

Public Comment - City Council 2/6 - Item 3.5 "Proposition 1"

Jordan Moldow [REDACTED]

Sun 2/4/2024 6:43 PM

To: Barnes, Zane <Zane.Barnes@sanjoseca.gov>; Wilcox, Leland <Leland.Wilcox@sanjoseca.gov>; Zarate, Sarah <Sarah.Zarate@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov> Cc: District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; Torres, Omar <Omar.Torres@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

Public Comment from Jordan Moldow (speaking on behalf of himself) regarding Item 3.5 "Proposition 1" - City Council 2/6/2024:

I believe that there may be a mistake in the staff Supplemental Memorandum, dated 2-2-2024. It states: "Mayor Mahan and Councilmember Cohen submitted a memorandum (ROGC 24-4901) [...] which was endorsed at the January 24, 2024 Rules and Open Government Committee meeting."

If I am understanding correctly, that is not quite accurate. Here is the recording of the motion made by Councilmember Davis, which was approved unanimously. It says: "I move that we send this to the full Council with a discussion (that it doesn't go on Consent). And that we have a report from staff that gives: the county perspective on this measure; and a discussion of the tradeoffs to mental health services in our county."

This seems to be different from being an endorsement by ROGC. Unless "send this to the full Council" implies an acceptance of the memorandum.

Thank you,
Jordan Moldow (speaking on behalf of himself)
San Jose, CA, 95112

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FW: Chamber letter of support re: 2/6/24 Agenda Item 3.5 - in favor of Proposition 1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 2/6/2024 7:41 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

I'm using Adobe Acrobat.

Here's the [City Council 020624 Agenda Item 3.5 Prop 1 San Jose Chamber of Commerce.pdf](#) for you to review.

From: Leah Toeniskoetter [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, February 05, 2024 5:40 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

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

Subject: Chamber letter of support re: 2/6/24 Agenda Item 3.5 - in favor of Proposition 1

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Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

Please find the attached letter in support of Proposition 1, item 3.5 on tomorrow's Council agenda,

Thank you for your service to our community.

My best,

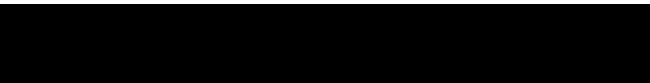
Leah



Leah Toeniskoetter

President & CEO

San Jose Chamber of Commerce



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February 5, 2024

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of San Jose
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Council meeting 2/6/24, Agenda Item 3.5 - Support for Proposition 1

Dear Honorable Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers:

The San Jose Chamber of Commerce is writing in support of Item 3.5, adopting a resolution to support Proposition 1 on California's March 5, 2024 primary ballot.


San Jose is facing a confluence of crises - homelessness, serious mental illness, and substance use disorders. Statewide, of Californians experiencing homelessness, nearly 40,000 have a serious mental illness and over 36,000 have a chronic substance use disorder. A recent RAND study indicates the state has a shortage of at least 6,000 behavioral health beds. This lack of sufficient capacity leads not only to unnecessary long lengths of stays in locked settings and hospitals but contributes to the growing crisis. Prop 1 is designed to address these needs.

We are in favor of Prop 1's structure, allowing the state to sell \$6.4B in new bonds which means no new taxes on residents or businesses. Dedicating these funds to both facilities for treatment and housing serves two essential needs to move someone away from substance abuse and into a stable environment. The allocation of funding to local government also allows for local decision-making.

We acknowledge the shift in funding from Counties to the State that will take place with the changes proposed to the MHSA Tax by Prop 1. We hope that the cities in Santa Clara County work together with the County to find ways to prevent gaps in services due to possible increased costs of current programs.

On the whole, these actions will complement and build upon California's behavioral health care expansion and accomplishments to date to provide a continuum of community care for all.

Sincerely,


Leah Toeniskoetter
President & CEO
San Jose Chamber of Commerce

FW: Agenda Item 3.5 - Oppose Prop 1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 2/6/2024 7:41 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Michele M [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, February 05, 2024 10:51 PM

To: District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; Mohsen, Raania <Raania.Mohsen@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Agenda Item 3.5 - Oppose Prop 1

[External Email]

While I am not surprised, I am still very disappointed in the City of San Jose leadership.

As a person with disabilities, I am opposed to Prop 1. It will cause harm to many people who do not need more harm.

I would love to know what members of the disability community were brought in to discuss this proposition, if any. Disability Rights California, a major disability legal agency opposes this proposition along with other disability serving organizations.

In prior versions, the funds for care provided in Prop 1 did not include institutionalized settings. This would have been a proposition to support. However, at the very last moment, the Proposition was changed and it can now be used at the discretion of the counties and instead of bolstering mental health services, it can be used to support institutionalization settings like mandated treatment for those declared "gravely disabled" by the CARE Courts and conservatorship through Laura's Law.

