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>> Mayor Reed: (gavel strike) Good evening. Let's call the San José city council meeting to order. Please have a seat. All right, everybody who's standing there's still seats. I can see them. There's a place for everybody to sit. So come in and have a seat. This is the evening portion of our meeting. We've been at this since early this morning. There's still a lot of work to be done. I want to welcome everybody. Tonight we have several items of business to take care of. I'll just let everybody know what's going to happen. We have some ceremonial items. We have the bill of rights for children and youth matter. Then we have some land use items, and general plan items. And then we will take up the hearing on the proposed capital and operating budgets after we've done the land use. So got a big crowd tonight. A lot of people are going to want to speak and I want everybody to, if you don't know what our rules are they're written on the back of the agenda. Basically we want everybody to be respectful of people when they're speaking. There are a lot of people that want to speak and we want to make sure they get heard when it's their turn, everybody wants to be heard, everybody else will have to be polite and you'll have to wait your turn but we'll get to you. We're going to start with a ceremonial item. I'd like to invite the champions of arts education awards to join me at the podium. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Let's all kind of get in photo range here because everybody wants to take photos. Let's get in one shot. We held a reception a few minutes ago honoring our champions of arts education. And we really want to thank and recognize the people who are advocates for arts in our city. This is one of the ways that we do it. And we have a commendation for each of our winners: Jeff Bordona, manager of youth, family and school audiences, San José museum of art. Aimee Ipson Pflederer, visual and perform arts coordinator, Santa Clara County office of education. Mitsu Kumagai, youth and arts program manager, arts council of Silicon Valley, and Joseph George middle school, Alum Rock Union School District. Those are the winners, and these folks are few of many arts advocates in our city, and this is an opportunity for us to recognize the work that they do year around to bring arts education to our children that's so important especially in these tough times. And these folks have done some wonderful things. We already presented and recognized them individually, but we wanted to present them their commendations in this public setting so you could all thank them for the work they're doing for our kids. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Let's -- we're going to shift over so you can get a better photo. Next I'd like to invite Vice Mayor Chirco and our D 9 stars, Patty nation, Lorna MacKintosh and Dave and Ginger Manley to join me at the podium. [applause]

>> Councilmember Chirco: I'm always excited to recognize the following people who will receive the District 9, D-9 stars and the mayor just called out their names and they've joined us up here. Over the years through service on the Cambrian school board and now on the San José city council community members have shared stories about talents and heroes in the Cambrian park and surrounding areas. These stories and these stars fueled my decision and desire to serve in public office. This program recognizes people who live work play and learn in District 9. I feel they are doubly honored since they are nominated by their fellow community members. The intent of the stars program is to learn more about the extraordinary students, teachers, employers, employees, athletes, musicians, activists and parents who add courage, compassion, and comfort to our community. I'm proud to recognize these volunteers as stars that make District 9 shine so brightly. So the first one, Patty nation, if you would join me up here. [applause]

>> Councilmember Chirco: Well done. Patty nation is the senior marketing manager global communications relations for Xilinx. But that just is a title. This is a little bit about the person. Her energetic leadership has built exceptional partnerships between Xilinx and the educational institutions and local communities here in San José and worldwide. Ms. Nation's efforts include Xilinx's educational ecosystem model for supporting schools and her leadership in initiating the award winning Cambrian park relay for life in 2009 which has raised close to half a million dollars in two years! For cancer research in just two very short years. Patty nation is -- we are thrilled to have you as a D-9 star. Patty was nominated by Rhonda Farber superintendent of the Campbell union high school district and Cheryl Lynn Medea a Xylink employee and resident of District 9. Congratulations Patty on being a D-9 star.

>> Thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Next I'm I'd like to ask Lore Nan nah MacKintosh. Step up here, we'd like to have the light shine on you. Lorna is being honored for her tireless volunteerism and passion for her care of her

neighborhood park, Door Park. Lorna was the leader and organizer of a tree planting at the park last fall. She then persuaded her neighbors to adopt a tree to care for during the first few years. Lorna knows that history repeats itself. She was also the organizer of door park tree planting in 1998 and in 1986. You're way too young to have done that much work! I think Lorna has helped us get nearer our goal of planting 100,000 trees in San José. We congratulate Lorna for being a D-9 star. Lorna was nominated by Don Zonik, City of San José park maintenance supervisor, a gentleman who knows of who he speaks, who said she was a pleasure to work with at Door Park. A round of applause for all your work. [applause]

>> Councilmember Chirco: And now Dave and Ginger Manley. And I understand they have some children in the audience. Now, could they stand? Because this is right there they are. We'll let you sit down as we talk about your parents. Dave and Ginger are to be recognized as our next D-9 stars. Dave and Ginger have been Lee high school band parent volunteers for the past nine years. Thank you students you're very grateful you share your parents. And with four children I think they have a few more years to serve. Wait a second, get up here! Nice try, guys! Dave and Ginger have given thousands of hours to assure that the Lee high school can offer an outstanding musical education to the students. They were inspired to start the union middle school band boosters to support their band program. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with our youth. Although I understand neither of you play an instrument, which I think -- [Laughter]

>> Councilmember Chirco: All four of their children are very musical. The Manleys were nominated by D-9 star and fellow band booster Misty Navarro. Congratulations to the Manleys on being D-9 stars and we shine brightly because of your work. Thank you so much. [applause]

>> Councilmember Chirco: And because being a D-9 star is just a little bit sweeter we'd like to present each of our stars with a chocolate star. Now, they can either share it or, they may keep it all for themselves. So thank you so much. It's a little bit sweeter being a D-9 star! [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: I'd like to invite president Lee Green and representatives of Mormon helping hands to join me at the podium. Today we're recognizing over 600 volunteers. As part of Mormon helping hands day. We're going to see some of those folks down here in a minute. These volunteers performed lot of task force, such as graffiti removal, helping map coordinates to help safety their efforts helped not only beautify the parks but saved the city thousands of dollars. Hey, we all like saving money because there are a lot of places we need to spend it. We're very grateful for all the volunteers who participated in this effort and are happy to present this commendation.

>> This was a great experience for about -- actually about a thousand members of the church. We worked at six different locations, we cannot thank the parks and recreation department of this city, Matt and Molly and others who were so very kind and gracious in their cooperation generosity in facilitating our one day of work. Thank you very much. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Our next item, we have the opportunity to swear in some new youth commissioners. Our City Clerk, Lee Price, will administer the oaths of office for city youth commissioners Sanny Chung, Casey Ong and Miriam Kahn. Dennis is going to do it, okay.

>> Raise your right hand. I, state your name.

>> I [In unison.]

>> Do solemnly swear.

>>> do solemnly swear.

>> That I will support and defend.

