



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO

FROM: Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: May 22, 2019

Approved

Date

5/17/19

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Cultivating a Community-Owned Vision for East San José Neighborhoods

Amount of City Funding Required: \$53,000

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

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

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

With American cities facing a growth problem resulting from urban centers that are experiencing rapid development and investment, there needs to be more community input and voices that align with community planning priorities. Several organizations including the office of Councilwoman Carrasco, SOMOS Mayfair, Alum Rock Santa Clara Street Business Association, and AARP are committed to making this a reality. With the help of CommUniverCity there would be a development of a community assessment and a neighborhood improvement plan. If funded this work would be coordinate by CommUniverCity SJSU in partnership with faculty from the University's Urban and Regional Planning Department. The plan is that during the fall of 2019, Rick Kos, a certified planner will lead a team of 15-18 graduate students to conduct a community assessment of the area. This assessment will comprehensively document current conditions on the study area as a platform for the next phase of work in Spring 2020: community visioning and neighborhood plan development.

The assessment will likely include such topics as demographics trend analysis, neighborhood amenities and strengths, mapping of key neighborhood sites, interviews with community stakeholders, and a public "open house" late in November or December of 2019 to verify

preliminary findings with attendees. In spring of 2020, a new graduate student team under Mr. Kos's direction will build upon the assessment to look forward: identifying the community's top priorities and producing a professional-grade neighborhood improvement plan. It is anticipated that the finished plan will serve as a resource for community leaders to use when advocating for their needs in the study area,

Through this project, CommUniverCity will help the community better understand the area's issues, assets, and priorities and better understand how to engage in the community planning process. This project will leverage existing partnerships with Councilmember Carrasco's office, SOMOS Mayfair, AARP, and the Alum Rock Urban Village advocates already have and connect them with urban planning expertise. This project's main outcomes will be to educate the community and the community-based organization staff who support them on planning and development topics that affect them and increase their capacity to identify and advocate for their priorities.

Funding Source

\$4

Essential Services Reserve (~~\$2~~ million):

Other (Program/Project/Fund):

Department or Organization:

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

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