



# Memorandum

**TO:** MAYOR LICCARDO

**FROM:** Councilmember Pam Foley

**SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT**

**DATE:** May 27, 2021

Approved:

Date: 5/27/2021

## RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

### Proposal

Program/Project Title: Office of Disability Affairs

Amount of City Funding Required: \$91,927

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

This change is:

One-time       Ongoing

Cost Estimate Number (if applicable): CE #27

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

In the United States alone, about one in four adults has a disability. 18 of the top 20 U.S. cities have an Office of Disability Affairs (or similar focus) and some have a division, department, or commission focused on civil rights and service delivery to people with disabilities. The City of San José is the 10th largest city in the country, yet it is one of the few major cities lacking this dedication to disability-related concerns.

Currently, members of our disabled community are not well represented, and the existence of differing access and functional needs are consistently overlooked and improperly addressed within every City of San José jurisdiction. On a local level, there is a general lack of planning, accommodation, and accessibility for individuals with disabilities.

This proposal includes the funding of 0.5 FTE of an Assistant to the City Manager Position. This staff member would be dedicated to viewing concerns on a local level through an access and functional needs perspective in order to have the capacity to properly communicate with and assist people with disabilities.

This individual would be the point of contact representing the effort to create an Office of Disability Affairs, developing a Work Plan, and gathering ongoing input from stakeholders.

The creation of an Office of Disability Affairs is a step in the direction of ensuring inclusion, representation, and equity for persons with disabilities in the City of San José

**Funding Source**

Essential Services Reserve:

Other (Please specify program/project/fund): Rescue Funds

**Department or Organization Contact**

Please list the contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation:

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