great state projects and programs made possible through voter-approved bond funds. The program is a joint venture of ***The Nature Conservancy, Audubon California, The Ocean Conservancy, WILDCOAST*** and the ***CA Council of Land Trusts***. For more information please visit [www.conservingcalifornia.org](http://www.conservingcalifornia.org).

***Airport Terminal A Bypass Closes Temporarily for a Month***—On September 8 through October 2, the Airport will temporarily close the convenient bypass road (that allows drivers to go directly to Terminal C.) for construction of the permanent bypass. During construction, all traffic going to both terminals will drive the loop around the Terminal A garage. Over the next ten months there will be several additional traffic shifts needed for the Airport's final roadway construction, with completion targeted for June 2010 in time for the opening of Terminal B. For more information, contact Bill Sherry at (408) 501-7600.

***City's Recovery Act Pavement Resurfacing Project to Get Underway***—Later this month, Department of Transportation (DOT) staff will begin work on a street resurfacing project supported by ***Federal Recovery Act*** funding. The City was allocated \$12.7 million to resurface some of the City's streets which are in the poorest condition and awarded an \$8 million contract to ***MCK Services, Inc.*** DOT staff expects to begin construction in late September with completion in Spring 2010. A second resurfacing project for the 2010 construction season will utilize the remaining Tier 1 funding along with new \$2.4 million ***Federal Recovery Act*** funding allocated in Tier 2. The City will receive a total of at least \$56 million through a combination of formula and competitive allocations to support a variety of local projects and programs. Staff is actively pursuing additional grant opportunities. For more information on the City's efforts related to the Recovery Act, please visit [www.sanjoseca.gov/recoveryact](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/recoveryact).

**HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

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

**Date:** September 4, 2009

**Page 2 of 4**

***CDBG-R Fund Announcement***—On August 26, the ***Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program*** received approval of its ***CDBG Recovery Program (CDBG-R)***, a stimulus program included in the ***American Recovery and Reinvestment Act***, which will provide \$2.7 million for five projects and program administration. The projects funded are:

- Two storm drain improvements in the Alviso area;
- LED streetlight conversions;
- Job-training program for non-violent ex-offenders, homeless persons and emancipated youth and;
- Clean Tech job creation program.

With this approval, ***CDBG*** staff will be able to enter into agreements in November 2009. It is anticipated that construction will begin later this fiscal year. In addition, ***CDBG*** will set-aside \$50,000 for program administration. For additional information, contact Leslye Krutko at 535-3851.

***ESD's Zero Waste Team Achieves 97% Diversion Rate Again!*** —For the second time this year, the ***San José Zero Waste Team*** achieved over a 95% diversion rate with one of its designated Zero Large Waste Events the 2009 ***Italian Festa*** in Willow Glen. The event's 97% diversion rate exceeds the 2008 ***Italian Festa*** by 20%. The Environmental Services team, who provided material (waste) management services for the event, used 50 eco-stations (recycling, compost and trash collection containers) to collect materials and fifty 64-gallon blue Conservation Corps containers to collect recycling from food vendors at the event. The ***Zero Waste Team*** is comprised of 6 ESD staff and interns, 25 ***SJ Conservation Corps*** members and supervisors, 10 volunteers, and 5 contractors helping each day with attendee education and outreach. Only 3% of the event's waste went to landfill. This year's event received positive feedback from both the public and the event producers. For more information, contact Janice Sitton at 975-2522.

***City's TCE Program Lauded by Franchise Tax Board***—San José's ***Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE)*** program was selected by the ***State Franchise Tax Board*** as the State's ***Site of the Month*** for August 2009. The Program's 64 volunteers, representing several languages, from San José were recognized for completing over 1400 tax returns during the last tax season. ***TCE*** provides free income tax assistance to low to middle income taxpayers, with special attention to those over 60 years old. Gerontology Specialist and ***TCE*** Program Coordinator Cory Hunt was recognized for his coordination of sixteen ***TCE*** sites citywide, his volunteer management and his on-going, year round, recruitment of new ***TCE*** volunteers. The program and Hunt are profiled on the ***Franchise Tax Board's*** website at <http://www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/vita/index>. For more information, contact Diane Lindberg at 979-7912.

***PRNS Volunteer Management Unit Up and Running***—The Department of Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) ***Volunteer Management Unit*** creates and supports volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups in partnership with PRNS staff. They coordinate and deploy volunteers to projects and programs best suited to their skill level and time commitment. The Unit is currently working with neighborhood associations and civic organizations to clean and beautify neighborhoods, regional parks as well as prevent trash and recyclables from polluting creeks and waterways. In fiscal year 2008-09, the ***Volunteer Unit*** coordinated over 40 events and worked with over 1,500 volunteers who collectively contributed 5,600 hours which enhanced staff capacity. Staff expects to exceed these figures during the current fiscal year. For more information on the ***Volunteer Management Unit***, please contact Fernando Cazares at 793-5595.

**HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

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

**Date:** September 4, 2009

**Page 3 of 4**

Those interested in organizing a volunteer event at a park, please contact [parkvolunteer@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:parkvolunteer@sanjoseca.gov) or call 535-3588. Those interested in adopting a park or trail, please contact [adoptapark@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:adoptapark@sanjoseca.gov) or call 793-4190.

***Park Rangers Assist Police in Nabbing 10 Suspected Graffiti Vandals***— In August, park rangers assisted the San José Police Department Graffiti Unit in detaining and citing 10 graffiti vandals at ***Almaden Lake Park*** and ***Guadalupe River Park***. The rangers helped police by identifying suspects, locating and documenting graffiti, and in one case, monitoring both ends of a bypass tunnel where suspected vandals were tagging the infrastructure until police arrived. The police were able to detain and issue citations on all but one of the incidents. For more information, contact Brandon Casper at 277-5986.

***Implementation of New Airport Parking System Starts Next Week***—Over the next two months, the Airport will be upgrading its ***Parking and Revenue Control System (PARCS)*** for its public parking facilities which will enhance customer service and convenience, provide greater operational flexibility, and reduce Airport costs. The new system is similar to those already commonly used at Downtown San José parking facilities and by other cities and airports nationwide. Customers will be able to insert a credit card upon entry and again upon exiting, thus eliminating the need to wait for a cashier or attendant's assistance. They will also be able to pull a ticket upon entry, and pay for parking at any of the pay stations located throughout parking and terminal areas as well as leave through an automated exit lane. The City Council approved the award of the new ***PARCS*** system in April 2008. For more information, contact Bill Sherry at (408) 501-7600.

***SJPD Bomb Squad Responds to San Mateo High School***—On August 24, the ***San José Police Department (SJPD) Bomb Squad*** responded to a request from the ***San Mateo Sheriff's Office*** for assistance with a suspect that had explosive devices at ***San Mateo High School***. A 17-year-old suspect detonated two explosive devices inside the High School during school hours. He was prevented from detonating other explosives by school security and staff. The ***SJPD and SFPD (San Francisco Police Department) Bomb Squads*** assisted the ***San Mateo Sheriff*** in rendering the unexploded devices safe and conducted a sweep of the school grounds. For more information, contact Officer Milhone at 277-5322.

***City's 19<sup>th</sup> Homicide of the Year***—On August 12, the City's 19<sup>th</sup> homicide occurred at the ***Santa Clara Inn*** located on The Alameda. Homicide detectives developed information regarding two possible suspects which led them to believe that they were located in New Hampshire. Detectives then flew to New Hampshire on August 26, to assist the ***U.S. Marshall's Service*** with apprehension efforts. During the apprehension efforts information was developed that led to the suspects' arrest in the Boston, Massachusetts area on August 28. Prior to being booked into jail, ***San José Homicide Detectives*** conducted interviews with the suspects. The suspects are currently awaiting extradition. For more information, contact Captain Decena at 277-4244.

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

***Vietnamese American Community Center (VACC) Vision Event***, Saturday, September 12, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Yerba Buena High School Gymnasium at 1855 Lucretia Avenue. RSVP to Jennifer Luc at (408) 535-8507 or [jennifer.luc@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:jennifer.luc@sanjoseca.gov) by September 4, 2009.

**HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

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

**Date:** September 4, 2009

**Page 4 of 4**

**League of California Cities 2009 Annual Conference**, September 16 – 18, San José Convention Center. The Conference kick-off is scheduled for September 16 at 4:00 p.m. Deadline for Advance Registration was August 25.

**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

**2010-15 Consolidated Plan Regional Visioning Workshops**, Below are upcoming meeting dates and locations:

- September 9 – **San José and Central County** - from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the West Valley Branch Library located at 1243 San Tomas Aquino Road, San José, 95117
- September 16 – **South County** – from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Morgan Hill Community Cultural Center at 17000 Monterey Street, Morgan Hill, 95037
- September 23 – **North County** – from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Sunnyvale City Hall Council Chambers at 456 West Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, 94086

**12<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk to End Domestic Violence**, Friday, October 2. Program begins at 11:00 a.m. followed by Walk Procession through Downtown and Community Lunch/ Resource Fair. There is no cost for participation. For more information, contact Eve Castellanos at 535-8101.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Disability Awareness Day**, October 8, 2009 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. City Hall Rotunda and Plaza. For more information, please visit [www.DAD.sjdistrict1.com](http://www.DAD.sjdistrict1.com).



Debra Figone  
City Manager

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