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City Manager's Office

## Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Debra Figone

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

**DATE:** December 10, 2010

### INFORMATION

*Due to the upcoming furlough, the final edition of the Manager's Weekly for 2010 will be December 17. The Weekly will resume on January 7, 2011.*

***City Emergency Shelter Site List Updated***—Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) has replaced two locations on the City's Emergency Shelter List with new sites. In Council District 1, Cypress Community Center will replace the West San Jose Center as the emergency shelter site. In Council District 5, the Shirakawa Center has been replaced with the new Seven Trees Community Center. There are ten centers, one in each Council District, designated as emergency shelters in event of an evacuation. These locations also serve as heating or cooling centers during extreme weather conditions. For more information, contact Dan Wax, Division Manager, at 535-3576.

***Neighborhood Park Restrooms Holiday Closures***—Neighborhood park restrooms will be closed for the Holidays from Thursday, December 23 through Saturday, December 25. They will reopen on Sunday, December 26. The restrooms will also be closed Thursday, December 30 through Saturday, January 1 for New Year's. They will reopen on Sunday, January 2. For more information, contact Steve Hammack, Deputy Director, PRNS at 793-5579.

***Alaska launches New Air Service from San Jose to Mexico***—On December 4, Alaska Airlines launched service from SJC to Cabo San Lucas. The three-times-weekly flight is the first route to Mexico from San Jose by Alaska, but it will be joined by a new daily flight to Guadalajara that is scheduled to start on Wednesday, December 15. In addition, Horizon Air, Alaska's sister carrier, will resume its winter season service from SJC to Mammoth Mountain ski area on December 16. For more information, contact Bill Sherry, Aviation Director, at 392-3611.

***Donations Received for Project Homeless Connect***—On December 6, the Housing Department received donations totaling \$8,000 to support Project Homeless Connect (PHC) including: \$5,000 from an anonymous citizen that will be used to purchase program supplies that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the events; and \$3,000 from The Hilton San Jose for the immediate purchase of items such as gloves, hats, coats, and blankets to directly benefit PHC clients. For upcoming PHC events, visit <http://www.sjhousing.org/homeless/phc.html>. For more information, contact Jacky Morales-Ferrand, Assistant Director of Housing, at 535-3855.

***Alviso Community Hears Options for Emergency Port***—On December 2, the Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce conducted a public meeting to present the current options under analysis for an emergency port in Alviso. The meeting was attended by over 30 community members, including

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Alviso residents, several Water District Board members, and environmental group representatives. The consultants conducting the feasibility study presented their findings on five concepts: bulk port, ferry terminal, expanded marina, hovercraft, and entertainment waterfront. Of these, two concepts will be further analyzed, the hovercraft operations and the entertainment waterfront, primarily to reduce the need for costly dredging. The feasibility study is funded by a grant from the federal Economic Development Administration (EDA), with matching funds from the Santa Clara Valley Water District, the City of San José, and the County of Santa Clara. The next public meeting will be held in February 2011. For more information, contact Kirsten Struve, Supervising ESD Specialist, at 945-5180.

***City of San José and U.S. Department of Energy Introduce Green Vision Clean Energy***

**Showcase**—On December 8, the City and the U.S. Department of Energy announced the opening of the San José Green Vision Clean Energy Showcase, an interactive new innovation center housing installations of cutting-edge clean energy technologies. The Showcase will give visitors hands-on experience with advanced solar, wind and energy efficient technologies as well as provide information required to make informed decisions about clean energy options. The Showcase will be open to the public on Saturday, December 11 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with a complimentary community open house. Free guided tours of the Showcase will be available to the public starting January 15, 2011. Visit [energy.sanjoseca.gov](http://energy.sanjoseca.gov) for more information, or contact Mary Tucker, Environmental Program Manager, at 975-2581.

***First Month of Fountain Contractual Maintenance Completed***—The first month of contractual maintenance of the Municipal Rose Garden fountain was recently completed. With funding support from Council District 6, staff has worked to establish contractual maintenance of the fountain through the end of this fiscal year. Staff is working with the Friends of the San Jose Rose Garden to establish funding to support continuing the contractual service beginning in July of 2011. Staff maintenance of the fountain was eliminated during in the 2009-2010 Operating Budget. For more information, contact Steve Hammack, Deputy Director, PRNS at 793-5579.

