

FW: Please protect Measure E funding for affordable housing

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 5/17/2024 4:33 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Heather Mahan <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 3:43 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Please protect Measure E funding for affordable housing

[External Email]

City Clerk City Clerk,

Honorable Mayor & Councilmembers,

We are deeply concerned that, once again, this year's budget proposes to shift critical funding for affordable housing into temporary shelters and abatement efforts. We are looking to the City Council's leadership to support an alternative sustainable funding source for interim shelters and a realistic and humane approach to supporting our unhoused neighbors living along our creeks.

San Jose residents, your constituents, have consistently ranked affordable housing as a top priority for the community. This is always the top priority for Black and Latinx residents who suffer the most under the weight of our housing crisis.

Our community is facing a severe affordable housing crisis. The exorbitant cost of housing in our city has left approximately 70,000 families rent-burdened and struggling to simply get by. Studies show that affordable housing greatly improves health outcomes, educational attainment, and employment stability and helps reduce family and community violence. We can agree that all of these should be prioritized.

We appreciate the City's efforts to increase shelter options in our city, but we can not do so at the expense of desperately-needed affordable housing. Instead of pitting one strategy against another, it's time to start exploring how we can raise new revenue so that we can advance BOTH community priorities.

Heather Mahan



San Jose, 95112

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