>>> That I will support and defend.

>> The constitution of the United States.

>> The constitution of the United States.

>> And the constitution of the states of California.

>> And the constitution of the state of California.

>> Against all enemies.

>> Against all enemies.

>> Foreign and domestic.

>> Foreign and domestic.

>> That I will bear true faith and allegiance.

>> That I will bear true faith and allegiance.

>> To the constitution of the United States.

>> To the constitution of the United States.

>> And the constitution of the state of California.

>> And the constitution of the state of California.

>> That I take this obligation freely.

>> That I take this obligation freely.

>> Without any mental reservation.

>> Without any mental reservation.

>> Or purpose of evasion.

>> Or purpose of evasion.

>> And I will well and faithfully.

>> And I will well and faithfully.

>> Discharge the duties for which I'm about to enter.

>> Discharge the duties for which I'm about to enter.

>> Congratulations. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: First item of business is to consider item 3.4. The bill of rights for children and youth. Vice Mayor Chirco.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Yes. I'd like to put a motion on the floor. I believe there are some public speakers as well. And after the speakers, I'd like to speak to the motion. I'd like to move approval.

>> Councilmember Pyle: Second.

>> Mayor Reed: We have a motion to approve the bill of rights for children and youth as been presented to us. We have some people here who have requested to speak on this item so we'll take their testimony now, and because we have so many people who want to speak tonight, I am going to have to limit public testimony on each of the items to one minute. So I'm going to take those speakers. Please come on down to the front when I call your name. There's some seats at the front so you're close to the microphone. Mark Hennessey. Jerry Mungai, Kaya Shankar. Kavia shankar. Please come on down.

>> Hi, my name is Kavia shankar. I'm the chair of the San José youth commission. The bill of rights for children and youth is a bold public statement that all children and youth are entitled to certain fundamental elements. The United Nations proclaimed an international children's bill of rights in 1990 and the state of California passed its own in 2009, modeled after the bill of rights for children and youth of San Mateo county. It is now time for San José to join in this agreement. Having worked with the bill of rights for the past year I can see that the youth bill of rights is groundbreaking, because it's written in collaboration with youth for youth, giving a voice to those who often do not have one in decision making. This document shows the community's commitment to the success of our generation, as well as that we have the support and the resources to lead our city in the future. Thank you San José city council for considering this investment in the future of our youth.

>> Mayor Reed: Mark Hennessey, Jerry Mungai, Nicholas Palusa. [applause]

>> Thank you council, as a supporter of the San José youth commission as someone who's worked with and for our youth for 15 years I urge our council to adopt our bill of rights for children and youth. It's well documented that youth need certain assets to ensure their long term growth and success. Such as safe schools and neighborhoods, relationships with caring adults, comfort with people of diverse backgrounds, orientations and abilities, and voice of the matters they affect among others. The adoption of this bill of rights recognizes and affirms that youth in San José are entitled to these rights regardless of circumstance and as the city will work to promote and protect these rights throughout the years. Thank you for the council for recognizing and protecting these rights. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Jerry Mungai, Nicholas palusa, AnneMarie Ramirez, Christian Avendano.

>> Apologies for not coming up earlier, I didn't hear my name. Good evening, everyone, my name is Nicholas palusa, I'm the youth commissioner for District 10 and also the Vice Chair for the youth commission. A vote for the bill of rights would promote the idea of youth as a resource not youth as a public menace. Today I urge the city council of San José, a city that has always prided itself on being a progressive city, to pass the youth bill of rights. Thank you for your time, and hi to Councilmember Pyle.

>> Good afternoon, good evening mayor and members of the city council. My name is Christian and I'm here in support of the youth bill of rights. I have been able to have a healthy mind, body and spirit where I have been able to maximize my potential at the Washington youth center by taking advantage of the programs. Again I support the bill of rights and the Washington United youth center. Please keep the Washington United Center open. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: I think our last speaker on this item is Tamera. I'm not quite sure.

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed and city council members. My name is Anna Maria Ramirez. I have already benefited services provided by Washington United, when I first arrived in San José 50 years ago, I was no family with a law. I have lost and I need help. I began taking classes, help me to become taught me how to take care of myself and my children. Now my children and I have learned to live in a healthy life and I have better communication. I now taking English classes in San José city college, I volunteer and I have forward work. I am very thankful for the center. I just want the center to continue to help all the change the lives for the better. Please continue funding the Washington United youth center. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Tamera.

>> Good evening, mayor and city council members. I'm here in support of the San José bill of rights, obviously for children and youth. As the past director of the Washington United youth center I'm obviously biased. I do think

that the Washington United youth center does a great job and upholds all of the resolutions here in the bill of rights and in particular, having a safe and healthy environment including schools home neighborhood and communities. So I appreciate all of the work that you're doing to keep our community centers and our youth centers open. I know it's really difficult. These are difficult times and I can only try to appreciate the difficulty of what you're trying to do. So obviously, we have a lot on the agenda. We have a lot of things to say. But here I am wearing my hat, wearing supporting the youth centers and the community centers. And lastly I look to you to find a solution, to the solution, for all of us. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: That concludes the public testimony on item 3.4 bill of rights for children and youth. Vice Mayor Chirco you have the motion.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Yes I'd like to thank the youth commission for all the work they put in last year to the bill of rights for children and youth. The document it was vetted through the youth advisory council and also, vetted through the third annual youth conference held April 23rd with over 250 youth. The expanded bill of rights for children and youth was developed by the peninsula partnership leadership council and passed in San Mateo county in 2008 and at the state level in 2009. The bill before us also includes fostering positive peer influence through modeling and knowledge of and comfort with diverse backgrounds and situations. I'm extremely proud of our youth commission and the seriousness with which they approach their work and the quality of the youth that participate in this. We have much to be proud of with our San José youth, our San José youth advisory committees and our youth commissioners. So I'm proud to make this motion and know that my fellow councilmembers will be supportive.

>> Mayor Reed: Thank you, Vice Mayor. I will be supporting the motion. I think the youth commission has done a great job on the bill of rights. But I, having seen their work on this, I have another challenge for them, a more difficult bill. I'd like to suggest our youth commission take up a bill of responsibilities. Now that you've discussed the rights and work up something along the lines of your responsibilities to your family, your responsibilities to your community, that go along with these rights. Because I think that would be very useful discussion for our youth to engage in. And help set a standard for all of the youth in our city. So I'd like to issue that challenge, Vice Mayor.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I think that's an excellent challenge and the council will all note that Kavia has her pen and paper out.

>> Mayor Reed: Thank you very much. I think that concludes the council discussion on this item. We have a motion to approve. All in favor? Opposed? None opposed, that's approved. Congratulations, good work. We're now going to take up the general plan items that are on the agenda for the evening. 10.1 is tentative approval of general plan consent items. Councilmember Herrera.

