



# Memorandum

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Vice Mayor Cindy Chavez,  
Councilmembers Nora  
Campos, David Cortese, and  
Nancy Pyle

**SUBJECT:** See Below

**DATE:** June 28, 2006

**APPROVED:**

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**SUBJECT: SPECIAL SESSION ITEM 2 - A REQUEST THAT MAYOR RON GONZALES RESIGN IMMEDIATELY**

**RECITAL:** This is a challenging time for all who love San Jose. The Mayor deserves his day in court. Meanwhile, the council is responsible for making sure the city is run effectively and that the needs of the residents in San Jose are first and foremost. The action under consideration is intended to benefit the residents of San Jose, and, as such, must protect the City from any vulnerabilities, distractions, or breaches in our fiduciary responsibility to the public. It is not intended to be punitive against the Mayor or his staff. In fact, it shall be the intent of the Council to purposely defer any and all punitive measures that may be appropriate to the District Attorney.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the Council request that Mayor Ron Gonzales resigns immediately.**

**BACKGROUND:**

Last December, the Council acted on the findings of the Civil Grand Jury and the Council's independent investigation by unanimously censuring the Mayor for misleading the council and residents of San Jose regarding the Norcal garbage contract. Many on the Council requested that the District Attorney's office investigate any potential misconduct regarding the contract. In light of the resulting indictments of Mayor Ron Gonzales by the Santa Clara County Grand Jury, it is incumbent on the council to act immediately to begin to restore the public's trust in San Jose's government by urging the Mayor to resign.

We have before us as a Council the immediate need to provide essential services including the protection of public safety, maintain and create new parks, community centers, and libraries, court

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and locate driving industries, recommend direction in connection to major land use planning efforts, guide transportation improvements, and many other crucial decisions that impact the lives of almost a million residents.

Our current Mayor cannot effectively lead these efforts given the cloud of suspicion that hangs over him, the personal burden of a very serious upcoming legal process and the public mistrust of his actions in light of the ethical misconduct. The Mayor deserves his day in court and the people who live and work in San Jose deserve the full attention of their public officials, especially their mayor.

It is in the best interests of the residents and businesses in San Jose for the Mayor to resign. The council should request that Mayor Gonzales step down immediately.