

FW: Cathie Cisneros 95127 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:36 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 11:07 PM
To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Cathie Cisneros 95127 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way

to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Cathie Cisneros
95127**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Janet Boeninger 95130 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:36 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2024 6:52 PM**To:** District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]**Subject:** Janet Boeninger 95130 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,**Everything going down in city. Please protect parks.**

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Janet Boeninger
95130**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:36 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 10:37 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

[External Email]

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear City Clerk Dear Mayor Mahan and San José Councilmembers,

Please protect San Jose's parks by voting NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City Council agenda, "Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension." The drastic cuts to park fees for Downtown high-rises and the potential for further park fee cuts for all multi-family developments citywide would drastically affect San Jose's ability to provide enough parkland to serve the whole community.

Parks are necessary for a healthy and thriving community. The pandemic made it abundantly clear that people need to be able to get outside to relax, socialize, and enjoy nature. Particularly for those who do not have their own backyards, access to parks is a matter of equity. Cutting fees for multi-family developments will even hurt those who live in those new developments.

Parks and urban green space provide tangible health benefits. Studies have shown that stress levels are lower and ADHD symptoms are reduced when people get out into nature. In addition, trees and other vegetation absorb carbon from the atmosphere, reduce air pollution, and lower temperatures on hot summer days.

As climate change causes our city to become hotter, it is more important than ever to provide enough parks and green space to keep pace with new development. Studies show that neighborhoods with fewer trees and less green space can be up to 20 degrees hotter than neighborhoods with sufficient greenery.

Do not cut park fees any further! Please vote NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City Council

agenda.

Sincerely,
Matthew Ryzik



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:36 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 8:36 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

[External Email]

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear City Clerk Dear Mayor Mahan and San José Councilmembers,

Please protect San Jose's parks by voting NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City Council agenda, "Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension." Both the drastic cuts to park fees for Downtown high-rises and the potential for further park fee cuts for all multi-family developments citywide would drastically affect San Jose's ability to provide enough parkland to serve the whole community.

Parks are necessary for a healthy and thriving community. The pandemic made it abundantly clear that people need to be able to get outside to relax, socialize, and enjoy nature. Particularly for those who do not have their own backyards, access to parks is a matter of equity. Cutting fees for multi-family developments will hurt most those who live in those new developments.

Parks and urban green space provide tangible health benefits. Studies have shown that stress levels are lower and ADHD symptoms are reduced when people get out into nature. In addition, trees and other vegetation absorb carbon from the atmosphere, reduce air pollution, and lower temperatures on hot summer days.

As climate change causes our city to become hotter, it is more important than ever to provide enough parks and green space to keep pace with new development. Studies show that neighborhoods with fewer trees and less green space can be up to 20 degrees hotter than neighborhoods with sufficient greenery.

Do not cut park fees any further! Vote NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City Council agenda.

Sincerely,
Thomas Carlino



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Jennifer Ledesma 95131 - Protect Our Parks: Definition of Chartered Parkland

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:36 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:37 PM
To: [REDACTED] District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mavor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Jennifer Ledesma 95131 - Protect Our Parks: Definition of Chartered Parkland

[External Email]

Dear City Council,**Protect Our Parks. We ask you to ensure that the definition of parkland fully protects existing, under construction, and planned parks in the City of San José.**

Parks are important to the residents of San José across the city. Rich or poor, young or old, regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, or ability: parks are important to us all – for our physical health, our mental health, and the health of the community.

The City Charter states “the public parks of the City shall be inalienable unless otherwise authorized by the affirmative votes of the majority of the electors voting on such a proposition in each case.” Further, the Charter states “[a]s used herein ‘public parks’ means any and all lands of the City which have been or are dedicated, improved and opened to the public for public park purposes.” Additionally, the staff’s memo (<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showdocument?id=108319&t=638406648249390275>) notes:

“Opened to the public for public park purposes means that the public can access the park and enjoy the space. In other words, the City has made the space useable and safe for the public to use. This also includes open space in its natural condition with minimal or no improvements that are intended to be opened to the public.”

I urge the Council to ensure parks are protected in their entirety. Whether "improved" parks, or unimproved parks that focus public access on contemplative, passive enjoyment of the natural environment and its biological resources. I urge the Council to push for precise and expansive language to provide the maximum protection of our park lands. I also urge the Council to recommend that the City take steps to ensure the protection of planned or under-construction parks. In addition, I request that staff include a full list of the recognized Chartered Parks in the report, and in a maintained online directory, for public transparency.

