



# Memorandum

**TO:** MAYOR MAHAN

**FROM:** Councilmember Domingo Candelas

**SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT**

**DATE:** 5/25/23

Approved

Date 5/25/23

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Modify the City Manager's 2023-2024 Proposed Budget to incorporate the following budget proposal, including any required funding allocation adjustments.

### **Proposal**

Program/Project Title: Funding for Indo-American Cultural Center Feasibility Study

Amount of City Funding Required: \$100,000

This change is:

One-time  Ongoing

Cost Estimate Number (if applicable): CE# 42

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.):

According to the 2020 Census, Santa Clara County had the largest percentage of Asian Americans in the Bay Area at 39% including Indo-Americans. Within Santa Clara County, San Jose's 2020 Census population is 37.5% Asian.

An Indo-American cultural center will address the needs of the South Asian community of San Jose. The center will help Indian Americans and Indian immigrants to gain equitable access to resources, allowing the community to thrive. A cultural center reflects the diversity of San Jose and will provide a greater sense of belonging and community empowerment through educational, recreational, and cultural programming. Recreational programming will increase the physical mobility of youth, adults, and seniors. Having a physical space for events and workshops will increase community engagement. Cultural programming will help preserve and promote the cultural

heritage of Indian Americans, including art, music, dance, cuisine, and traditions, ensuring that they are passed down to future generations.

Cultural centers often host events and activities that attract visitors, increasing foot traffic in the area and potentially bringing in new customers for local businesses. Events and activities also serve as opportunities for networking and collaboration among businesses and community members. Events and activities will serve as opportunities for community organizations to work with each other and other institutions to foster partnerships and collaborations. By working together, organizations can leverage their resources and expertise to create meaningful and impactful programming that serves the community. This community center would be similar to the Mexican Heritage Plaza and the Vietnamese American Cultural Center.

Based on the Cost Estimate provided, a feasibility study is estimated to be \$400,000. This budget document looks to invest \$100,000 to be used as seed funding to kick-off the effort and begin community momentum towards a feasibility study and ultimately a cultural center.

The funding will be used as a catalyst for community organizations to use towards leveraging private, philanthropic, and other government funding sources. Funding will be held in a reserve until partner funding has been identified. The Council District 8 office will be the convener and ensure City staff, community organizations and key stakeholder groups are included.

Organizations such as, but not limited to:

- Silicon Andhra
- Pratima
- Indian American Society of India

### **Funding Source**

Essential Services Reserve:

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: Dan Greeley / Program Manager

Department or Organization: PRNS

Phone Number: 408-535-3570

Email: dan.greeley@sanjoseca.gov