This is detailed in the 3 linked articles:

<https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/latest-news/disability-rights-california-opposes-proposition-1>

<https://calmatters.org/health/mental-health/2023/09/mental-health-bond-gavin-newsom-amendments/>

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2024/01/california-lawmakers-want-to-invest-billions-in-housing-by-diverting-mental-health-funds/>

While I understand that funding is needed to support mental health and addiction services, those services should stay in the community and not be forced onto people already downtrodden.

To close, I will quote from DRC's opposition letter:

“Among the many reasons DRC opposes Proposition 1 is the way it came to be. Instead of asking stakeholders to join him in working towards a solution of our mental health policy challenges, Governor Newsom took an entirely different approach. Proposition 1, like CARE Court the year before, was released without meaningful engagement

of the people most affected – those with mental health disabilities. When people commit to a solution, they become invested in its success. What we see with Proposition 1 is an alarming expenditure of taxpayer dollars combined with an overhaul of a successful community treatment program, leading to reductions in services.”

This is NOT how equity is created. This proposition turns back protections disability rights advocates fought for years to achieve.

#NothingWithoutUs

Learn more about the history of institutionalization, a history that becomes tomorrow, check out this upcoming event:

<https://www.wpdhac.org/virtual-event-on-2-27-24-public-hostage-public-ransom-ending-institutional-america-and-providing-another-way/>

Regards,
Michele Mashburn
D3 Resident

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FW: Council Agenda Item 3.5-Council Meeting 02/06/2024

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 2/6/2024 7:45 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Aurelia Sanchez [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2024 7:16 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Council Agenda Item 3.5-Council Meeting 02/06/2024

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Honorable Mayor and Council members,

I am voting against Proposition 1 after trying to read and understand the text as written and printed by the Primary official voter information guide. Below are the reasons our city should remain neutral on this proposition.

1) There is much written text regarding strict oversight of the money collected and distributed but not once is the word audit mentioned. Audits are very important in my mind in regards to taxpayers money.

2) There are too many mentally ill unhoused that cannot live in independent living situations and I am not finding in this proposition that our state will build and run these facilities for those who truly cannot take care of themselves and need 24 hour care. Holding someone for 72 hours hurts these people and their families that cannot control or help them when released after being placed.

3) This proposition advises money will be used to train and help educate personnel that will be needed to do outreach and counsel people living in supportive housing and substance recovery facilities etc. I fear too many nonprofits will set up programs that will give 40 hours of training and label them certified counselors. Our cities and state cannot recruit qualified police, fire personnel or teachers now so what makes them think we will have enough qualified mental health counselors. I fear people will be counseling families and young children without the proper education and hours of training needed and do more damage than good.

4) I strongly feel people who are mentally ill or have drug problems should not be placed in supportive housing or affordable housing until they first go into a facility and cleared by doctor or psychiatrist stating they can live independently. Placing people who are still using drugs or are not taking their medication endangers the community, overburden the police and endanger others who are forced to live in the same building as them. Second Street Studios is in my neighborhood and too many times people were placed there that were not ready to live independently and they caused fires inside the building and damaged the apartment.

5) Lastly, this proposition is way too broad and talks about helping children from 0-5 years and this just seems like an overreach to pay for services to a nonprofit. I also fear if you read the language in the prop that students who are mentally ill will be placed in schools and our schools will not have any control of who they can ask to leave. Our schools have way too much mandated by our state that does not care about education or violence in our schools.

I also am concerned regarding the fact where will the money be taken from if tenants who live in supportive housing won't or can't pay the rent. Our taxpayers again going to be responsible to pay the landlords. We need data on how many supportive housing projects cannot collect rent and how is this being handled.

Aurelia Sanchez
District 3

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FW: Proposition 1

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 2/6/2024 11:12 AM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: David Eisbach <deisbach@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2024 10:54 AM

To: District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; hcdc@sanjoseca.gov

Subject: Proposition 1

[External Email]

Proposition 1: the state wants to borrow \$6.38 billion, that'll cost \$10 billion afer 30 years, to build Mental Health facilities, caring for drug and alcohol addicts for \$4.4 billion; supportive housing for veterans and homeless with the above challenges split the remaining \$2 billion. The 2005 Mental Health Services Act (MHA), borne by millionaire taxes, \$140 million would shift to and administrated by the state, who, now, gets more than the locals. County mental health workers oppose because the shift portends new buildings and not enough money to staff them plus begging the state.

I think this was hastily put together by the legislature. The special millionaires' tax again takes away local control of local programs and services in question. It seems to talk about units being constructed, but leaves the number of large multi bed construction, would they be local or regional? Also, the bond indebtedness at \$300 million a year is troublesome. California has \$80 billion bond payments, and \$30 billion in unsold bonds. State's deficit of \$68 billion, cut to \$37 with environment, housing cuts and accounting magic isn't comforting. If construction time is five years, the price will double, like Anderson Dam, Bart and the train to nowhere.

ACA 1-13 will make raising taxes easier!

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