



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Ron Gonzales

FROM: Councilmember Dave Cortese

SUBJECT: Mayor's June Budget Message

DATE: June 20, 2006

APPROVED:

DATE:

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the ideas I had outlined last week. I offer the following responses and appreciate the dialogue:

Question from Mayor Gonzales: My recommendation to use excess Ending Fund Balance (EFB) funds to replenish the Economic Uncertainty Reserve is driven in part by their one-time nature. You have suggested that funds from the EFB beyond the Future Deficit Reserve be used to eliminate or reduce the ECSS fee. Because the EFB is a one-time funding source, and the ECSS is an ongoing source, it would be helpful if you could explain if you are actually proposing a temporary suspension of the fee. If so, how it would be implemented from a billing, collection, and communications perspective?

Answer: What I am proposing is to either fully suspend or reduce on a pro rata basis the ECSS fee, depending on what is available in the EFB. The EFB is not *one-time* in the classic sense, it is a recurring budget line item. What we do not know is whether it is positive or negative. Ironically, the ECSS was intended to be *one-time* however it is being utilized in an ongoing fashion.

Questions from Mayor Ron Gonzales: Could you provide more information on the position you are referring to that was a full-time school safety coordinator? What functions did this person perform, and are others now performing them in the City organization? What percentage of funding came from ESUHSD, and is ESUHSD is interested in funding this allocation again?

Answer: Mike Gibeau formerly held the position of School Safety Director with the ESUHSD and the City of San Jose until his retirement. His salary was paid 50/50 by the City and by the ESUHSD. Amongst his duties were coordinating overall annual code red simulations at various schools, recommending protocol to be observed by all schools in the system in coordination with the San Jose Police Department and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services. Some functions are being performed now on a surgical basis but the overall coordination efforts are still lacking tremendously. My proposal is to reinstate this position in cooperation with multiple entities (various school districts) so the cost to each individual entity would be much lower.

Question from Mayor Ron Gonzales: It appears that you are proposing to take \$700,000 from the General Fund to use in current SNI project areas where Redevelopment Agency funds would be used. Is this really your intent?

Answer: My intent is to eliminate the \$700,000 appropriation altogether.