



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Mark Linder  
Robert L. Davis  
Jennifer A. Maguire

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** November 26, 2007

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**APPROVED:**

*Seamus Johnson*

**DATE:**

*11/30/07*

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**Council District:** 5 and 8

**SNI:** Valley/ 680 Communities  
and K.O.N.A.

**SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AND FUNDING SOURCES RESOLUTION AMENDMENTS IN THE GENERAL FUND FOR YEAR THREE FEDERAL EAST SAN JOSE WEED AND SEED GRANT FUNDS TO SUPPORT EFFORTS IN THE EAST SAN JOSE NEIGHBORHOOD**

## RECOMMENDATION

1. It is recommended that the City Council adopt the following Appropriation Ordinance and Funding Sources Resolution Amendments in the General Fund:
  - a. Increase the estimate for Revenue from the Federal Government by \$200,000.
  - b. Increase the Weed and Seed – East San Jose appropriation to the Police Department in City-Wide Public Safety in the amount of \$102,674.
  - c. Increase the Weed and Seed – East San Jose appropriation to the City Manager's Office in City-Wide Neighborhood Services in the amount of \$97,326.
2. Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply to the United States Department of Justice for fourth year Weed and Seed Program funding for the East San José neighborhood in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the period of January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009 and to accept the grant awarded and execute all related documents.

## **OUTCOME**

The overarching goal of the Weed and Seed program is to reduce crime in the East San José neighborhood over a five-year grant cycle. The Weed and Seed strategy is designed to reduce crime through comprehensive strategies by “weeding” out criminal activity and preventing crime through “seeding” pro-social opportunities. Over the next three years of the grant cycle, the San José Weed and Seed Steering Committee will also strive to establish a network of partnerships and services that can sustain the Weed and Seed crime reduction strategy after the funding has ended. The recommended actions, if approved, would budget the 2008 grant of \$200,000, that was awarded to the City in July 2007, and would allow the City Manager to apply for the 2009 grant, which would be awarded in July 2008 if approved by the Department of Justice.

## **BACKGROUND**

In October 2003, the City of San José applied to the United States Department of Justice Weed and Seed Program for Official Recognition (OR) status for Charles 3 police beat, hereafter referred to as the East San José neighborhood. This neighborhood was chosen because it has the highest crime rate in all of San José. The geographic boundaries of this area include Story Road, King Road, Tully Road, and Karl Street. This neighborhood lies within two Strong Neighborhoods Initiative areas, the Valley/680 Communities and the King Ocala Neighborhood Area (K.O.N.A.).

The focus of the Weed and Seed program is to “weed-out” violent crime, gang activity, drug use, and drug trafficking in selected neighborhoods. Community resources are then used to “seed” the target area for social and economic revitalization and long-term stability. Weed and Seed consists of four strategies:

- Law Enforcement
- Community Policing
- Prevention, Intervention and Treatment (including Community Mobilization, Education, and Empowerment)
- Neighborhood Restoration

In July 2004, the United States Department of Justice Weed and Seed staff conducted a site visit to validate the data, strategies, and partnerships outlined in the original OR application. As a result of the site visit, the East San José neighborhood was designated as an Officially Recognized Weed and Seed site, and therefore, became eligible to apply for Weed and Seed funds. Each grant is awarded on a calendar year basis, and OR status lasts for five years, which makes the East San José neighborhood eligible to apply for funding through 2010. The City must apply each year for funding, and the funding process is competitive and not guaranteed.

In 2006, the first year of the grant award, the East San José neighborhood received \$175,000, and in 2007 the second year grant for \$225,000 was awarded. The second grant will be completed by

December 31, 2007. The second year grant proposal was similar in scope to the first year grant, with an additional \$50,000 allocated toward three contracted agencies for special emphasis chosen by the Steering Committee. For 2008, the third year of the grant award, the Department of Justice reduced the grant by \$25,000 due to budget cuts and awarded the City \$200,000. Only one special emphasis grant will be awarded in this year's grant cycle.

### **ANALYSIS**

Weed and Seed grant funding for the East San José neighborhood will strengthen and increase targeted efforts by the Police Department; Code Enforcement; Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services; City Manager's Office-Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) Program; the San Jose Redevelopment Agency; and the community. The Weed and Seed program is a strategy as well as a grant program. It uses enhanced law enforcement, community policing, and resident empowerment to make real and lasting change in targeted neighborhoods. Receipt of Weed and Seed funding will allow residents, community leaders, community-based organizations, local businesses, schools, and City, County, and federal staff to coordinate efforts in implementing the strategy over the five year grant period.

