



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Ash Kalra

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: October 21, 2010

Approved

Date

Ash Kalra
A.K.

SUBJECT: RECRUITMENT OF NEW POLICE CHIEF

RECOMMENDATION

Direct the City Manager to extend the recruitment process for San José's new Police Chief into early 2011, so that the final decision can be made with input from the two newly elected Councilmembers that will be joining the City Council in 2011.

BACKGROUND

In a memorandum dated August 6, 2010, the City Manager provided a preliminary framework of the process to be used to recruit a new Police Chief for the City of San José. This memorandum and subsequent memoranda have indicated that it is the intent of the City Manager to recommend final candidates to the City Council no later than December 2010. While it goes without saying that it is preferable to fill this critical position as quickly as possible, adhering to the December deadline means that the two incoming City Councilmembers for Districts 5 and 9 will not have an opportunity to be part of the hiring process. As these two new Councilmembers will be the ones who will be working with the incoming Police Chief for years to come, it is reasonable to conclude that this important decision should be made with their input. Delaying the decision-making process by a few weeks is a small price to pay if it allows us to ensure that the community's incoming elected representatives have a voice in choosing the new Police Chief.