



# Memorandum

**TO:** MAYOR LICCARDO

**FROM:** Councilmember Sylvia Arenas

**SUBJECT:** BUDGET DOCUMENT

**DATE:** May 22, 2019

Approved

Date

5/22/2019

## RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

### Proposal

Program/Project Title: Sexual Assaults Law Enforcement Training

Amount of City Funding Required: \$250,000

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

This change is:

One-time       Ongoing

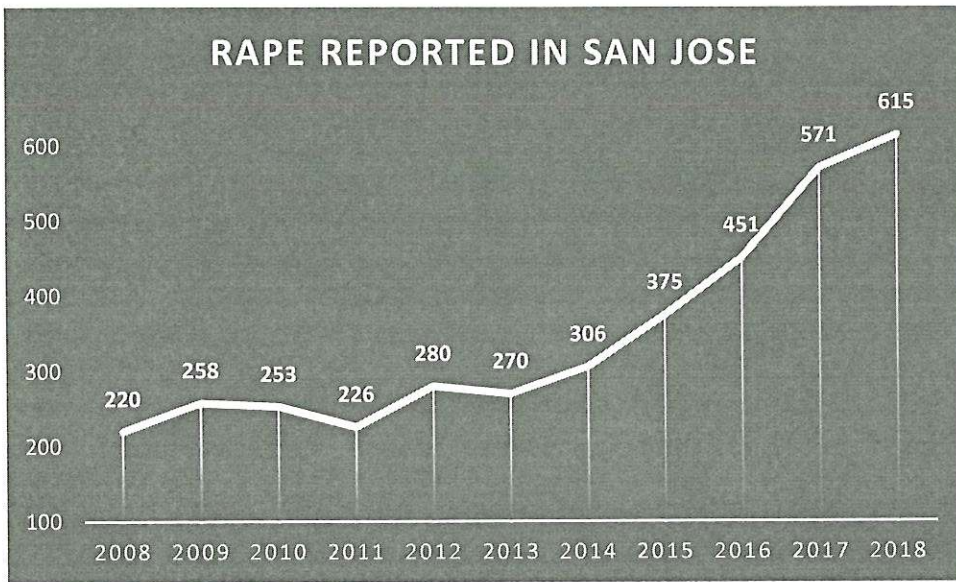
Proposal Description, including anticipated outcomes (Please describe how change would affect services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc.):

On April 15, 2019, San Jose City Council's PSFSS Committee joined the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors Committee on Children, Seniors, and Families to discuss Sexual Assaults and the intersecting violent crimes of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking. An outcome of that meeting was initial steps to system improvements. Both Councilmembers and Supervisors discussed requesting budget requests for specialized on-going law enforcement trainings for trauma-informed work with sexual assault victims.

To respond appropriately to survivors of abuse we must begin with trauma informed interactions, beginning from the police officer responding to the call to the forensic interviewer. The recommendations for specialized on-going law enforcement training include and should not be limited to: (1) CSI work and CFIT style interviews for Patrol Division, Police Academy Training, and Field Training Programs, (2) the Dangers of Strangulation to first responders, dispatchers, follow-up investigators, and prosecutors in collaboration with the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention because strangulation is an indicator of future lethality in cases of Intimate Partner Violence, (3) the Intersections Screening Tool to identify potential intersections of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and human trafficking to train patrol officers to think intersectionally

around sexual assault, and (4) the specialized approach when interacting with child sexual abuse victims.

In the last 10 years, the number of rapes reported in San Jose has almost tripled, while the increase in total violent crime has barely gone beyond a 20% increase. When you exclude rapes from total violent crime, in the same 10-year period in which rapes have doubled, violent crime has only gone up by 11%. Therefore, reported rapes account for half of the entire increase in violent crime in San Jose from 2008 to 2018. The number of clearance rates for sexual assaults has a rate of 6.7% for 2018-2019 which is a lower clearance rate from 2017-2018 of 12.5%. We must find the most efficient strategy to increase the clearance rate; including hiring staff that reflects ethnic and language capacity of survivors as well as an overall increase of staff in those police units.



During the Public Safety Budget Study Session, Police Chief Garcia committed to the development of a workplan to address the Sexual Assault crime increase. This request would support the aforementioned training needs that the San José Police Department Sexual Assault Unit identified in the Sexual Assault joint meeting with the County and is independent of the advocacy resource center proposed by SJPD. The policy work that has come out of the Joint City/County meetings gives us a path to move forward on joint policy improvements.

**Funding Source**

Essential Services Reserve (\$4 million): \$250,000

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):

**Name:**

**Phone Number:**

**E-mail:**