>> Councilmember Herrera: Thank you, mayor. I don't know if they're going to put it up on the screen to see. I think everyone has a copy of my memo. And if my colleagues would indulge me for a moment, I'd fir like to make my motion, hear from the applicant and the community and then come back to council for discussion. At this time I'd make a motion to move my May 14th memo forward recommending deferral of the GP 080803 until the fall winter general plan hearing.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Reed: We have a motion to defer the one item on the consent calendar.

>> Councilmember Herrera: And I'd like to say a couple of things before I turn it over to Joe. Let me say first that my request for deferral is not about the merits of the project itself. It's not about the quality of this project. It's not about the traffic impacts or other issues that will be dealt with in the zoning stage. In no way are we evaluating the zoning portion of this project. The general plan application is about the most appropriate land use on this site, and unfortunately the outreach on this project had some problems. An entire neighborhood that lives within a thousand feet of the site was not contacted in the standard outreach process. The day before the general plan hearing, which was on April 27th, neighbors came to me after they read about the project in the Evergreen times that weekend. That addition was the April 17th through 30th edition. Finding out about that this item was properly

deferred until this meeting hoping in the meantime we'd be able to do the proper outreach. And I really sincerely hoped that we would overcome the deficiency in the outreach and allow neighbors to learn about the project and share their input. From that meeting we had a community meeting on Thursday, May 13th but it was clear that we could not accomplish everything that was needed in the 90 minutes that were budgeted for the meeting. Because proper outreach was not conducted and neighbors heard about the project from an article, missing the opportunity to weigh in at Planning Commission, missing a district 8 round table meeting that was held, missing another outreach meeting, we have now to build trust in the process, and allow them in a reasonable amount of information on the project for them to provide input. Originally, I'd been concerned about the outreach on this project from day one. This time last year, answer here's why because last year I went through a similar thing with outreach on another general plan project, some of you might remember that. I was assured it was done properly this time and unfortunately it wasn't. That brings me to today. As I'm outlining in my memo I'm recommending deferral of this change until the fall general plan hearing and I now would like to ask Joe Horwedel the director of Planning a few questions. As he can outline his position on this. Joe I would like to understand the options we have in front of us in terms of deferring this and when -- what would be -- when could we have a deferral and can you walk me through the options.

>> Joe Horwedel: Thank you, Councilmember Herrera. There's three options that the council really has in front of it tonight. As it relates to deferral, the first would be to defer all of the items for additional time to work with the community. That's what we did in deferring this item for a couple of weeks already. So that's one option. Tentatively would be to the end of June or potentially the beginning of August. The second option would be to go through and defer this item only to the fall hearings and move forward with the rest of the general plan hearings tonight and we would renote it so it would go to the Planning Commission as a separate hearing item. And then the third option is one that we would go and create a special general plan hearing for just this item. We would move forward with all the other items that are on tonight's agenda, adopting that resolution, and defer this specific item to a date to be determined, probably beginning of August or last meeting of June depending how fast we can do additional outreach with the general community.

>> Councilmember Herrera: And Joe would you help me understand what the consequences would be from each one of these ideas, options?

>> Joe Horwedel: The first option of deferring all the items does mean that the amendments would wait an additional potentially six weeks to nine weeks while we let this project finish its outreach process. There are three other privately initiated general plan amendments and a city initiated amendment that would go on hold while that happened. As it relates --

>> Councilmember Herrera: Can I stop you just a second to make sure we're clear? There were four other items that were scheduled as part of this general plan process and if we delay it six weeks all of those would have to wait for this one to be worked with.

>> Joe Horwedel: Correct, if we went through and kept them all together.

>> Councilmember Herrera: Okay.

>> Joe Horwedel: The second option of continuing this until the fall general plan hearings, the consequence of this is that it does push the project out to the furthest out but it would allow the other matters. The second would be to schedule a second general plan hearing and allow the others, the real consequence to that is the policy issue. The council has said it is the goal to not do multiple general plan hearings, to get back to do one a year and initially we're doing twice a year. Our goal has been to not doing three and four general plan hearings a year and so that would put us back onto the path where previously we're were doing multiple general plans kind of year round.

>> Councilmember Herrera: So it sounds like the option that would move the others forward and be able to still have the time needed to do the proper outreach would be deferring this item to the fall?

>> Joe Horwedel: That would be the normal way of handling this type of issue.

>> Councilmember Herrera: That's the end of my comments for right now. I guess we'll hear from the applicant and the community.

>> Mayor Reed: Thank you, we do have people that will want to speak on this. We will let the applicant go first, that is Sal Caruso in behalf of Duffield assisted living. We'll give him five minutes and the motion is to defer action on this until the next set of general plan hearings.

>> Good evening, honorable mayor and councilmembers. Since this is a project of a \$40 million magnitude, and hundreds of jobs for the City of San José, I would ask that if possible there can be a question that staff can answer during this process, and that is in option number 3, which is for setting up another general plan, allowing the other four items to go forward, and setting up a special session for this particular item, that that would allow this project still to move forward. I guess what is before you is one critical issue. Which is more important: Your policy to keep down the general plan amendments to a minimum of one or two per year or to create jobs for the City of San José. That is really the critical bottom line that is before you. From the time that we had our community meeting, and the time that there was a schedule, the original scheduled hearing of April 27th, we had roughly 26 and 29 days between the district 8 round table and the community meeting that was set up which is fairly typical. There are roughly 30 days give or take a few between a community meeting and a city council meeting time. Why is it necessary to defer six months, and potentially kill a \$40 million project in the City of San José. Financing right now for projects, I know this is not land use but financing is insane right now. We have several countries in this world in political and financial melt downs. We're due to close on the financing of this project at the end of this month based on recommendations that were made and process that we had gone through. I respect and agree that this neighborhood deserves a fair shake. 100%. But a fair shake would be equal to the other majority of the neighbors which had roughly 30 days. Defer us for 30 days and give us equal treatment. Give the neighbors equal treatment that the rest of the neighbors had, the vast majority. So one question I have is, is it legally and physically technically possible, this is a question of staff if someone would please indulge it, is it technically and legally possible, putting aside this policy issue to have a GP session in approximately 30 days or so to hear this one item and allow the other items to go forward? That is my question for staff if someone would indulge it. And it always comes to the same matter. Tonight I know I would not want to trade places with any one of you. You have very difficult decisions to make and really my heart comes out to all of you because leadership is a difficult position. But in that position of leadership, I ask you to please give the opportunity of 129 professional jobs, hundreds of construction jobs, and investment in San José, to go forward, if it is all your will. That is really the deciding factor. I don't have the opportunity to vote. You do. We have elected you. We believe in you. So I hope you will do the right thing and allow us to go into a special session 30 days from now, approximately, and move forward. And have the opportunity for outreach, have the opportunity to engage the community. I am confident that this part of the community, as the rest of the community had, once they've evaluated the information which came back by the way on all environmental factors clean, 100% on all factors, no significant impacts on anything, flora fauna traffic all those, yes, this part of the community has the right to see and witness that same information and make their own judgment. Absolutely. Let us give that opportunity to them. Let you give us the opportunity to bring jobs and a beautiful project to the City of San José. I am open if any of you have any questions, please.

