

FW: Support Vice Mayor Kamei's memo on item 3/4

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

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To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Steve Eckert [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, February 07, 2024 9:01 AM

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Subject: Support Vice Mayor Kamei's memo on item 3/4

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Dear Members of the San Jose City Council and staff,

I write today representing Alum Rock Counseling Center and as a member of the REAL coalition in support of Vice Mayor Kamei's memo for item 3.4 Violence Prevention Service Models. Alum Rock Counseling Center is thankful and proud to provide prevention services with BEST Funds, however the demand for service is high and the available BEST funding is too small to meet the demand.

Nearly two full years after the city received the report and recommendations from the RiPS committee, it is heartening to see a proposal to take action, try new approaches, and make larger, critical investments in violence prevention and community safety.

In particular, I appreciate seeing a call to increase funding for effective BEST partners, expanding capacity to prevent violence, and calling for more collaboration (for example, there may be joint funding opportunities with the county given this recent referral from Supervisors Ellenberg and Arenas).

The REAL Community Safety Community also urges the city to look at developing a broader strategic plan and goals for increasing community safety apart from law enforcement activities, gather and evaluate data, invest in policy and program development, and more. We look forward to discussing these ideas in detail in the very near future with the council and city staff.

Thank you. Please vote yes in support of Vice Mayor Kamei's memo.

Steve Eckert, MSW
Chief Executive Officer



www.alumrockcc.org

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