

# DRAFT

## Annual Report for 2020 -2021

### 1. Introduction

This report covers the activities of the San José Neighborhoods Commission (NC) from July 2020 through June 2021. The Neighborhoods Commission was unable to meet in person and publicly from July 2020 to June 2021 the commission met by Zoom meetings from April 2020 until June 2021.

The purpose of the report is to inform the Mayor and City Council of the tasks undertaken by the NC, what was accomplished, the lessons learned, and recommendations to the Council. Due to the unusual circumstances of COVID 19 restrictions on meeting publicly, accomplishments of the Neighborhoods Commission were greatly reduced. The Neighborhoods Commission was unable to fill vacant positions created by resignations. As a result, a quorum was not able to be attained from November 2020 until March 2021.

As defined in San José City Ordinance No. 29297, the commission has the functions, powers, and duties to study, review, and evaluate and make recommendations to the Council regarding issues, policies, and programs affecting the quality of life in San José neighborhoods focusing on neighborhood safety, transportation, and code enforcement. The NC also advises and makes recommendations to the Council regarding annual budget priorities.

Additionally, City of San José Council Resolution No. 78016, adopted December 13, 2016 designated the NC as the San José City's Measure B ¼-cent Sales Tax independent citizen's oversight committee (ICOC). The ICOC will analyze the Measure B ¼-cent Sales Tax data provided by the City and produce an annual report containing an evaluation of the proposed budget allocations with the actual expenditure, and the resultant outcome and submit that report to the City Council. District Commissioners were unable to meet with associations and neighborhood leadership groups. The result was feedback from those names associations and leadership groups were unable to be gathered and conveyed to the Neighborhoods Commission as a whole.

2. **NC COMMISSIONERS** A list of the NC Commissioners serving during 2020-2021 is provided in table 2-1. Jim Carter (D6) served as chair and Nicole Edraos (D8) served as vice chair during this period. The commissioners were selected by district caucuses (with the exception of those appointed to fill vacated seats until the next caucus) and represent their district's views and concerns. The commissioner's backgrounds provide a broad spectrum of experience in neighborhood affairs complemented by experience in different occupational areas including management, finance, and technical.

**Table 2.1 Commissioners Serving During 2020/2021**

Commissioner	District	Commissioner	District
Vacant	1	Jim Carter(C)	6
Gary Cunningham	1	Olivia Navarro	6
Perry Henry	2	*Bruce Victorine	7
* Lababu Prasad	2	*Tasha Tenturier	7
* Jackie Vasquez	3	Nicole Edraos(VC)	8
Richard Wong	3	Vacant	8
*Anthony Rossello	4	Michael Young	9
Vacant	4	Terry Martin	9
Jewel Buchanan	5	Richard Giammona	10
Vacant	5	Vacant	10
* Appointed to fill vacated seat until the next caucus			

**3. NC WORKPLAN** The goals and objectives of the NC are defined by the NC charter. The NC is advisory to the City Council regarding San José neighborhoods.

The Neighborhoods Commission was unable to create an annual work plan, which was to be approved by Neighborhood Services and Education Committee. **The 2019-2020 work plan was not completed due to COVID 19 and the lack of the Commission to acquire a quorum in order to conduct business from March 2020 to April 2021.**

The NC meets 10 times per year, 2 hours each meeting. The effective time to address work plan topics/issues is 1 to 1.5 hours per meeting (10—15 hours per year). The NC uses ad-hoc committees as a viable method for investigating and researching work plan item development and providing the commission with the results. Per San Jose City’s Policy 0-4, ad-hoc committees are allowed for specific short-term tasks or projects with a narrow scope and shall not last longer than six months. The purpose of an ad-hoc is defined, and that purpose is within the “functions, powers, and duties” of the Commission.

**4 Measure B ¼-Cent Sales Tax Oversight.** The Neighborhoods Commission Independent Citizens Oversight Committee (ICOC) was authorized as a result of the San José City’s Measure B ¼-cent Sales Tax

ballot measure approved by the voters on June 7, 2016. The measure required Independent Citizens Oversight with public review of spending, and all revenues controlled locally.

City of San José Council Resolution No. 78016, adopted December 13, 2016, designated the NC of the City of San José as the local sales tax independent citizens oversight committee.

Each year, for the life of the Measure B ¼-Cent Sales Tax, the ICOC will review:

- Revenue resulting from the measure
- Those areas of the San José annual budget impacted by the measure
- Measure B ¼-cent Sales Tax independently audited sales tax revenue expenditure data provided by the San José City Manager Office.

The ICOC will analyze the data provided by the City and produce an annual report with a timeline defined by the City, containing an evaluation of the proposed budget allocations with the actual expenditure, and the resultant outcome and submit that report to the City Council. The following is a summary of the reported ICOC findings and recommendations for FY 2019-2020 Measure B 1/4-Cent Sales Tax revenues and allocations submitted to the Mayor and Council. The findings, observations/comments, and recommendations are provided in the ICOC report submitted to the Mayor and Council .

**4.1 FY 2019-2020 Findings.** The revenues reported for FY 2019-2020 represent the fourth year of Measure B implementation and were for 12 months. San José City Manager provided the Measure B 1/4-Cent Sales Tax revenues and expenditures for FY 2019-2020. The findings in this report as well as observations/comments, and recommendations are based on the Measure B data provided by the San José City Manager and was submitted to the Mayor and Council and cover the period from 7/1/2019 to 6/30/2020.

**4.2 FY 2019-2020 Revenues.** San José City’s 2016 Measure B ¼-Cent Sales Tax revenues received for FY 2018-2019 were \$43,150,275. The revenues were expended for each of the Measure B categories as detailed in Table 3-2.

**Table 4-1. FY 2019-2020 Measure B ¼-Cent Sales Tax Allocations**

Measure B Category	Measure B Allocation (Dollars)	Percent Allocated (%)
Improving Police Response to Reduce Violent Crimes and Burglaries	29,278,795	68.0
Improving 911/Emergency Medical/Fire Response Times	8,659,008	20.0
Repairing Potholes and Streets	0	0
Expanding Gang Prevention	2,688,517	6.2
Maintaining the City’s Long-Term Financial Stability	0	0
Other	2,523,955	5.8
Total	43,150,275	100

**5 Annual budget Recommendation.** Annually the Neighborhoods Commission solicits input from neighborhoods and compiles that information to form an annually budget letter. This year due to COVID 19 restrictions input was not obtained from the respective neighborhoods, however input was received for the year 2019-2020. The letter for the years 2019-2021 was written and is attached to this report the letter was submitted to the Neighborhoods Services and Education Committee on May 20, 2021. See attachment.

### **Conclusion**

Neighborhoods Commission Meetings serve as a forum for San José residents to present their concerns and views on issues affecting their neighborhoods. Additionally, organizations provided presentations on relevant San José matters including the following:

- City of San José Illegal Fireworks: San José Fire Department

The Neighborhoods Commission was unable to meet in person and with the public during the fiscal year 2020-2021 from March, 2020 until the end of the fiscal year due to Covid 19 restrictions. Additionally, the commission was not able to meet quorum. The commission met by zoom meetings from March 2020 until June 2021.