>> Mayor Reed: Fully questions for the applicant? Okay we will take some public testimony. Councilmember Pyle.

>> Councilmember Pyle: I just had one and that is, when did the project begin?

>> When did the project begin its process? Approximately two years ago.

>> Councilmember Pyle: Two years, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Okay. We'll get back to your question after we've heard the public testimony. There may be other questions we'd want staff to answer.

>> Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: All right, anybody else who wants to speak on this item? That's the time, it will be one minute again for public comment. John Jang, Satesh Isukula, not too sure about the name. Sorry if I mess up your name. Sometimes it's my eyes and sometimes it's the handwriting. Ahmed Khan, Steve Sulling.

>> Good evening, councilmembers, I live in the community that has been referred to by Mr. Caruso. And one -- the main point that we have been trying to raise is, during the community outreach meeting Ms. Rose Herrera held for us there were multiple points in the process that helped us as a community to contribute. But we as a community got the opportunity to learn about the project just a couple of weeks back. And in the prior process, piece of approvals that have been given we haven't got the opportunity to even know about it. Or express our opinions about it. And as a process you know we feel that as community that frankly this project the way it's located even though the project that's located in Evergreen, it's our community. It's the only one that gets to see it. Go by it. And, you know, probably be affected by it. Rest of the Evergreen community has a different way to do it.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up.

>> Pardon?

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up sir. Satesh massucula. Steve Sulling.

>> Thank you, Mayor Reed. My name is ahhmed Khan, councilmembers. This project was first we like councilman Herrera said, was noticed to us a couple of weeks ago. We read it in the newspaper. The community is upset mainly because of that and also we appreciate that there are a lot of jobs going to be created. But we felt like we have been bypassed on this and we have certain issues that we want to come to and those are what happens if this ambulance comes in the way and also there is already a lot of traffic jam. I don't think any of the councilmembers know how bad it is in the morning, it's already. If this is open, it's going to be a disaster for us. So I would like to request you to postpone this at the --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Steve Sulling, San Jay and JosuÈ Garcia.

>> Good evening, members of the city council, my name is Steve Sullins, I'm a resident of Evergreen. Many members of the community learned what this was all about last Thursday for the first time' and I had actually done a fair amount of research over the last week or so, and just found out last Thursday there is in fact a several hundred page environmental study. There are 400 community members that really didn't get proper notice of this project and we'd like the right to go through the due process on this and obtain the ability to comment during the planning, through the Planning Commission and the ordinary process. There are dozens of us here tonight many of whom couldn't get in and we'd like to understand a proposal on the issues, and we'd ask you for your decision. Thanks for your consideration.

>> Mayor Reed: Sanjay Saini, JosuÈ Garcia, Neil Struthers.

>> Mayor and respected members of the council, my name is Sanjay Saini. I'm a resident of the ranch on silver creek. I support the memo Councilmember Herrera put forth to the city council members. The community outreach for this project was not conducted which I think was in a just and a fair manner. This project has been in work for two years, for two years and the ranch community learned about it three weeks ago. As the previous speaker mentioned there are hundreds and hundreds of pages of reports, et cetera, which are available, and what we believe that we were not given enough time to study the reports and understand the impact of this project on our community. My earnest request is that the city council defer the meeting until fall and give the community ample opportunity and time to do the due diligence research and provide inputs in a constructive manner. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: JosuÈ Garcia Neil Struthers and then Sunando gauche.

>> Thank you, Mayor Reed and councilmembers, JosuÉ Garcia building trades council. I want to ask you please to move this project forward. We understand the concerns of the community and they should be addressed rightfully so and they have rights and their concerns should be heard and addressed however, pushing the project forward, that long, is not good for the rest of the community. And in particular to construction workers. I'm going to have to go back tomorrow to union halls and explain to them that guess what you're not working tomorrow, that project is going to be delayed six months and can you imagine how many, how much health care is going to be lost if we delay the project? How many homes are going to be lost because we keep people out of work? We continue to say that the community -- that our economy is not good but it's not that anymore. We continue to hold projects. We need to continue to put some construction projects forward because people need to go to work as soon as possible. Six months is too long. I think 30 days is something reasonable. We will address the community concerns and they will put people to work.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Neil Struthers followed by Sunando gauche and Velage.

>> Neil Struthers executive director of the building trades council representing 30,000 construction workers and their families. 10,000 of those families have a member that is unemployed. 30% unemployment. We need to put people to work. This is one of the few projects in this county, a \$40 million project. We understand the concerns of the community, they should be addressed. But the working community shouldn't be penalized for a mistake by staff. The notice didn't go out and needs to be corrected. But by delaying this six months is sending the message to the local workers in this community that you're going to have to wait another six months. And guess what? That will put it right in the middle of winter. Which means there's another three months of delay. We can't afford that. We need to put people to work. We need jobs. You talked about consequences, Councilmember Herrera. Nobody mentioned the consequence of keeping these people out of work. They're losing their homes now. You wait another six months and more people will be losing their houses. I urge you to move this project forward.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sunando gauche.

>> Honorable mayor and councilmembers, I'm very excited to be here, this is my first visit and it's great to see democracy at work here in San José. Really it's amazing to see you all in person. I live in ranch in Silver Creek, nobody will be more happy than me to have construction workers get jobs and help out with the community. But I personally just learned about this last week, some others learned about it two weeks back. It was a big surprise. I'd like to learn more about it. 30 days is a pretty shortly period of time. I would support the memo that Councilmember Herrera wrote and essentially request the project to be deferred by six months so that we have enough time to read about it and understand what it means. Thank you. [applause]

>> This issue is not about jobs. This is about safety. If you see the piece of land, it's a flat piece of land, right at the bottom of a very steep hill. Would you build a school there? Would you want 500 schoolchildren be there? There's a 6 point -- there is a 63% chance of a 6.7 magnitude earthquake over the next 30 years. There could be a landslide and then there's no way to evacuate that area. So if you want 500 people, whether they're schoolchildren or elderly, to be in jeopardy, over the next 30 years, then yes, think about that. Delay it, delay it for a few months, and do the studies. There are serious deficiencies in the reports, and I've gone through them very rapidly to review it quickly. And I would say that about the jobs, construction will not start until next spring. That's what the architects said to me. They don't have the financing --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: I'm sorry, I need to get your name because I need to keep track of my cards here.

