

# 2022-2023 City Enterprise Priorities

- 1 COVID-19 PANDEMIC: COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY:** No event in living memory has been more painful or traumatic for our community than the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis which exacerbated existing inequalities. In this moment, our biggest challenge and our biggest opportunity is to foster an equitable recovery to a “Better Normal.” The journey to healing, recovery, and resilience will require unprecedented effort, resources, and creativity. Recovery is not for us to do alone, rather it must be done with the community, for the benefit of those most burdened by the crisis, guided by their wisdom, tapping into their potential, and building on their deep enduring strength.
- 2 RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE CITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:** Great cities are built on great infrastructure—often-invisible networks of pipes, wires, roads, facilities, and spaces that connect us—in every neighborhood. Today, our infrastructure is challenged by age, climate change, disasters, and is under pressure to grow. Only a “regenerative” approach to our City infrastructure can meet both the needs of our people (equity) and live within the capacity of the planet (environment). A regenerative approach shifts from excessive consumption to reuse (restoring what we consume) with resilience and sustainability built in. When it comes to resilience, the lives and safety of our residents is one of our most fundamental obligations and we must continue to prioritize the work of ensuring San José is well-prepared for the next disaster, with a clear focus on supporting those who are most vulnerable.
- 3 ENDING HOMELESSNESS:** All people in San José need a place they can call home and feel they belong as a vital part of the City, yet the City and region are faced with an unprecedented housing crisis. While the brunt of this crisis is borne by our unhoused neighbors, its impacts are felt across our community. The City will continue to invest in permanent supportive and affordable housing, while addressing systemic issues to improve the condition of our City. The City will also take immediate action by increasing emergency and interim housing options and expanding services to meet the basic health and safety needs of our unhoused residents.
- 4 SAFER SAN JOSE:** The safety of San José residents is one of the City’s most fundamental obligations, necessary not only to ensure the physical safety of individuals, but also to form the basis of a thriving, inclusive community where residents can entrust their safety both to the City and each other. The City will work to build and strengthen this trust across all elements of public safety—including our community safety partnerships, law enforcement, operations continuity during disasters, and traffic safety—by continuously improving the City’s policies and practices, pursuing new and innovative service models and partnerships, centering prevention as a key strategy, and engaging residents as participants in ensuring the safety of their own communities.
- 5 CLEAN, VIBRANT, AND INCLUSIVE NEIGHBORHOODS AND PUBLIC LIFE:** The diverse mosaic of people who live, work, learn, and play in San José deserve clean, vibrant, accessible, and inclusive public spaces that inspire friendship and connection across generations, cultures, and points of view. Our neighborhoods and public life must reflect the rich cultural history and lived experiences of our residents. Neighborhoods should serve as conduits for people to connect with one another, to build community, and provide pathways to opportunity, lifelong learning, and prosperity.
- 6 BUILDING THE SAN JOSE OF TOMORROW WITH A DOWNTOWN FOR EVERYONE:** San José has a bold plan that envisions a more urban, connected, and livable city by 2040. Making this a reality will require driving private development and ensuring those investments create great places. The approval processes must be clear, consistent and easy to use for everyone, and move at the speed of business, not bureaucracy. The center piece of these efforts, our Downtown plan, is a complex mosaic of new train lines, large offices mixed with vibrant street front retail, urban housing, and creative public spaces that we must get right.
- 7 STRATEGIC FISCAL POSITIONING AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT:** We will continue to be both strategic and responsible in how we manage and balance the City’s \$5.3 billion budget as well as smart and efficient in how we serve our community. We will always look for opportunities to be cost-effective in all aspects of our service delivery system while working to ensure equity and inclusion in how our services are delivered. If new or expanded revenues are considered, we will minimize impacts to our tax, rate, and fee payers to the extent possible.
- 8 POWERED BY PEOPLE :** We recognize that our approximately 6,850 employees power the City of San José and our success as a City is dependent on our ability to create a dynamic and engaged workforce. Our employees’ ability to provide excellent service is strengthened when we invest in attracting talent, providing opportunities for career growth, enabling an environment focused on health, safety, and wellness, and retaining a diverse workforce in a workplace that is equitable and inclusive.