Protect Our Parks.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Ledesma
95131

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Regina Ortiz 95127-3022 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:36 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2024 6:03 PM**To:** District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]**Subject:** Regina Ortiz 95127-3022 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,**Truly take a moment to take each one of our emails into consideration so that our families and children mainly can enjoy us safe, clean fun neighborhood environment for their parks.****God bless you****Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an**

incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Regina Ortiz
95127-3022**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

**FW: Connelee Shaw 95112-3031 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2:
"Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"**

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:37 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 8:56 AM
To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Connelee Shaw 95112-3031 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way

to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Connelee Shaw
95112-3031**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Margaret Stanton 95112 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:39 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 9:36 AM
To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Margaret Stanton 95112 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way

to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Margaret Stanton
95112**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: 8.2 Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:41 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Diane Solomon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 11:47 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; Kamei, Rosemary <Rosemary.Kamei@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; Torres, Omar <Omar.Torres@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; Ortiz, Peter <Peter.Ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; Candelas, Domingo <Domingo.Candelas@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; Batra, Arjun <arjun.batra@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: 8.2 Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

[External Email]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Kamei and Members of the City Council,

I urge you to retain the construction taxes that are crucial for funding vital improvements in San Jose, ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.

Developers already are receiving the boon of “Builders Remedy”. Need we the residents of San José also lose important support for our City’s infrastructure with this latest scheme that benefits developers, not our city?

Our City is the heart of Silicon Valley, as well as Silicon Valley's capital. Developers will want to develop here without the boon of not having to pay these construction taxes.

Thank you for carefully considering this important issue and its impact on our City.

With my highest regards,

Diane Solomon,
District Six Resident

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:44 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 5:35 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

[External Email]

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear City Clerk Dear Mayor Mahan and San José Councilmembers,

Please protect San Jose's parks by voting NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City Council agenda, "Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension." Both the drastic cuts to park fees for Downtown high-rises and the potential for further park fee cuts for all multi-family developments citywide would drastically affect San Jose's ability to provide enough parkland to serve the whole community.

Parks are necessary for a healthy and thriving community. The pandemic made it abundantly clear that people need to be able to get outside to relax, socialize, and enjoy nature. Particularly for those who do not have their own backyards, access to parks is a matter of equity. Cutting fees for multi-family developments will hurt most those who live in those new developments.

Parks and urban green space provide tangible health benefits. Studies have shown that stress levels are lower and ADHD symptoms are reduced when people get out into nature. In addition, trees and other vegetation absorb carbon from the atmosphere, reduce air pollution, and lower temperatures on hot summer days.

As climate change causes our city to become hotter, it is more important than ever to provide enough parks and green space to keep pace with new development. Studies show that neighborhoods with fewer trees and less green space can be up to 20 degrees hotter than neighborhoods with sufficient greenery.

Please do not cut park fees any further! Please vote NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City

Council agenda.

Sincerely,
George Adas



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

**FW: Bruce merle Galbraith 95133 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2:
"Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"**

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:48 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 11:50 PM
To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Bruce merle Galbraith 95133 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Parks are extremely important for so many reasons. !!!!!

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Bruce merle Galbraith
95133**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:51 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 5:26 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

[External Email]

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear City Clerk Dear Mayor Mahan and San José Councilmembers,

Please protect San Jose's parks by voting NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City Council agenda, "Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension." Both the drastic cuts to park fees for Downtown high-rises and the potential for further park fee cuts for all multi-family developments citywide would drastically affect San Jose's ability to provide enough parkland to serve the whole community.

Parks are necessary for a healthy and thriving community. The pandemic made it abundantly clear that people need to be able to get outside to relax, socialize, and enjoy nature. Particularly for those who do not have their own backyards, access to parks is a matter of equity. Cutting fees for multi-family developments will hurt most those who live in those new developments.

Parks and urban green space provide tangible health benefits. Studies have shown that stress levels are lower and ADHD symptoms are reduced when people get out into nature. In addition, trees and other vegetation absorb carbon from the atmosphere, reduce air pollution, and lower temperatures on hot summer days.

As climate change causes our city to become hotter, it is more important than ever to provide enough parks and green space to keep pace with new development. Studies show that neighborhoods with fewer trees and less green space can be up to 20 degrees hotter than neighborhoods with sufficient greenery.