>> Valadid.

>> Mayor Reed: Okay, Sanjay Saini. Go ahead sir.

>> Honorable mayor and city council, I fully support the memo from Rose Herrera. I'm a resident within 1,000 feet of the project, and one of the first residents of the ranch on silver creek. The outreach program reached me less than two weeks back, and the first information I obtained was from Evergreen Times. The project being a high density occupant building is complex of several effects in impact. It ranges from landslides, traffic, severe visual impact to the city, and that I consider very important from the freeway. These are not everyday concepts and it really requests time for me to take. I'm an engineer also of the electrical kind, but I would definitely go into the civil kind for this project. To do our research and understanding the project better and discuss with the community members and its impact I kindly request you to defer the hearing until fall winter general plan hearing. Jobs are important. Quality of jobs is also important, they're the kind of jobs that made California the fifth largest economy in the world once. Good residential ambience is required to attract talent, and I'm interested in this project to create even more jobs if possible and right --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up.

>> Mayor Reed: Sanjay Saini. Usher Wayed. Fahu Kandi. Omar Al Ussef.

>> Good evening, my name is Ashrad Bocandy. Thank you, Mr. Mayor and members of city council for giving me the opportunity to speak, in this important meeting. It is a meeting that's important for the communities that are living and a decision made here would have a big impact on our daily lives. I'd like to begin by thanking Councilmember Herrera for arranging the meeting on the 13th and that was the first time of knowing this proposal. I personally came to know about this proposal that week by an e-mail from my neighbor and certainly that was not a formal channel of intimation. While I was vacationing halfway across the globe. I live within a thousand feet of the proposed site of the development and was completely clueless about this plan. Planning Department conformed that my particular street was overlooked during the outreach process. So the outreach process procedure was clearly violated. I just came back to attend the May 13th meeting and glad that I did. Given the time that I've had since coming back, I have been gathering together information on this particular project.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Omar El Useff, followed by Richard Rossdale and Sonya Saini.

>> Members of the city council, Mayor, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. We basically accept Councilwoman's memo. Defer this for six omonths. I would like to accept option 2, not option 1 or 3. My house is the closest to this project and 50 homes all my neighbors were not notified of this and it's been already two years since this project started and I just notified last week my entire street does not know bit and my street is the closet to the project. We're not for it or against it but we need time to understand it. Not one month, two months we need six months, you need to put everything on hold until you get the community's feedback. We're not against jobs, we're not against construction jobs, we're not against the elderly. This is about the neighborhood. We want to get everyone's input and understand it clearly. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Richard Ross Dale. Sonia Saini and Walter Chang.

>> Good evening, councilmembers and mayor. I represent the land owners who actually live on that side of the hill, okay? I have the closest piece of property. All the other people who have spoken actually live on the other side of the hill, okay? They live beyond the crest of the hill. What we're actually talking about tonight is replacing a junkyard, okay? An eyesore, an eyesore that we've looked at for many, many years. Our family moved there in 1949 okay so we're well aware of what goes on with this hill, okay? They're going to replace the junkyard with this project. This project is visible from 101. We remove the eyesore, we put this in. I understand their feelings were hurt, okay and I'm a reasonable person I think we should delay this you know 30 days. In 30 days, I promise you they can look over the hill and see what that junkyard looks like, okay? So let's give them the 30 days, let's move on with the project. There's no environmental impact that they already done. The traffic study is already done.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up. Sonia Saini, Walter Chang, Butch Francisco.

>> Honorable mayor, vice mayor, and respected members of the city council, I'm a resident of the Ranch on Silver Creek, a community which is a thousand feet away from the project that is suggested. I support the memo that Councilmember Herrera has put forth in front of you today. The community outreach for this project was not conducted in a fair and proper manner. We need to have known about this well ahead in advance, we do not understand the details of this project. We need time, and we need the consideration that is supposed to be given to the community that will be most impacted by this project. My earnest request to you is that give us the time, give us the opportunity to understand the details. To understand the merits. [cheering and applause]

>> And to make an informed decision. The process was not done in the proper protocol. We are merely asking to you give us the justice, let it be done in the proper protocol and let us be given the tile we truly deserve. I urge you please give us the time we need. We do not know the details of the project even to make a decision.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you so much. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Walter Chang followed by Butch Francisco and Sanmar Sharma.

>> Hi, Butch Francisco is my name. Mayor and council, I join my neighbors to oppose this general plan 08-08-03. This proposed land use changed from urban to quasiurban and which will usher a new building as proposed by the developer came about in the area in the account of the Evergreen Times. Even announcing the news to the neighbors of the Ranch at Silver Creek, those who attended the meeting on May 13th were news of this proposed change. First things first. Do not be swayed by the economic policies of this change or even the civic mindedness appearance of the proposed building. Instead I challenge you to focus on fair play. The planning or the developer has had custody of this plan for nearly two years. We've had it for less thans there weeks. I urge you to support and allow the process to take place and inclusion of the neighborhood's input. This administration believes in open ethical governance. Hence, critical to this principle, this participatory team had words between the administration --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Walter Chang Sarsharma, Walter Chang.

>> My name is Sumar, and I'd like to respect mayor and councilmembers, I'd like to mention that I support Councilmember Herrera's memo to the city council. This project has been in the works for last two years and I just got to know about it coupled weeks ago from an article in Evergreen times. That definitely is not a very fair manner to get a notification. So the community outreach program was not conducted in a just manner, and I would definitely need more time to understand the report, the impact of this on the environment, traffic, and a bunch of other things that I can't even describe in one minute. So I would definitely like to request to please defer the further hearing on this matter until fall so that we have enough time to digest the information and to under the proposal. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: That concludes the public testimony on this item. I think there's some additional staff comments. We had a question from the applicant. I'd like the City Attorney or the director to answer about the schedule of hearings.

>> Joe Horwedel: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. That was the third option that I laid out that the council could defer and consider this item to its own general plan hearing. We do have the ability to hold four per year so this would be the third per year so it is legal to do that.

>> Mayor Reed: Okay, back to the council for questions. Councilmember Herrera. I just wanted to clarify, if there was a separate general plan hearing when would that be held?

