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CHAIR, CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

635 NORTH FIRST STREET, SUITE B  
SAN JOSE, CA 95112  
(408) 271-8700

142 WEST ALISAL STREET, ROOM E116  
SALINAS, CA 93901  
(831) 837-6000

1401 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-3072

[HTTPS://LOFGREN.HOUSE.GOV](https://lofgren.house.gov)  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

**ZOE LOFGREN**  
18TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

April 8, 2024

The Honorable Matt Mahan, Mayor and  
Members of the San Jose City Council  
200 E. Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

I write to express my support for the proposed Children and Youth Services Master Plan (“Master Plan”). My staff have been able to connect with the Youth Commission. They are an impressive group who serve the City well.

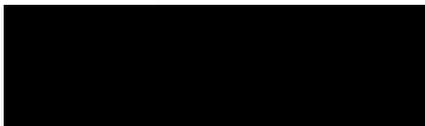
They noted the following about the Children and Youth Services Master Plan which will be considered on Tuesday, April 9, 2024:

- **Communications and Access to Information** – Ensure that the Master Plan dissemination efforts utilize digital and non-digital strategies for all youth outreach plans. Messaging and engagement efforts should be youth-centered, reflective of local cultures, and avoid stigmatizing young people’s access to public resources.
- **Health and Safety** – Increase efforts to strengthen safety nets across Local Education Agencies, School Districts, and other stakeholders, particularly for victims of gender-based violence.
- **Resources** – Identify additional resources for schools and City departments to provide services to students for long-term sustainability. Harness Silicon Valley technology and other resources to expedite educational readiness.
- **Art, Vibrancy and Place-Based Initiatives** – Incorporate arts-based initiatives and strategies into the framework, as an important healing and development tool. Place greater emphasis on cultural representation and inclusive educational programming. Integrate geography and transportation considerations to reduce social isolation and remove barriers to access.

In particular, the City’s efforts must be culturally and gender responsive and inclusive of all youth. In all my time as an elected official, I have observed that preventing some of the social problems experienced by youth and their families is far less costly than dealing with the effects of these problems once they occur. I urge your continued support of youth in our community.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration, in accordance with all laws and regulations.

Sincerely,



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress