

FW: Comment letter re June 13, 2023 Item 3.5 (Measure E fund allocation)

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 6/5/2023 10:25 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachments (132 KB)

Letter to San Jose City Council re Measure E.pdf;

From: Bill James [REDACTED] >

Sent: Monday, June 05, 2023 10:17 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Comment letter re June 13, 2023 Item 3.5 (Measure E fund allocation)

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Dear Clerk,

Please see the attached letter to the Mayor and City Council.

Regards, Bill James

Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair

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Santa Clara County Democratic Party
2901 Moorpark Ave, Suite 110
San Jose CA 95128

June 5, 2023

Mayor Matt Mahan and Members of the
San José City Council

Via Email

**Re: Opposing Proposed Changes to the Spending Priorities and Percentage Allocations
Measure E Real Property Transfer Taxes (Item 3.5 on June 13, 2023 Agenda)**

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

On behalf of the Santa Clara County Democratic Party, which represents over 500,000 Democratic voters in Santa Clara County, I am writing to urge you to maintain the current spending priorities and percentage allocations of Measure E Real Property Transfer Tax proceeds.

The ballot description for Measure E promised the funds would be used for “providing affordable housing for seniors, veterans, disabled, and low-income families and helping homeless residents move into shelters/permanent housing.” The proposed diversion of Measure E proceeds to fund only or primarily short-term housing would break this promise.

Furthermore, such a diversion would be short-sighted and would ignore evidence that demonstrates clearly that an adequate supply of affordable housing, including permanent supportive housing, is essential to meaningfully address homelessness. Non-profit housing developers and government agencies need a consistent and reliable stream of funding to ensure we have an adequate supply of affordable housing in the years ahead.

If we fail to invest in affordable housing, consistently over time, many community members moved into short term housing will return to experiencing homelessness, as recent experience has shown, and others will be at greater risk of becoming homeless.

I am attaching a resolution adopted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee on June 1, 2023, opposing the proposed reallocation of Measure E proceeds to fund homeless services and short-term interim housing at the expense of continuing to invest in affordable housing required to provide increased housing security in the long term, including permanent supportive housing.

Please continue to use Measure E funds to provide affordable housing, as the voters were promised.

Respectfully,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Bill James
Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair

RESOLUTION OPPOSING DIVERSION OF MEASURE E HOUSING FUNDS

WHEREAS, in 2020 the voters of the City of San José passed Measure E to “fund general City of San José services, including providing affordable housing for seniors, veterans, disabled, and low-income families and helping homeless residents move into shelters/permanent housing”; and

WHEREAS affordable housing in San José continues to fall far short what is needed to protect residents at risk of becoming homeless while also being able to transition those currently experiencing homelessness into stable, permanent housing, and Measure E specifically states that funds will be used to provide affordable housing; and

WHEREAS diverting Measure E funding entirely to interim housing will gravely harm the ability of the City of San José to provide permanent, affordable housing for seniors, veterans, disabled persons, and low-income families, thereby undermining a core promise of Measure E;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party urges the San José City Council to reject the Mayor’s proposal to divert Measure E funds to solely fund interim housing in the 2023-2024 city budget, and to instead ensure that Measure E funds continue to be used to fund both interim housing and affordable permanent housing, as contemplated by voters when they passed Measure E, as part of an integrated approach to transition those experiencing homeless to stable, permanent housing while providing long term housing security for all residents.

Adopted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee on June 1, 2023.

FW: Opposed to changes in Measure E spending (Item 3 on May 16th Agenda)

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/2/2023 8:55 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: barbara [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, June 1, 2023 5:04 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; action [REDACTED]

Subject: Opposed to changes in Measure E spending (Item 3 on May 16th Agenda)

[External Email]

Mayor Mahan and City Councilmembers,

The problem of homelessness will not be solved by shifting Measure E funding away from affordable housing and into interim housing. This is not what the voters intended when they voted for Measure E.

The crying lack of affordable housing is the root cause of the terrible problem affecting our city, and this proposal just defers permanent solutions and puts a band-aid on the symptoms. It may politically make the homeless numbers look a little better temporarily, but does not contribute to the solution when there still isn't housing for individuals and families to move into after their time in interim housing. It is also my understanding that this change could derail permanent housing projects that are already in the pipeline.

Please reject this proposal and keep the existing Measure E spending plan.

Thank you.

Barbara Canup
District 10 resident and long-time voter.

