



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR REED

FROM: Councilmember Pete Constant

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: May 25, 2011

Approved

Date May 25, 2011

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

BACKGROUND

Program/Project Title: Eliminate all Boards, Commissions, Task Forces and Advisory Commissions except for those required by the City Charter or other authority.

Amount of City Funding Required: Unknown

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

Anticipated Outcomes: Requested funding changes would affect benefits or services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc., as described below: (Use as much space as required.)

There are currently 46 San José Boards and Commissions in addition to other Task Force Committees, not included in the total. Only 11 of these are required by the City Charter or other authority. To preserve staff time and provide additional funding for essential services such as public safety and critical infrastructure maintenance we must eliminate the 35 that are not required and maintain the following:

- Planning Commission
- Police and Fire Department Retirement Plan
- Federated City Employees' Retirement System
- Civil Service Commission
- Elections Commission
- Appeals Hearing Board
- Redistricting Advisory Commission (every 10 years)
- General Plan Taskforce (until completion of duties)
- Library Bond Oversight Committee
- Library Parcel Tax- Citizen Oversight Committee
- Public Safety Bond- Citizen Oversight Committee

Funding Source: n/a

Program/Project Title: n/a

Amount of City Funding Change: \$0.00

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

Anticipated Outcomes: Requested funding changes would affect benefits or services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc., as described below: (Use as much space as required.)

The elimination of the Boards, Commissions, Task Forces and Advisory Commissions that are not required by the City Charter will provide additional funding necessary to reinforce safety for the residents of San José. At this time, our top priority should be focused on those urgent safety issues and provide funding when possible.

The 46 San José Boards and Commissions consist of voluntary members, but managing these groups requires significant staff time. Therefore, the hours spent to prepare for one of these meetings is additional time spent focusing on non-imperative issues. Aside from the normal business hours, there are numerous overtime hours spent in preparation for these meetings. There are the additional meeting costs such as facility rental fees and the costs of purchasing supplies, refreshments, copies of the meeting agendas and minutes, etc. This proposal will significantly decrease the responsibilities of staff associated with the Boards, Commissions and Task Forces. There is an extra effort and cost that is required to support and maintain a Board or Commission, and that effort should be focused on the more vital issues that we face in the City of San José.

Department or Organization: City Clerk

Department or Organization Contact (Please list contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation.)

Name: Dennis Hawkins, City Clerk's Office
Phone number: 408-535-1275
E-mail address: dennis.hawkins@sanjoseca.gov

This change is:

_____ One-time Ongoing

The City Service Area to which the change best relates:

- Community and Economic Development Services
- Environmental and Utility Services
- Neighborhood Services
- Public Safety
- Strategic Support
- Transportation and Aviation Services