



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO
SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

FROM: Councilmember Perez
DATE: May 27, 2021

Approved

Date 5/27/2021

RECOMMENDATION

To increase the funding to the Office of Racial Equity

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Office of Racial Equity

Amount of City Funding Required: \$1,962,000

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

Cost Estimate Number (if applicable): #3

Proposal Description, including the reason for the need and anticipated outcomes (Please describe how the proposal will affect services for San José residents, community groups, businesses, etc.):

Last year, our city began the process of establishing the Office of Racial Equity. Since its inception ORE has begun the heavy work of reimagining policing, anti-Asian hate workshops, and establishing equity within our city budget. All this work is happening while our city has been affected by the pandemic, exasperating further the economic and health inequities within our brown and black communities. This pandemic has proven there is a lot more work to do. If we are to come out of this pandemic while working to address equity, we need to properly resource the ORE. The funding requested would allow ORE to help bridge the gap between the City's under-resource, diverse communities and prosperous neighborhoods, by creating ways to find equitable distribution of resources and bring an equity lens when determining resources, programming and access to neighborhood services in diverse communities throughout the City. Additionally, the ORE work has been made a priority by our city and as we enter into deficit years, it is clear we will need to look for on-going funding for this office to be successful. Therefore, I propose we explore the city's revenue from cannabis business tax or alternative revenue sources as on-going funds to the ORE for continued progress in the work plan.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve:

Other (Please specify program/project/fund): American Recovery Act (One-Time) and Cannabis Business Tax (On-Going)

Department or Organization Contact

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

Name and Title: Zulma Maciel

Department or Organization: Office of Racial Equity

Phone Number:

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