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FW: I oppose changes to the Measure E Spending Plan (Item 3.3 on the May 16th Agenda)

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 6/6/2023 11:50 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Shannelle [REDACTED] >

Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2023 11:45 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; action@housingready.org

Subject: I oppose changes to the Measure E Spending Plan (Item 3.3 on the May 16th Agenda)

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[External Email]

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Councilmembers,

As a San Jose resident and voter, I write to express my opposition to the proposed Measure E spending plan. When we approved Measure E in 2020, we were promised the proceeds would fund much-needed affordable housing, and this new proposal is a reversal of that commitment.

The rates of homelessness our community faces today is a symptom of our severe housing shortage, and we know that solving this crisis will require us to create more permanent affordable homes. Investing in more interim options is important, but it cannot come at the expense of building more permanent affordable housing. As the 10th largest city in the county, San Jose should be a leader in deploying evidence-based solutions rather than disinvesting in affordable housing at such a critical time.

Now is the time to fund MORE affordable housing, not less. Please keep your commitment to the people of San Jose by rejecting this new proposal and maintain the existing Measure E spending plan.

Thank you!

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Reiterating my support for Measure E funds to house people NOW

davide[REDACTED]

Wed 6/7/2023 11:23 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>;The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>;Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>;District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>;Kamei, Rosemary <Rosemary.Kamei@sanjoseca.gov>;District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>;Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>;District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>;Torres, Omar <Omar.Torres@sanjoseca.gov>;District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>;Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>;District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>;Ortiz, Peter <Peter.Ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>;District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>;Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>;District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>;Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>;District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>;Candelas, Domingo <Domingo.Candelas@sanjoseca.gov>;District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

Hello again,

I sent the email below the separator on May 18 in support of using Measure E funds for quick-build interim housing to bring our unhoused neighbors indoors sooner rather than later. They cannot wait for permanent housing to be built. They will continue to deteriorate and some will die on the streets. Don't sacrifice the good for the perfect. Measure E funds for the humane treatment of our unhoused neighbors.

Allow me to share with you one more story of another unhoused neighbor in my neighborhood. Daniel [REDACTED] is 41-years-old. He has the mental acuity of a 6-year-old. You cannot converse with him. That's because he's been addicted to illegal drugs for 25 years. His family tried to help. Repeatedly. They have given up. He mostly lives on the street – when he's not in jail. He prefers jail in the winter when it's cold so he breaks the law so that he can be taken indoors. A couple of months ago, he was in the porch of the Five Wounds Rectory Office and would not leave when asked. His erratic behavior led the pastor's assistant to call the police. When they arrived, Daniel kicked one of the officers in the leg. It took six officers to hold him down to hook him up. He is small but had superhuman strength from whatever he was high on. He was locked up for a day or two before being dumped back on the street to make his way back to Little Portugal. Daniel doesn't just need a roof over his head. He needs rehabilitative services. Intensive rehabilitation. Even with help, will he ever be able to function in society? He deserves a chance. He needs to be compelled to receive the services that could afford him a chance. And a roof over his head -- now.

Regards,
Davide Vieira

Hello, my name is Davide Vieira and I am a resident of East San Jose in favor of quick-build housing as a way to house our unhoused neighbors sooner rather than much later. I also volunteer at St. Isabel's Kitchen at Five Wounds Church.

Please allow me to introduce you to some of our unhoused neighbors who live on the streets near Five Wounds Church.

Bruno has lived on the street in our neighborhood for many years. He was bitten on his foot by a spider this year. The bite got infected. He couldn't wear a shoe, so he limped around with just a sock on his injured foot. That's because someone stole his bike. He went to Valley Medical Center and spent 12 hours there to no avail. They sent him away after having lost him for three hours when he was in plain sight all along. He had no money to get back to the neighborhood. A kind nurse got him an Uber. Bruno's foot only got worse. He went to Regional Medical Center and was admitted for three days. He was treated and recovered. He could have lost his foot.

Angel is a senior who has lived in her pickup in the neighborhood for years ever since she was injured on the job and couldn't work anymore. She has serious health problems. This past winter, she was admitted to the local OWL. That was great because she could at least get some sleep indoors out of the cold. But the OWLs closed at the end of April. Angel is back on the street in her pickup. What's unique about Angel is that, even though she has nothing but her pickup and monthly SSI, she goes around collecting leftover food from local nutrition programs in the neighborhood to distribute at the encampments in the area. She collects and passes out clothes and toiletries too. That's how she spends her days. She's been waiting for a housing voucher for years. But she still holds out hope. When she gets a house, she plans on sharing it with others.

