



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR REED

FROM: Councilmember Nancy Pyle

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: May 25, 2011

Approved

Nancy Pyle

Date

5/25/11

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title:

Reinstate one Park Ranger based out of Lake Almaden and focused on citywide trail patrol

Amount of City Funding Required: \$104,926

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.) General Fund

Anticipated Outcomes: Requested funding changes would affect benefits or services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc., as described below: (Use as much space as required.)

The new model for the Park Ranger Program is based upon Dynamic Deployment. The proposed base locations for the 4 remaining Park Rangers are Alum Rock and Kelley Parks. Basing Park Rangers in these locations leaves South San Jose vulnerable. In addition, a known swimming location should have a minimum level of supervision.

Concern regarding safety on our trails is citywide. Attached are copies of a letter from Guadalupe River Park Conservancy, Legacy Partners and the news article about the fatal accident on Los Alamitos Creek Trail. In a perfect world, our trails would be well and actively patrolled by Park Rangers who serve as law enforcement officers from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. We must provide more pro-active service to these isolated areas than has been proposed by staff. We cannot ignore the fact that our trails were once unpopular due to the numerous homeless encampments. Currently, our trail system has positive public reputation. However, regular trail users are expressing their concerns that the trails are becoming unsafe and unsettling. If the current reputation is tarnished, it will take years to undo any bad publicity. Providing a Park Ranger who will focus on our city trails will enhance trail safety and will prevent smaller issues from becoming larger ones.

Funding Source

1. Program/Project Title: District 10 Office Budget

Amount of City Funding Change: \$ 20,000

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.) District 10 Office Budget

2. Program/Project Title:

Balance of funding from the Swim Program at Almaden Lake Park after Summer 2011 Swim Program

While there is every intention of and necessary funding to provide a swim program at Lake Almaden this year, there are indications that hiring appropriate staff and algae will be a problem again this year. This item is currently budgeted for \$70,000 for the summer 2011 swim program.

Amount of City Funding Change: \$ TBD

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.) PRNS special funding

3. Program/Project Title: Council General

Amount of City Funding Change: \$ TBD

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.) Council General

Anticipated Outcomes: Requested funding changes would affect benefits or services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc., as described below: (Use as much space as required.)

Provide minimum level of staffing at Lake Almaden and provide enhanced trail patrol citywide.

Department or Organization: PRNS

Department or Organization Contact (Please list contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation.)

Name: Steve Hammack

Phone number: 793-5579

E-mail address: steve.hammack@sanjoseca.gov

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

The City Service Area to which the change best relates:

- Community and Economic Development Services
- Environmental and Utility Services
- Neighborhood Services
- Public Safety
- Strategic Support
- Transportation and Aviation Services