>> Joe Horwedel: I think it would be really a function of bringing it back through the Planning Commission. And I was looking at the calendar, that the next Planning Commission date is -- I have May 26th which I don't think I can get onto, so it would be June 9th to try and turn that back in time to be in front of the city council on your meeting of June 15th is the evening meeting, I think, or is it the 22nd? I'd have to double-check with the clerk. So whether we could turn it that quick to be able to do it in 30 days and be -- allow the neighborhood to have any sort of review of the documents, my sense of what we're hearing, realistically is August 8th is where it would go to council, if you're going to defer it separately.

>> Councilmember Herrera: I would -- I will wait until other folks have a chance to ask some questions before I make final comments.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Constant.

>> Councilmember Constant: Thank you. One of the reasons I'm concerned about this is, the Winchester NBD got held up a full 30 days. And we have people who have been waiting for the NBD to go through so they can do their projects. I'm concerned about the fact that we delayed it so that we could do outreach and then we seem to still have outreach problems. I have a couple of problems. First being, can you review so everybody here can hear what the normal outreach time line is? Because we have people that are complaining that they haven't known bit for two years. But what are we realistically normally do for noticing and the time between when we notice it and then when it goes to Planning Commission and when it goes to council?

>> Joe Horwedel: Right. Ideally we would go and hold a community meeting in the process. But the hearing notices for the Planning Commission the city council and the community meeting is a minimum of ten days prior to the meeting that those get mailed. We as a practice our goal is to mail them two weeks in advance of that. So as a part of in this case the community meeting which was held last week I think we did in fact hit all the neighbors as a part of that. Where the outreach messed up was when we did the original noticing for the general plan amendment, that for some reason, some of the streets were left out. We have not been able to duplicate that, going back because it is an automated system. Something happened and we're trying to figure it out.

>> Councilmember Constant: So normally it's 14 days but our requirement is ten days?

>> Joe Horwedel: The state law is ten days. By practice we do two weeks and we do a thousand-foot noticing. So in this case it crossed over highway 1. Those neighborhoods were noticed. What happened is the neighbors that were immediately adjacent did not receive that notice.

>> Councilmember Constant: Okay. So how many days was noticed before the meeting that was held?

>> Joe Horwedel: The community meeting last week is I think we got it out that minimum time frame. So it -- because we were rushed so we were at -- running at the ten-day window.

>> Councilmember Constant: And when you did this, there were no outreach problems with that, the outreach was only with the first cycle, is that correct?

>> Joe Horwedel: The first cycle where we saw the problem, going back and doing triage on it is when we saw the original notice.

>> Councilmember Constant: You know it concerns me having a project delayed for six months because the applicant did nothing wrong. I mean we've already given a 30-day and we've given the notice. I know -- I know the community would like some more time. And I'm not opposed to another 30 days. But I think it's unreasonable for us to say that because we made a policy that we only want to do these twice a year that we're just going to ignore the fact that the applicant did absolutely nothing wrong. The -- all the reports, the EIR, everything is done. We did meet the state requirement of ten days and a thousand-foot notice the second time around. I understand the goof the first time around. I don't see why we're letting a council policy get in the way of a project that has the potential

of -- well, will invest \$40 million in our city, has the potential of creating hundreds of jobs and a much-needed facility. So I don't understand why we can't just pass the other ones in our next item, and defer this, and get it done in June so that the developer and the architect, everyone can get this project moving forward. I think moving the project forward is in the best interest of everyone. I don't see how we achieve any goal, other than making ourselves feel good about that we stuck to two general plan meetings. Because if they file their paperwork two days late and wanted a special general plan meeting would I say no. And I know we had this discussion before. And really, the only reason I supported the deferral, and having Winchester NBD hung up another 30 days is because I was assured things would go forward and we would get it done. So it's very difficult for me to swallow punishing someone for six months. And we heard from the applicant, the issues with the financing. We all know that the financial markets are not stable and we have a property or a financing that's about ready to close. I think we're dining disservice. So I would hope that my colleagues, including Councilmember Herrera, would consider, let's do this in 30 days, so that everybody gets what they want. The community wants to have notice. They've already known about it, at least the amount of days we have here, which meet the time line. And they're going to get an extra series of 30 days to opine. So they will in effect have triple the amount of time that most neighborhoods get notice that most projects go through our city. I think it's a reasonable accommodation that gives a renal additional time to both sides. I think the applicants would like us to make a decision tonight and get it over with so they can go on with their project. I don't have any trouble with, we're sorry we screwed up, we'll give you 30 days. I don't think we should go beyond it if we can achieve the goals of giving more than adequate notice, get all of our process done and allow the project that's good for our city and good for our workforce going forward. So that is what I would like to see.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Campos.

>> Councilmember Campos: Thank you. I want to disclose that I spoke to Neil Struthers, my staff person Vanessa Florez spoke to Sal caruso. I want to ask some questions in the time frame you're talking about. You said that you could get it to the Planning Commission, June 9th. And then turn around and have it to the council, June 15th. But then you said something about June -- August and I didn't quite -- I mean August 8th.

>> Joe Horwedel: Right.

>> Councilmember Campos: So can you -- I didn't quite layer what you said about that.

>> Joe Horwedel: So the June council date is kind of the fastest we could do it, the 15th is the evening meeting. So the May 26th would be the Planning Commission, goes along with that. That is --

>> Councilmember Campos: But May 26th you said you didn't think you could make.

>> Joe Horwedel: Right, or I'm sorry, yeah, the June 9th date, got too many dates running through my mind here. The June 9th Planning Commission date is I think the realistic date we could get it on and I share the concern that Councilmember Constant raised about you know how we move something forward. That's what we would go through and look at this. I don't know what we committed to other projects, to go ahead and put it on. Why I mentioned the August date is just the issues that the community has raised and the time for them to go through that will take some time. And whether we go through and do it once or it bounces back again would be my hesitation. But I would say if council wants to do a separate date, I would go through and look at that June 15th as the council date on it. And you know we'll make it a priority to deliver on that.

>> Councilmember Campos: And you would be able to do outreach because that's about 30 days. You would be able to do sufficient outreach to have that one meeting that community members --

>> Joe Horwedel: It is going to mean we're going to drop other projects to go and do this. To do more community meetings in time for June 9th I'm going to drop other projects to start working on it right now.

>> Councilmember Campos: Would they be projects that would be bringing \$40 million of investment?

>> Joe Horwedel: I don't know what we've got queued up right now. I'd have to figure that out. This is our busy time of year because everybody is trying to get to council before the end of the break.

>> Councilmember Campos: I guess the concern -- first of all, I understand the community's concerned about not getting adequate notice. I am concerned that the fault is on city staff.

>> Joe Horwedel: It's our fault. Yeah.

>> Councilmember Campos: It is your fault, I guess to be blunt. I'm concerned because now, it has put the applicant, who wants to invest \$40 million in this project, and this is an assisted living project, is that correct? Or --

>> Joe Horwedel: This is a general plan change for public quasipublic uses, which would allow a church, a school, a institutional living environment, not a residential project.