Anthony looks like Moses. He is dirty and disheveled. I cannot even venture a guess as to the last time he bathed. His legs are dry and chapped. He is constantly scratching his skin. But he is as polite a person as you will ever meet. It's obvious that he has mental health issues. But all he needs and all he asks for is the food that he receives at our soup kitchen.

Carlos is bipolar. His parents have a TRO against him because he can become aggressive and even violent when he's not on his medication. Which is often. He has caused serious property damage in the area over the years. He stalked a female employee at a local community center. Another TRO. When he is on his medication, though, he is approachable and considerate. Someone stole his shoes while he slept recently. He was walking the neighborhood in stocking feet. I saw him with new shoes the next day.

Michael rides his bike. He rides his bike everywhere. All day. We give him a couple of lunches because that's all he will eat all day. He has bad teeth, so he can't eat fruit like apples or pears.

These are our neighbors. They deserve shelter. If that's what quick-build housing can provide them, then that's a start. They have already lived on the street for far too long. Don't let them die there. The perfect is the enemy of the good. Please use Measure E funds to more quickly house our unhoused neighbors.

Regards,
Davide Vieira

All you leave behind are memories -- make them good ones

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Fw: Letter to city council

Wong, Annie <Annie.Wong@sanjoseca.gov>

Thu 6/8/2023 9:51 AM

To:CMOAgendaServices <cmoagendaservices@sanjoseca.gov>;Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>;City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

📎 1 attachments (79 KB)

Letter to Council - Daphna Woolfe.pdf;

Good morning,

I received a letter from the Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Daphna Woolfe to be added on as a public letter to the upcoming City Council Agenda.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Annie Wong | Staff Specialist

Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

City Hall 9th Floor | Parks Division

200 E. Santa Clara St., San Jose, CA 95113

Building Community Through Fun

[Website](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)



From: Daphna Woolfe [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 4:22 PM

To: Wong, Annie <Annie.Wong@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Letter to city council

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council Members,

The Parks and Recreation Commission would like to advocate for budget priorities as they relate to our parks as well the Mayor's four guiding principles. First and foremost, our parks are a direct representation of the overall quality of our city. Maintaining our 200+ parks and recreation centers at a high standard addresses equity within our city, as well as draws us together as a community. As we are sure that you are aware, our parks are already underfunded based on basic maintenance and necessary upgrades. Not only do we need to maintain our parks at a high level, but we also need to backfill maintenance and upgrades that our parks so desperately need.

Additionally, we seek to make our services and programs available to all who wish to participate. The scholarship program has seen growth, but this needs to be sustainable if everyone who wishes to participate is not turned away due to financial reasons. Our parks and services should be for all residents of San Jose.

We appreciate your caring for our community!

Regards,

Daphna Woolfe
PRNS Chair

--

Daphna Woolfe
Third Grade Teacher

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Letter to city council

Daphna Woolfe [REDACTED]

Wed 6/7/2023 4:23 PM

To: Wong, Annie <Annie.Wong@sanjoseca.gov>

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council Members,

The Parks and Recreation Commission would like to advocate for budget priorities as they relate to our parks as well the Mayor's four guiding principles. First and foremost, our parks are a direct representation of the overall quality of our city. Maintaining our 200+ parks and recreation centers at a high standard addresses equity within our city, as well as draws us together as a community. As we are sure that you are aware, our parks are already underfunded based on basic maintenance and necessary upgrades. Not only do we need to maintain our parks at a high level, but we also need to backfill maintenance and upgrades that our parks so desperately need.

Additionally, we seek to make our services and programs available to all who wish to participate. The scholarship program has seen growth, but this needs to be sustainable if everyone who wishes to participate is not turned away due to financial reasons. Our parks and services should be for all residents of San Jose.

We appreciate your caring for our community!

Regards,

Daphna Woolfe
PRNS Chair

--

Daphna Woolfe
Third Grade Teacher
[REDACTED]


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FW: FY 2023-2024 Budget for Animal Care & Services

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 11:50 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachments (56 KB)

CCAP. FY23-24 Budget for ACS.docx-pdf.pdf;

From: Catherine Valentine [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 11:48 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FY 2023-2024 Budget for Animal Care & Services

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[External Email]

The Companion and Community Animal Project requests that the attached letter be put into the public records.

Thank you

Catherine Valentine
The Companion and Community Animal Project

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June 9, 2023

San Jose Mayor & City Council
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Fiscal Year 2023– 2024 Budget for Animal Care & Services (“Animal Services”)

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council:

The Community & Companion Animal Project (“CCAP”) supports the Mayor and City Manager’s proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget increases for Animal Services and appreciates how the budget reflects the recognition of challenges facing Animal Services and responds to the concerns voiced over the past year.

Converting the temporary overstrength position of Supervisor Shelter Operations to permanent status, and adding more full-time positions, a night shift and a dedicated senior resource for facilities repair and maintenance will improve the shelter’s ability to provide greatly needed support to our community and increase live outcomes for the animals.

The night shift is a critical addition, as it will enable the shelter to provide care for underage kittens, the highest volume and most vulnerable animals at the shelter. The allocation of monies for support of adoption and rescue outcomes is also essential. It will allow more animals in need to move to organizations that can provide the specialized care necessary for such animals to be placed for adoption.

While the proposed budget for Animal Services represents substantial progress, we believe the following matters are still in need of additional funding and attention.

- The data produced and used by the shelter to direct its operations, measure its performance and predict future community needs is incomplete and/or inaccurate. The shelter needs a dedicated IT Business Analyst to review and develop systems and

processes for the collection, use, and transparency of data, including the collection of critical missing data integral to development of a long-term strategy, such as the number of animals turned away at intake and the reasons admission was denied.

- Expanding and staffing the Trap, Neuter & Return (TNR) program for community cats is mandatory. During May the shelter accepted 743 kittens and as of June 6th was holding 340 kittens, representing the majority of the animals in the shelter. The shelter, rescue organizations, and fosters are at or over capacity and animals are being turned away. Friendly community kittens are being found throughout San Jose; there is no place for them to go and it is still the beginning of “kitten season”. This problem results directly from the reduction in TNR services in 2019 by Animal Services and its termination of all TNR services in May 2022. It has recently reinstated TNR, but on a very limited basis, relying heavily on rescues and volunteers to transport cats outside of the county for spay and neuter services. Since the reduction of TNR service began, the cities served by Animal Services have been experiencing an increasing cat population that will continue to grow exponentially unless a robust TNR program is established and maintained.
- Reinstating low cost spay/neuter and vaccination services is also essential. Pet overpopulation results in unwanted animals that are abandoned or otherwise become strays. Unvaccinated animals spread disease. The economy and the shortage of vets has made it difficult for many people to neuter and vaccinate their pets. The reinstatement of low cost spay and neuter services will greatly reduce animal suffering. It will also reduce the number of animals brought to the shelter, which will increase the live release rate. Fewer animals in the shelter increases an animal’s probability of adoption and the shelter’s ability to house the animal. This effect was recognized by John Cicirelli when he was Assistant Director of Public Works. The following is his quote from a May 31, 2016, article in sanjoseinside entitled “San Jose Councilman Proposes No-Kill Shelter”:

“One of the most significant contributors to our high save rate has been preventing animals from being born through low cost and free spay-neuter services. We have learned that this is one of the best ways to invest in our community and achieve our goal of reducing the number of stray animals.”

- The shelter needs a full time animal behaviorist. A dedicated position would enable the shelter to structure enrichment, socialization, and behavior modification programs to offset the stressful conditions of the shelter environment on the animals. An animal behaviorist would also provide post-adoption support and owner-retention programs, increasing positive outcomes.

The challenges facing the shelter will not be resolved overnight. The proposed budget increases represent positive forward movement, but much more needs to be done. Animal Services requires oversight at the City Council level, and your participation in making sure Animal Services meets the current and future needs of the community is vital.

We urge you to approve the proposed increases for Animal Services.

Sincerely,

Catherine Valentine

The Companion & Community Animal Project

FW: Mayors Budget - I SUPPORT

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 4:31 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

1 attachments (2 MB)

IMG_0.MOV;

From: Nancy Keo <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:20 PM

To: Batra, Arjun <arjun.batra@sanjoseca.gov>; Candelas, Domingo <Domingo.Candelas@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; Matt Mahan <matthew.mahan@gmail.com>; Torres, Omar <Omar.Torres@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; Ortiz, Peter <Peter.Ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>; Kamei, Rosemary <Rosemary.Kamei@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Taber, Toni <toni.taber@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Re: Mayors Budget - I SUPPORT

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Nancy from District 7 and I support the Mayor Mahan's Budget.