Receiving Weed and Seed Grant funding for the East San José neighborhood has enhanced and improved City efforts already underway in that area, including the efforts of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative. The Weed and Seed strategy will focus on seven primary areas:

- Reducing gang activity;
- Reducing drug and alcohol activity;
- Reducing the truancy rate at local schools and alternative programs during the evening hours, including schools: Overfelt HS, Fischer Middle School, Dorsa Elementary, Meyer Elementary, and K.R. Smith Elementary;
- Improving the relationship between police officers and the community;
- Increasing family and youth support services through collaboration and contracting in conjunction with identified "Safe Haven" sites; the Boys and Girls Club, the Most Holy Trinity Church, and the Hillview Branch Library;
- A special emphasis contract with Fresh Lifelines for Youth, will continue to provide a 5-session law course for 7<sup>th</sup> graders and an 8-session law course for 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Fischer Middle School focusing on anti-criminal thinking skills and anti-tobacco education, along with youth violence prevention programs; and
- Improving deteriorated infrastructure and housing assistance (in conjunction with the SNI Plans for the Valley/680 Communities and K.O.N.A. neighborhoods).

These priority areas will be managed as follows:

- The law enforcement strategy will focus on arrest and prosecution of gang members, drug

dealers, and offenders who bring down the quality of life for law-abiding members of the community;

- The community policing strategy will target on improving the relationship between law enforcement and the community, providing intervention and outreach to at-risk youth and focusing on truancy abatement;
- The prevention, intervention, and treatment strategy will develop four Safe Havens and partner with local schools and other service providers to provide positive services for families and youth, and increase gang awareness education among residents;
- The neighborhood restoration strategy will have the objective of improving the deteriorated infrastructure of the neighborhood and revitalizing the local economy; and
- Contracting with non-profit agencies to provide a continuum of services for this year's grant cycle.

The concentrated effort of each element of the Weed and Seed strategy on the problems of the targeted area, coupled with clear communication among all of the involved partners, will lead to a revitalized and empowered East San José neighborhood. The San José Weed and Seed Steering Committee oversees the implementation of the Weed and Seed strategies and provides a forum for communication and collaboration among the partners involved.

### **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

Expenditures will be made according to the strategy set forth by the San Jose Weed and Seed Steering Committee. The City will be reimbursed through the grant award for Department of Justice approved costs on a quarterly basis, and all funding must be expended before December 31, 2008. No additional follow up actions with the Council are expected at this time.

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST**

- Criterion 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criterion 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- Criterion 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

This memorandum does not meet any of the above criteria, but it is posted on the City's website for the December 18, 2007 Council agenda.

**COORDINATION**

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Manager's Office; the Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement Department; the San José Police Department; the San Jose Redevelopment Agency; and the City Attorney's Office.

**COST IMPLICATIONS**

The City of San José will be reimbursed through the grant award for Department of Justice approved costs on a quarterly basis. The approved costs are broken down as follows: \$15,000 for analytical staffing, \$59,000 for police officer overtime for community outreach, \$62,000 for supplies and equipment such as truancy tracking software, radios, and supplies for community events, and \$64,000 for contracts with the "Safe Haven" sites and community crime prevention.

The City of San Jose is also required to provide matching funds in the amount of \$58,600 for community staffing costs. The funding has been budgeted in the City Manger's Personnel Services appropriation.

**BUDGET REFERENCE**

Fund #	Appn. #	Appn. Name	Total Appn.	2007-2008 Proposed Budget Page	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
001	3339	Weed & Seed – East San Jose	58,713	IX-14	10/16/07, 28143
001	3340	Police Weed & Seed – East San Jose	32,715	IX-15	10/16/07, 28143
001	0111	City Manager's Office- Personnel Services	11,169,294	VII-22	10/16/07, 28143

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

November 26, 2007

**Subject: Budget Action for 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Weed and Seed Grant Authorization**

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**CEQA**

Not a Project.



MARK LINDER  
Deputy City Manager

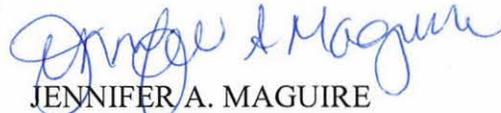


ROBERT L. DAVIS  
Chief of Police



JENNIFER A. MAGUIRE  
Acting Budget Director

I hereby certify that there will be available for appropriation in the General Fund in the Fiscal Year 2007-08, monies in excess of those heretofore appropriated therefrom, said excess being at least \$200,000.



JENNIFER A. MAGUIRE  
Acting Budget Director