>> Councilmember Campos: So that's clear. I have similar concerns about delaying a project six months. And I'm not opposed to doing a special general plan session to move something forward. And if -- and I guess I'm not hearing the confidence from your end that you could get it done by June 15th.

>> Joe Horwedel: I think if the council -- if the council wants to put this on for the June 15th, we'll go through and schedule the general plan hearing, and Laurel and I will go through and work hard to make that happen. I think that's literally what it's going to take.

>> Councilmember Campos: And you could let us know if you couldn't meet that demand? Is that an option for you?

>> Joe Horwedel: I think we'd just -- you know focus on it and make that our priority, what to go work on.

>> Councilmember Campos: So I would be supportive of a 30-day -- having it come back June 15th, for a special session. Similar concerns as the previous speaker, and I think that it's an investment in our community and we talk about creating jobs, and I think this is an opportunity that we really need to be supporting.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Nguyen.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you. Before I ask a couple of questions I just wanted to disclose that I received an e-mail from Sal caruso, I think yesterday, and I met with him on this project many months ago, which I'm not fully sure exactly when. But I did meet with him. Councilmember Constant asked a lot of my questions, or the concerns, the outreach meetings. I just have a question for the applicant, if you can just approach the podium please. Sal, could you share with us what happened to the financing of this project if we defer this for six months?

>> Right now what we understand is that if the financing is -- if the project is deferred for six months the likelihoods is extremely high, probably in the 70 plus percentile, that it will not be around six months from now and that's simply because the investors are very, very squeamish right now and the minute that they see a big giant red flag saying look it's customary, that one could be delayed 30 days, six months deferral says something is seriously a problem here and the financing people walk away saying you know what we can go into a safer investment, something that is ready to go, shovel ready as they say.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Would you say this project would be seriously jeopardized if the project is delayed?

>> Absolutely, no question about it.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Councilmember Herrera said she is not concerned about the merit of the project you more or less about the community outreach project, I completely understand the concerns of the residents who live around this area. But at the same time, it is really really difficult for me to swallow to know that this mistake was not made by the applicant but more from the part of the staff which is unfortunate. Again given the fact this is a \$40 million project in a time when our economy is just going down the drain I think this is a huge boost for San José economy as well as for our city itself. And so I would really hope that Councilmember Herrera

would consider, begin the fact that staff said that they will work really hard to try to fulfill the June 15th meeting to bring this project back I hope that Councilmember Herrera would really consider giving staff that opportunity and giving the applicant the opportunity for them to move forward with this project. That would be something that I'd like to see. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Kalra.

>> Councilmember Kalra: Thank you, mayor. Joe, you had mentioned that the policy is to have these hearings twice a year but that there is an exception for three or four projects a year?

>> Joe Horwedel: State law allows cities conduct a general plan hearing three or four times a year. City has usually done it once a year, a while ago we were doing it four times a year and as a part of the council looking at the general plan process decided that it was good to get back to that schedule. We haven't gotten all the way back to one a year.

>> Councilmember Kalra: As to the two a year, when you mentioned this was third, the state law allowed a separate hearing even if it was done for one project?

>> Joe Horwedel: Correct, they still count the same.

>> Councilmember Kalra: And you know I completely agree with some of the comments that were made regarding that outreach wasn't done in a fair, proper manner and that due process wasn't necessarily met I would have to point out that I know that you know, that the Planning Department staff has been really stripped down a lot and so there were less eyes probably that can catch some of those mistakes. We all make mistakes, they do happen and the question is now how do we rectify it. When I was on the Planning Commission oftentimes we had situations and I think I was one that would probably stand up and talk loudest about allowing for deferrals when there wasn't appropriate outreach done and council even caught wind of how the Planning Commission was giving a lot of credence to that and I think for good reason. And I certainly am interested in making sure that if there's a violation of due process that the community is made whole. The question is, what is made whole? So the question then becomes six months of delay for -- until another hearing is far beyond what any other process would require, any other neighborhood, as Councilmember Constant brought out, you know, requires ten days by the state, 14 days by our policy. We messed up on the policy before the Planning Commission so there was the May 13th meeting. I absolutely agree that it would be inappropriate for us to go forward today because I could understand if I was in the neighborhood adjoining the project I would feel, we didn't get the benefit of the due process. In order to get the benefit of the due process the same rules that apply to all other neighborhoods in the city should apply to this neighborhood as well, and I think that that's why some of the comments made by my colleagues that agree to a deferral and I must say that I appreciate Councilmember Herrera responding to the concerns of the community very quickly and rapidly in understanding the importance that you have your due process rights met. And I agree that those due process rights should be met and I think that the approximate 30 day deferral would allow the right any other resident in this city would have. If there are oaks we'll hear them, hear them out the next time just as we heard them today. Issues regarding financing and jobs I'm very sympathetic to that. We can't necessarily make decisions based upon financing and what's happening between private parties. But it's hard to not -- it's hard to ignore that but really, my decision falls more in due process, and making whole, a neighborhood that wasn't given 100% of the due process. A 30 day deferral gives -- makes that neighborhood whole. Six months is frankly excessive and beyond what the policy deems for any other neighborhood. So that's just to give a little background and reasoning based on how I saw it on the Planning Commission, how I'm seeing it now and I hope, and I hope the neighborhood understands and that's if the council agrees to a deferral, and agrees to the abbreviated deferral, I hope the neighborhood understands that we're giving you as much if not even more that Councilmember Constant indicated given the longer delay and the extra committee meeting will give you even more due process and more ability to express your opinions and hear more about the project. The fact that it seems like a shortly amount of time believe it or not that's not a lot of time and oftentimes we hear that from neighborhoods, they have to do their homework in order to get caught up to speed. I really do appreciate the neighbors especially those that have not been to City Hall, coming here. I read all the e-mails, I agree that we should defer it, I hope that Councilmember Herrera will agree with some of the comments that we can do this in a little bit more abbreviated fashion and still provide the appropriate due process to the neighborhood.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Pyle.