- 1.) Tackling Homelessness
- 2.) Tackling Crime
- 3.) Cleaning up our Streets our neighborhoods.

We have to support and focus on our un-housed community. Every year that we ignore this problem it grows and gets bigger. We have to clean up our streets, parks, freeways, creeks, surrounding schools. We deserve a clean community.

Today at 4:00pm my neighborhood once again is covered in smoke, a fire from the brushes located in the encampments off the freeway. This happens numerous times in District 7.







District 7 has one of the largest homeless population, shelters, centers, and so much more. We have to clean up District 7.

Thank you.

Nancy Keo







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FW: Protect Measure E Funding

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 10:39 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: Forrest Nixon [REDACTED] >

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 10:19 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Protect Measure E Funding

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

[External Email]

Mayor Mahon and Members of the City Council,

The root cause of homelessness is the lack of affordable housing. Measure E funding of permanent affordable housing directly works to solve the problem. Improving encampments and providing shelters for those who want them are helpful but should not take away from the Measure E funding. Please do not divert Measure E funding from providing permanent affordable housing.

Thank you.

Forrest Nixon

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FW: Fiscal 2023– 2024 Animal Care & Services (“Animal Services”) Budget

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 1:09 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Merrill [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 12:30 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Re: Fiscal 2023– 2024 Animal Care & Services (“Animal Services”) Budget

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

[External Email]

Dear City Clerk:

I am a San Jose resident and am writing to state my strong support for the increases for Animal Services in the Mayor and City Manager’s proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget. I appreciate how these increases recognize the challenges faced by Animal Services and respond to concerns voiced by the community over the past year.

Converting the temporary overstrength position of Supervisor Shelter Operations to permanent status, and adding more full-time positions, a night shift and a dedicated senior resource for facilities repair and maintenance will improve the shelter’s ability to provide greatly needed support to our community and increase live outcomes for the animals.

The night shift is a critical addition, as it will enable the shelter to provide care for underage kittens, the highest volume and most vulnerable animals at the shelter. The allocation of monies for support of adoption and rescue outcomes is also essential. It will allow more animals in need to move to organizations that can provide the specialized care necessary for such animals to be placed for adoption.

While the proposed budget for Animal Services represents substantial progress, I believe the following matters are still in need of additional funding and attention.

The data produced and used by the shelter to direct its operations, measure its performance and predict future community needs is incomplete and/or inaccurate. The shelter needs a dedicated IT Business Analyst to review and develop systems and processes for the collection, use, and transparency of data, including the collection of critical missing data integral to development of a long-term strategy, such as the number of animals turned away at intake and the reasons admission was denied.

Expanding and staffing the Trap, Neuter & Return (TNR) program for community cats is mandatory. During May the shelter accepted 743 kittens and as of June 6th was holding 340 kittens, representing the majority of the animals in the shelter. The shelter, rescue organizations, and fosters are at or over capacity and animals are being turned away. Friendly community kittens are being found throughout San Jose; there is no place for them to go and it is still the beginning of “kitten season”. This problem results directly from the reduction in TNR services in 2019 by Animal Services and its termination of all TNR

services in May 2022. It has recently reinstated TNR, but on a very limited basis, relying heavily on rescues and volunteers to transport cats outside of the county for spay and neuter services. Since the reduction of TNR service began, the cities served by Animal Services have been experiencing an increasing cat population that will continue to grow exponentially unless a robust TNR program is established and maintained.

Reinstating low cost spay/neuter and vaccination services is also essential. Pet overpopulation results in unwanted animals that are abandoned or otherwise become strays. Unvaccinated animals spread disease. The economy and the shortage of vets has made it difficult for many people to neuter and vaccinate their pets. The reinstatement of low cost spay and neuter services will greatly reduce animal suffering. It will also reduce the number of animals brought to the shelter, which will increase the live release rate. Fewer animals in the shelter increases an animal's probability of adoption and the shelter's ability to house the animal. This effect was recognized by John Cicirelli when he was Assistant Director of Public Works. The following is his quote from a May 31, 2016, article in sanjoseinside entitled "San Jose Councilman Proposes No-Kill Shelter":

"One of the most significant contributors to our high save rate has been preventing animals from being born through low cost and free spay-neuter services. We have learned that this is one of the best ways to invest in our community and achieve our goal of reducing the number of stray animals."