Please do not cut park fees any further! Please vote NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City

Council agenda.

Sincerely,
Carole Foster



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:51 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 4:40 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: 6/18/24 Agenda Item 8.2: Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

[External Email]

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear City Clerk Dear Mayor Mahan and San José Councilmembers,

Please protect San Jose's parks by voting NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City Council agenda, "Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension." Both the drastic cuts to park fees for Downtown high-rises and the potential for further park fee cuts for all multi-family developments citywide would drastically affect San Jose's ability to provide enough parkland to serve the whole community.

Parks are necessary for a healthy and thriving community. The pandemic made it abundantly clear that people need to be able to get outside to relax, socialize, and enjoy nature. Particularly for those who do not have their own backyards, access to parks is a matter of equity. Cutting fees for multi-family developments will hurt most those who live in those new developments.

Parks and urban green space provide tangible health benefits. Studies have shown that stress levels are lower and ADHD symptoms are reduced when people get out into nature. In addition, trees and other vegetation absorb carbon from the atmosphere, reduce air pollution, and lower temperatures on hot summer days.

As climate change causes our city to become hotter, it is more important than ever to provide enough parks and green space to keep pace with new development. Studies show that neighborhoods with fewer trees and less green space can be up to 20 degrees hotter than neighborhoods with sufficient greenery.

Please do not cut park fees any further! Please vote NO on item 8.2(c) and 8.2(d) on the 6/18/24 City

Council agenda.

Sincerely,
Lara JOnes



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Marco Velasco 95116 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:51 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 5:40 PM
To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Marco Velasco 95116 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way

to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Marco Velasco
95116**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Yolanda Amaro 95148 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 8:51 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 4:55 PM
To: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Yolanda Amaro 95148 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way

to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Yolanda Amaro
95148**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Marie Shrodes 95131 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/20/2024 9:35 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2024 4:15 PM**To:** District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]**Subject:** Marie Shrodes 95131 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Every San Jose citizen needs free access to relaxation and well-maintained recreational areas for themselves and for their families. I have enjoyed the safety and satisfaction of my neighborhood park for almost 30 years. Thank you, SJ Parks Dept.

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Marie Shrodes
95131**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: 8.2 Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/21/2024 9:09 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Ann Wawrose <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2024 8:17 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: 8.2 Downtown Residential High-Rise Incentive Program Extension

[External Email]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear City Clerk,

My name is Ann with Silicon Valley Bike Coalition & a resident of district 3.

We understand that the proposal to waive the Building and Structure Construction Tax, as well as the Commercial Residential-Mobile home Park Building Tax, may seem beneficial. However, we must remember that these funds contribute significantly to the DOT, enabling vital enhancements that make San Jose a haven for all, safeguarding cyclists, pedestrians, and motorists alike. It's crucial that we preserve these funds or seek other income sources to compensate for any potential decreases. The safety and ongoing growth of our beloved city hinge on this decision. Let's ensure the heart of San Jose continues to beat strong by making this crucial commitment to its people.

Best,

Ann Wawrose
[REDACTED]



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Rachel Martinez 95148 - Protect Our Parks: Definition of Chartered Parkland

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/21/2024 1:12 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2024 12:01 PM
To: [REDACTED] District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Rachel Martinez 95148 - Protect Our Parks: Definition of Chartered Parkland

[External Email]

Dear City Council,**Protect Our Parks. We ask you to ensure that the definition of parkland fully protects existing, under construction, and planned parks in the City of San José.**

Parks are important to the residents of San José across the city. Rich or poor, young or old, regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, or ability: parks are important to us all – for our physical health, our mental health, and the health of the community.

The City Charter states “the public parks of the City shall be inalienable unless otherwise authorized by the affirmative votes of the majority of the electors voting on such a proposition in each case.” Further, the Charter states “[a]s used herein ‘public parks’ means any and all lands of the City which have been or are dedicated, improved and opened to the public for public park purposes.” Additionally, the staff’s memo (<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showdocument?id=108319&t=638406648249390275>) notes:

“Opened to the public for public park purposes means that the public can access the park and enjoy the space. In other words, the City has made the space useable and safe for the public to use. This also includes open space in its natural condition with minimal or no improvements that are intended to be opened to the public.”

