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Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO
SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

FROM: Councilmember Rocha
DATE: 5/20/2015

Approved Don Rocha Date 5-20-15
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RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: **Meals on Wheels**

Amount of City Funding Required: **\$174,000**

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.): **Fiscal Reform Plan Implementation Reserve**

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

Proposal Description, including anticipated outcomes (describe how change would affect services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc.):

The proposal would designate \$174,000 to the Health Trust for their Meals on Wheels program. The City funds Meals on Wheels through the Housing Dept. with volunteer drivers providing daily wellness checks with their meal delivery to reduce senior isolation. Senior isolation is linked to long-term illness, risk for depression, and higher rates of elder abuse. 60% of Meals on Wheels clients live alone. The Meals on Wheels program is the only hot meal delivery program in the county.

Meals on Wheels continues to have a waiting list of 50 clients at any time and turns away over 300 prospective clients every year, despite lack of advertisement. The program is largely sustained by volunteers to keep costs low. The meals

provided also meet Older American Act dietary guidelines to provide a very high quality, healthy meal.

With the change in a few major corporate donor's interests and the loss of funding from a few foundations, the program is in need of raising additional dollars to continue to provide about 80,000 hot meals annually. Although these donations have fallen recently, the clear need still exists. The allocation of \$174,000 would help Meals on Wheels maintain this same level of service and keep their current list of clients.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve (\$2.5 million)

Other (Program/Project/Fund): Fiscal Reform Plan Implementation Reserve

Department or Organization: **Housing Department**

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

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