The shelter needs a full time animal behaviorist. A dedicated position would enable the shelter to structure enrichment, socialization, behavior modification and offset the stressful conditions of the shelter environment on the animals. An animal behaviorist would also provide post-adoption support and owner-retention programs, increasing positive outcomes.

The challenges facing the shelter will not be resolved overnight. The proposed budget increases represent positive forward movement, but much more needs to be done. Animal Services requires oversight at the City Council level, and your participation in making sure Animal Services meets the current and future needs of the community is vital.

I urge you to approve the proposed increases for Animal Services.

Please add my comments to the public record and distribute to the Mayor and City Councilmembers.

Sincerely,
Susan Merrill

Sent from my iPhone

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FW: Support for Mayor Mahan's Measure E Spending Plan

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 1:30 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Jean-Marie White [REDACTED] >

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 1:29 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Support for Mayor Mahan's Measure E Spending Plan

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[External Email]

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Councilmembers,

I want to express my support for Mayor Mahan's Measure E spending plan.

My North Star in this debate is how can we offer anybody who wants to get off the streets alternatives that are better than congregate shelters ASAP. One option is Quick Builds—accommodations that provide shelter from the elements and relieve someone from spending all their mental energy on basic survival. Another option is sanctioned RV parking.

Measure E revenues would probably take more than 30 years at the current revenue to cost ratio to give all the unsheltered folks permanent housing. (Back of the napkin calculations: Measure E revenues=\$50M/year, cost of unit=\$625K, need for about 2500 units for about 5000 unsheltered ppl). That is just too long and cannot be the answer for people living on our streets.

The alternate spending plans that peanut butters Measure E revenues over everything to try and make all stakeholders happy is not rising to meet the urgency of the moment.

I ask you all to have the courage to vote and help our fellow unhoused San Jose residents as quickly as we can.

Thank you

Jean-Marie White
[REDACTED]

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FW: Allocation of Measure E Funds

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 4:37 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: komuller [REDACTED] >

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 11:22 AM

To: District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Allocation of Measure E Funds

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[External Email]

To: Mayor Mahan & Members of the City Council:

I am unable to attend the Council meeting this coming Tuesday when you will be hearing comments from the public regarding the allocation of Measure E funds. I strongly support leaving the allocation as it was originally set in 2022, for 75% of the funds dedicated to developing long-term affordable housing. It is critical that we “stay the course” over the long run and continue to develop and build as much affordable housing in San Jose as possible. This is what the public was promised when asked to support Measure E and it is sound public policy.

I therefore support the direction proposed by the Councilmembers Davis, Ortiz, and Torres.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Muller

[REDACTED]
San Jose, CA 95125

cc: San Jose City Clerk

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FW: Fiscal 2023– 2024 Animal Care & Services (“Animal Services”) Budget

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 4:45 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: MaiLy Pham <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:43 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Re: Fiscal 2023– 2024 Animal Care & Services (“Animal Services”) Budget

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[External Email]

To whom it may concern,

I am a San Jose resident and am writing to state my strong support for the increases for Animal Services in the Mayor and City Manager’s proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget. I appreciate how these increases recognize the challenges faced by Animal Services and respond to concerns voiced by the community over the past year.

Converting the temporary overstrength position of Supervisor Shelter Operations to permanent status, and adding more full-time positions, a night shift and a dedicated senior resource for facilities repair and maintenance will improve the shelter’s ability to provide greatly needed support to our community and increase live outcomes for the animals.

The night shift is a critical addition, as it will enable the shelter to provide care for underage kittens, the highest volume and most vulnerable animals at the shelter. The allocation of monies for support of adoption and rescue outcomes is also essential. It will allow more animals in need to move to organizations that can provide the specialized care necessary for such animals to be placed for adoption.

While the proposed budget for Animal Services represents substantial progress, I believe the following matters are still in need of additional funding and attention.

