



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: Councilmember Xavier Campos
SUBJECT: MAYOR'S JUNE BUDGET MESSAGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012
DATE: June 14, 2011

APPROVED:

DATE: 6/10/11

RECOMMENDATION

Make the following amendments to the Mayor's June Budget Message:

1. The City of San José's Graffiti Abatement program will continue to be operated by City staff; and
2. The City of San José will provide Graffiti Abatement services at a 17.13 FTE level; and
3. Staff is directed to use \$363,000 from the General Fund toward the staffing cost for Graffiti Abatement services during FY 2011-12; and
4. Staff is directed to explore and apply for grants and/or other funding opportunities to assist in lowering the cost expense for a City operated Graffiti Abatement program for future Fiscal Years.

BACKGROUND

The City of San José needs to preserve the current model of operation for the Anti-Graffiti and Litter program given the increase in crime. The current staffing model for Anti-Graffiti and Litter is a vital community resource for residents and businesses, as they provide volunteer training, graffiti removal, and assistance with graffiti reporting and enforcement.

This program has provided residents with the assistance needed to reduce graffiti and litter since its inception. For instance, in District 5 alone, from 1999 to 2010, residents saw a decrease in reporting of a little over 10,000 tags. Without the 24 hour or 48 hour response time provided by staff, I am fearful our city may see an increase in gang graffiti throughout our city streets.

Mayor and City Council

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This proposal would preserve the current program model by allowing the City to prevent the layoff of City staff. Without the preservation of this important program, communities and business district through out the city could experience decreases in property tax and sales tax from the disruption of Anti-Graffiti services. The current model provides the city and its residents with blight and graffiti removal through Community Involvement, Eradication and Enforcement services. Therefore, in order to maintain safer and cleaner streets throughout San José, the City should not outsource the Anti-Graffiti and Litter program.