***Student Volunteers Enhance Fowler Creek Park Playgrounds***—On December 4, forty-one students from Homestead and Silver Creek High Schools worked together to enhance Fowler Creek Park by installing new fibar wood chips in the playgrounds. Thirty playgrounds across the City have been renovated with the aid of volunteers in calendar year 2010. The volunteers; including students, employees of private companies and community members, completed the playground renovation projects quickly and cost effectively. For more information, contact Steve Hammack, Deputy Director, PRNS at 793-5579.

***Library Staff Member Finds Nearly \$8K Inside a Disney Classic***—On November 27, a Santa Teresa Branch library customer returned a copy of the book "The Little Mermaid." Donna Nguyen, library clerk, discovered \$7,600 that was mistakenly returned inside the book. Nguyen notified the customer that same day and stored the money in a secure location. The customer was extremely appreciative. The Library Department is proud of Nguyen's quick action and commends her for demonstrating the City's value of integrity. For more information, contact Jane Light, Library Director, SJPL at 808-2150.

***Airport Improvement Program Recognized as One of the Nation's "Best of the Best."***—Mineta San Jose International Airport was selected by McGraw-Hill Construction in its third annual Best of the Best Awards, a national competition that recognizes design and construction excellence.

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Projects were judged on safety, innovation, contribution to the industry/community, aesthetic and functional quality of design, and construction craftsmanship. Fentress Architects nominated SJC. The Airport and other winners will be profiled in the January 24, 2011, issue of Engineering News-Record. For more information, contact Bill Sherry, Aviation Director, at 392-3611, or Katy Allen, Public Works Director, at 535-8302.

***History Park's African American History Museum to Host 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kwanzaa Celebration—***

On December 18, the African American Heritage House (AAHH) in History Park will host their second annual Kwanzaa Festival from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The celebration is designed to give all residents an opportunity to understand and experience the seven-day Kwanzaa holiday. AAHH serves as an educational showcase of the history and heritage of African Americans in Silicon Valley. The museum is housed in Zanker House, a 140-plus-year-old Italianate farmhouse in San Jose's History Park, part of the Kelley Park Complex. For more information, contact Paula Greenwell at 998-7416 or [habibatique-paula@att.net](mailto:habibatique-paula@att.net).

***Presidential Turkeys Land at Happy Hollow—***On December 9, Happy Hollow Park & Zoo will become the home of a pair of tom (male) turkeys from the flock raised for the National Thanksgiving Turkey Pardoning Ceremony in Washington, D.C. The turkeys are Nicholas Strain birds, a breed which originated in California's Sonoma Valley. After a 30-day quarantine period, the birds will be a part of the animal contact area allowing guests a closer experience to these 45 lbs. birds. For more information, contact Vanessa Rogier, Marketing Manager, PRNS at 794-6404.

***PRNS Staffer Wins Prestigious International Photo Contest—***Happy Hollow Park & Zoo (HHPZ) educator Denise Soden won the prestigious 2010 AZA (American Zoo and Aquarium Association) Photography Contest. Soden's portrait of the zoo's great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*) has been published on the cover of the December issue of *Connect*, the AZA monthly magazine. Her award winning photo is also featured on the AZA website at [www.aza.org](http://www.aza.org). Denise Soden will teach a photography workshop for adults at Happy Hollow Park & Zoo in Spring 2011. For more information, contact Suzanne Wolf, Recreation Superintendent, PRNS at 794-6406.

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

***Two Robert Dawson Photographic Exhibits on Wastewater—***Now through February 1, 2011, *The Conscience of the City: Treating Wastewater in Silicon Valley* in City Hall windows along 4th Street between Santa Clara and San Fernando streets. For more information, contact Barbara Goldstein, Public Art Director, at 793-4337.

***Christmas in the Park—***Friday, November 26, 2010 through Saturday, January 1, 2011, 5:30pm - 12:00am, Plaza de Cesar Chavez. For more information, contact Ed Bautista, Events Manager at 794-6201.

***Kwanzaa Celebration—***Saturday, December 18, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., parade at 1:00 p.m., Zanker House, History Park. For more information please contact Sandra Dailey (408) 398-8044 or [aahhsanjose@aol.com](mailto:aahhsanjose@aol.com)

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*San José Green Vision Clean Energy Showcase*—Saturday, December 11, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., East Santa Clara Street between 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> streets. In case of rain, event cancels. For more information, contact Mary Tucker at 975-2581.

*3rd Annual Crime and Gang Prevention Summit*—Saturday, January 22, 2011  
8:00 am – 12:00 pm Seven Trees Community Center, 3590 Cas Drive, San José, CA 95111

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debra Figone', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Debra Figone  
City Manager