



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR REED
FROM: Councilmember Rocha
SUBJECT: RESTORE PART-TIME DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATOR
DATE: May 23rd, 2012

Approved

Don Rocha

Date

5-23-12

PH

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Restore Part-Time Domestic Violence Coordinator Position

Amount of City Funding Required: Total: 62,000

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.)

Domestic Violence is a quiet but prevalent and underreported crime impacting families in San Jose. San Jose represents approximately 75% of Santa Clara County, and has the greatest amount of professional staff and police force of any city in the County, allowing for the greatest responsibility and opportunity to participate in County-wide coordination and resource development of any city.

The Domestic Violence Coordinator position was eliminated through the adoption of last years budget. Also last year in Santa Clara County there were 16 related deaths, an increase of 11 fatalities over the five fatalities in 2010. There is no question that now is the time for coordination and action, and there is no question in my mind that the City of San Jose has a role to play in those efforts.

The amount of work and coordination that the previous Domestic Violence Coordinator provided, even on a part time basis, was important to the ongoing conversation, policy development, organizational changes and adaptations, and community awareness, outreach and prevention efforts. While the City was not in a financial position to maintain that position in the 11-12 fiscal year, we are in a position now to rebuild a critical service that we can and should provide to our residents.

It was mentioned in the cost estimate response that this position may be better managed in the Police Department. I believe that it's critical to maintain the position within the City Manager's Office to maintain a management level viewpoint over the organization and relevant partnerships. The visibility, connections

and contacts, reporting structure, and the position requirements on staffing committees and doing public outreach is a better and more appropriate fit for this position, and placing it within a department may limit it's effectiveness.

Funding Source

Program/Project Title: Earmarked Reserve: Essential Services (Budget Page IX-30)

Amount of City Funding Change: \$62,000

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.)

This project will utilize the essential services fund to restore the Domestic Violence Coordinator position on a part-time basis, utilizing the fund to restore an essential quality of life and public safety service to the residents within the City of San Jose.

Department or Organization: City Manager's Office

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

Name: Norberto Duenas

Phone number: 535-8180

E-mail address: Norberto.Duenas@sanjoseca.gov

This change is:

X 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