

FW: Please protect Measure E funding for affordable housing

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 6/18/2024 3:14 PM

To:Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Ellyne Ramos [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 3:05 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,

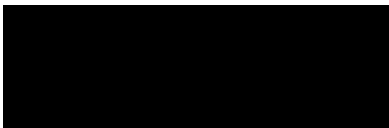
The proposed budget redirects over \$25 million in Measure E funds from permanent affordable housing to operating interim shelters. Measure E was intended to build affordable housing and now, only 25% of that funding will be used to build the new affordable homes that our communities desperately need. We are deeply concerned that unless you and your colleagues commit to restoring these funds, you will be balancing the budget by abandoning a critical need.

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 over 35,000 families currently paying over half their income for rent, struggling to stay afloat. Studies show that affordable housing is not only the solution to homelessness but also greatly improves health outcomes, educational attainment, and employment stability and helps reduce family and community violence.

To maintain our commitment to both permanent affordable housing, and the ongoing costs of interim shelters, the city council must find a new funding source for operating shelters. Measure E was meant for affordable housing, and must be maintained for affordable housing.

Ellyne Ramos



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