



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO

FROM: Councilmember Esparza

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: 5/27/2021

Approved *Maya Esparza*

Date 5/27/2021

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Santee Paralegal

Amount of City Funding Required: \$159,098

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

Cost Estimate Number (if applicable): 72

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.):

This proposal seeks to restore the services that were once offered to the residents of the Santee Neighborhood by restoring the Paralegal position that was assigned to that neighborhood. Said position was lost when Barbara Wright with the City Attorney’s Office retired.

The densely populated, working class character of the Santee Neighborhood poses some challenges. Santee is the location of an active Housing and Public Safety Injunction. Coupled with the longstanding housing crisis, and Santee’s location in the heart of the 95122 ZIP code that has been the hardest hit by the Covid pandemic, all of this has compounded the issues faced by the tenants in the neighborhood. It is more important than ever to ensure that our residents are aware of all the protections that are afforded to them by law and the injunction that the City has secured for that area of the city.

Santee is host to a variety of landlords, including many that fall within the Tier 3 category. Due to the previously mentioned, and as past performance has demonstrated, in-house staff within the City Attorney’s Office is most effective when dealing with Housing and Public Safety Injunction

enforcement. It would behoove us to ensure that some of our most vulnerable residents have access to the support that our laws provide them as tenants, especially as we work to recover from the impacts of this current crisis.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve: \$159,098

Other (Please specify program/project/fund):

Department or Organization Contact

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

Name and Title: Kim Jackson, Legal Services Administrator

Department or Organization: Office of the City Attorney

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