- The data produced and used by the shelter to direct its operations, measure its performance and predict future community needs is incomplete and/or inaccurate. The shelter needs a dedicated IT Business Analyst to review and develop systems and processes for the collection, use, and transparency of data, including the collection of critical missing data integral to development of a long-term strategy, such as the number of animals turned away at intake and the reasons admission was denied.
- Expanding and staffing the Trap, Neuter & Return (TNR) program for community cats is mandatory. During May the shelter accepted 743 kittens and as of June 6th was holding 340 kittens, representing the majority of the animals in the shelter. The shelter, rescue organizations, and fosters are at or over capacity and animals are being turned away. Friendly community kittens are being found throughout San Jose; there is no place for them to go and it is still the beginning of “kitten season”. This problem results directly from the reduction in TNR services in 2019 by Animal Services and its termination of all TNR services in May 2022. It has recently reinstated TNR, but on a very limited basis, relying heavily on rescues and volunteers to transport cats outside of the county for spay and neuter services. Since the reduction of TNR service began, the cities served by Animal Services have been experiencing an increasing cat population that will continue to grow exponentially unless a robust TNR program is established and maintained.
- Reinstating low cost spay/neuter and vaccination services is also essential. Pet overpopulation results in unwanted animals that are abandoned or otherwise become strays. Unvaccinated animals spread disease. The economy and the shortage of vets

has made it difficult for many people to neuter and vaccinate their pets. The reinstatement of low cost spay and neuter services will greatly reduce animal suffering. It will also reduce the number of animals brought to the shelter, which will increase the live release rate. Fewer animals in the shelter increases an animal's probability of adoption and the shelter's ability to house the animal. This effect was recognized by John Cicirelli when he was Assistant Director of Public Works. The following is his quote from a May 31, 2016, article in sanjoseinside entitled "San Jose Councilman Proposes No-Kill Shelter":

"One of the most significant contributors to our high save rate has been preventing animals from being born through low cost and free spay-neuter services. We have learned that this is one of the best ways to invest in our community and achieve our goal of reducing the number of stray animals."

- The shelter needs a full-time animal behaviorist. A dedicated position would enable the shelter to structure enrichment, socialization, behavior modification and offset the stressful conditions of the shelter environment on the animals. An animal behaviorist would also provide post-adoption support and owner-retention programs, increasing positive outcomes.

The challenges facing the shelter will not be resolved overnight. The proposed budget increases represent positive forward movement, but much more needs to be done. Animal Services requires oversight at the City Council level, and your participation in making sure Animal Services meets the current and future needs of the community is vital.

I urge you to approve the proposed increases for Animal Services.

Sincerely,
Maily Pham

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FW: Fiscal 2023– 2024 Animal Care & Services (“Animal Services”) Budget

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 4:57 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

-----Original Message-----

From: Virginia Havens <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:54 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Re: Fiscal 2023– 2024 Animal Care & Services (“Animal Services”) Budget

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

[External Email]

Dear City Clerk:

I am a Cupertino resident that is under the jurisdiction of the San Jose Shelter and am writing to state my strong support for the increases for Animal Services in the Mayor and City Manager’s proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget. I appreciate how these increases recognize the challenges faced by Animal Services and respond to concerns voiced by the community over the past year.

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This problem results directly from the reduction in TNR services in 2019 by Animal Services and its termination of all TNR services in May 2022. It has recently reinstated TNR, but on a very limited basis, relying heavily on rescues and volunteers to transport cats outside of the county for spay and neuter services. Since the reduction of TNR service began, the cities served by Animal Services have been experiencing an increasing cat population that will continue to grow exponentially unless a robust TNR program is established and maintained.

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I urge you to approve the proposed increases for Animal Services.

Please add my comments to the public record and distribute to the Mayor and City Councilmembers.

Sincerely,

Virginia Havens

Sent from my iPhone

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FW: Public Comment for City Council Meeting Agenda Item 3.4 or 3.1 (Measure E)

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 6/9/2023 4:46 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Debora Ow <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:45 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Public Comment for City Council Meeting Agenda Item 3.4 or 3.1 (Measure E)

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Hello, My name is Debbie Ow and I am supporting Survivors of the Street at Sacred Heart.

I am writing in favor of the Davis, Torres and Ortiz plan for Measure E funds.

This plan keeps the promise made to voters for Measure E funds to maximize the building of affordable housing. We know that the reason for the current housing crisis is because there are not enough affordable homes.

This plan finds funding for interim housing and support services without changing Measure E allocations. We all know that interim housing is needed but it is not the final answer.

This plan also continues to invest in homelessness prevention by helping those with housing to keep it.

We all need a safe place to live where we can find work and feel secure in the future for our families. Thank you for listening.

Debora Ow

District 7

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