I urge the Council to ensure parks are protected in their entirety. Whether "improved" parks, or unimproved parks that focus public access on contemplative, passive enjoyment of the natural environment and its biological resources. I urge the Council to push for precise and expansive language to provide the maximum protection of our park lands. I also urge the Council to recommend that the City take steps to ensure the protection of planned or under-construction parks. In addition, I request that staff include a full list of the recognized Chartered Parks in the report, and in a maintained online directory, for public transparency.

Protect Our Parks.

Sincerely,
Rachel Martinez
95148

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Rachel Martinez 95148 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/21/2024 1:12 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Friday, June 21, 2024 11:58 AM**To:** District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]**Subject:** Rachel Martinez 95148 - Protect Our Parks: 6/18/24, Agenda Item 8.2: "Downtown Residential High-Rise Program"

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Protect our Parks by protecting park Impact Fees, which provide funds for both existing and new parks. Housing and access to nature are essential needs. We have an opportunity for a win-win by protecting park funding. Our community needs adequate housing. We should not worsen the housing crisis by eliminating funding for parks that makes housing developments more attractive to potential buyers and renters. Our community also needs public parks and urban green space, which promote physical and mental health. Many parks still require repair and maintenance and staff are needed for either to occur. By ensuring parks are well-maintained and their staffing adequately funded, we create an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and unity in San Jose. Protecting park funding provides an incentive for home buyers and renters to live in San Jose, which benefits not just our community but potential housing developers.

Recommendation (c) of the Downtown Residential High-Rise Program seeks to provide ever larger park fee discounts. Offering park fee reductions means that there would be less money available to create and maintain the parks that serve our current and future residents. The way

to incentivize downtown residential development is to make downtown a vibrant and exciting place to live, complete with active and well-maintained nearby parks. If people want to live downtown, developers would then find it financially attractive to construct more housing to meet the demand.

Recommendation (d) is to study extending the fee reduction program citywide and to low- and mid-rise projects as well. If this were to be done, it would cripple our city park system, leaving us eventually with nothing but a collection of deteriorating and uninviting wastelands.

Protect Our Parks by voting NO on 8.2 (c) and (d): Do NOT vote to give away park funding. Instead, choose to INVEST in parks downtown and citywide. Make our city inviting so residents want to live here, and so developers want to build here!

Please take 30 seconds to tell the City Council that residents need both the housing and parks situations resolved. Both housing and parks should be facilitated. Park impact fees should be protected and eventually increased.

Protect Our Parks.

**Sincerely,
Rachel Martinez
95148**

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

**This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together**

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

FW: Rachel Martinez 95148 - Protect Our Parks: Definition of Chartered Parkland

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/21/2024 1:12 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: San Jose United <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2024 12:00 PM
To: [REDACTED] District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mavor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Rachel Martinez 95148 - Protect Our Parks: Definition of Chartered Parkland

[External Email]

Dear City Council,**Protect Our Parks. We ask you to ensure that the definition of parkland fully protects existing, under construction, and planned parks in the City of San José.**

Parks are important to the residents of San José across the city. Rich or poor, young or old, regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, or ability: parks are important to us all – for our physical health, our mental health, and the health of the community.

The City Charter states “the public parks of the City shall be inalienable unless otherwise authorized by the affirmative votes of the majority of the electors voting on such a proposition in each case.” Further, the Charter states “[a]s used herein ‘public parks’ means any and all lands of the City which have been or are dedicated, improved and opened to the public for public park purposes.” Additionally, the staff’s memo (<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showdocument?id=108319&t=638406648249390275>) notes:

“Opened to the public for public park purposes means that the public can access the park and enjoy the space. In other words, the City has made the space useable and safe for the public to use. This also includes open space in its natural condition with minimal or no improvements that are intended to be opened to the public.”

I urge the Council to ensure parks are protected in their entirety. Whether "improved" parks, or unimproved parks that focus public access on contemplative, passive enjoyment of the natural environment and its biological resources. I urge the Council to push for precise and expansive language to provide the maximum protection of our park lands. I also urge the Council to recommend that the City take steps to ensure the protection of planned or under-construction parks. In addition, I request that staff include a full list of the recognized Chartered Parks in the report, and in a maintained online directory, for public transparency.

Protect Our Parks.

Sincerely,
Rachel Martinez
95148

You may not use my contact information for any purpose other than to respond to my concern regarding the topic listed above, nor may you share my address with any other organization(s) or individual(s).

--

This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via San Jose United
<https://www.sanjoseunited.net>
Community Working Together

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.