>> Councilmember Pyle: Thank you. I want to talk first about parity. This is a follow-up to the previous comments from my colleagues, as well. Parity is not 14 days versus 180 days. That is not parity. Not only that but it sets a dangerous precedent which could become very problematic in future situations. Two, this project got a seven-0-0, in other words seven people totally concurred that this is a good project. The third point is that what we will be doing is changing a zoning delineation. I'm not coming up with the right verbiage but we're changing the zoning. That is not -- that is not going to be as earth shaking as it will be later on down the way, in reference to all of the complexities of the project. This is strictly a zoning change. And then finally, I want to concur with Mr. Caruso, because as I read more and more about the problems with the banks and the give-and-take with the European market with which we have done a lot of business, the problems there are affecting the banks here. And I've also talked to some of my banking friends and they are saying the same thing. If anything looks like it's not a good, stable situation, they will drop people like a hot stone. So they're -- we do not need to jeopardize this project with unnecessary delays. I appreciate the fact that it was the machine that did it. But it's our machine. And we owe at least the 15 to 30 days to the people who did not get proper notification. And I truly appreciate our department's willingness to try to amend the mistake. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you, Mayor Reed. Councilmember Pyle the seven-0 were you referring to the Planning Commission? The Planning Commission unanimously. Joe, I remember this coming back to the council well over a year ago for early consideration. And I remember staff, planning staff was not necessarily hot about the project. And now it has a staff recommendation plus the unanimous Planning Commission vote. What was the change, was it reducing from five acres to three acres or something else?

>> Joe Horwedel: Councilmember Oliverio a couple of things I think were the result of the difference. One is that the staff looked at the topography of the property with the applicant, and came up with a better boundary. That's three acres, versus five acres. And then secondly we spent time talking through what was the requested designation that staff really felt that a public quasipublic was the appropriate designation here. We didn't feel residential was applicable at all. The applicant was willing to work with us and support that and those were the reasons the staff ended up supporting the proposed general plan change.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Outside of the mistake on the original posting of a thousand feet was everything normal with posting the staff information on the Internet?

>> Joe Horwedel: We did all the council agendas, staff agendas, the environmental document onto the Website. There was an onsite sign, although it was on the cul-de-sac, if you weren't aware of it you wouldn't know to go to look at that time Website for it. That was the known problem.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Then in general whenever a project comes before the council, I haven't heard of anything where someone hasn't said the word traffic. In general, this acres developed into housing versus development for assisted senior living, is there a typical differential wearing your planning hat on the amount of traffic something like that causes?

>> Joe Horwedel: A substantial difference. The traditional residential whether it's single family or condominium has a significant amount more of traffic compared to an assisted facility or what staff was looking for here, a more institutional type care facility, that there's much less traffic because the occupants are not driving to the site, you're really dealing with staff and visitors so you can do time of day measures to control the peak traffic which the neighbors are concerned about.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Fair enough. As a policy I have a preference to minimum general plan opportunities to name general plan because we have really the whole rest of the year to implement it. With that said, I believe having this situation of a six-month versus a 30-day I'd be more inclined to do a 30-day. There is more -- if there is general disapproval of the project based on something specific, something that would come out in the Planning

Commission process, I think that could follow in a 30 day period. But I'm not sure, six months seems to jeopardize what has come forward. With that in mind those are my comments. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Chu.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you mayor. I will not be supporting a six month delay. I will be supporting a 30 months delay for the reasons that -- 30 day, I'm sorry. Articulated by my council fellow. But I would like to thank Councilmember Herrera for responding to the residents' concerns and thank the residents for writing and coming out and speak to us. But I will not be supporting longer than 30 days' delay. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Herrera. I'm sorry, before you do, I just wanted to disclose that my staff has met with Mr. Caruso several times over the past couple of years on this project. Councilmember Herrera.

>> Councilmember Herrera: And I've also met with Mr. Caruso. Well, it's obvious hearing everybody weigh in that delaying this for six months is not something that my colleagues would support. And I want everyone to understand that I'm looking at the options given to me were, hear it now, or delay it into the next general plan hearing, which unfortunately, is not for six months. It's certainly not my desire to make this project wait until December. It happens to be the way the planning, general plan hearings are set up. It's also not my desire to try to prevent any jobs from being created in San José. I want to do everything I can to create jobs. The whole issue tonight is about integrity of the process. And I applaud the people from the ranch for getting themselves informed and contacting me and getting involved in the process. I think that's the kind of participation we want to see from our citizens. And I take it very seriously, the processes we have here and to make sure that our residents are informed and I appreciate Joe Horwedel for owning up in terms of their mistake in not getting the notice out. Nothing was done intentionally. I'm a little bit concerned about the 30 days. You know in terms of making enough time for the community to find out about this. I'm wondering if there's something in between. Obviously six months is a very long time. Is there something in between 30 days and six months to -- I would like to have at least two community meetings so they can be informed. Because here's my point. And I hope my colleagues can understand this. This is not starting from zero. This is starting from a Planning Commission meeting that was held, and yes, the vote was 7-zero. There was no input from this community. They had to read about it in the Evergreen times. A District 8 round table meeting that happened that none of them were present at. One outreach meeting where there were three residents. So it's not just that -- we're not just starting from ground zero, we're starting from sort of behind the eight ball in a way. So I would like to make sure that everything we do here and I understand that no one wants to delay this until December. I don't either. I would like to give them ample time to have a couple of meetings and have the best outreach we can. Joe can you give some suggestions?

>> Joe Horwedel: Trying to do committee meetings, there's no way we can be at June 15th unless we're doing them in the same week. I think that's the reality of it. I think we're looking at that first meeting in council of August, August 8th I think it is.

>> Mayor Reed: August 2nd and August 9th are the first two Tuesdays. Jeff.

>> Joe Horwedel: Yeah, so it would be August the 9th would normally be the evening meeting.

>> Councilmember Herrera: I would amend my motion to make it August 9th.

>> Joe Horwedel: Whatever the first evening meeting in August since I don't have that in front of me.

>> Councilmember Herrera: To allow that outreach time.

>> Mayor Reed: There is no requirement that it has to be in the evening. It could be on August 2nd in the daytime.

>> Councilmember Herrera: August 2nd in the daytime, whatever. I would amend my motion to ask for that outreach.

>> Mayor Reed: I don't know who had the second, okay. So the motion is amended, to August 2nd. Which allows additional time for outreach. Anything else, Councilmember Herrera on the motion? I'll support the motion, June 15th will be a very crowded agenda, and the community input's going to be very pressed, to make it by June 15th. And August 2nd seems like a reasonable time to do it that will accommodate most of everybody's interest. I'll support the motion. Councilmember Constant.

>> Councilmember Constant: I forgot to disclose that I have talked to Sal caruso about this project, I understand what I'm hearing but by the time we're done with this, this will have like five times the time and the number of meetings that most projects have. And I understand Joe mentioned -- I understand what Rose said about they didn't get the opportunity of going to the Planning Commission. But Joe said it's going to go through the Planning Commission again so it's going to be a redo so it's just like us starting brand-new with a head start. So I -- I don't agree it should go to August. And unless the applicant thinks it's not going to be any big problem to hem, I think that you know woo screwed up, we're giving a chance for a full redo, plus. I think we should go forward as soon as possible so I won't support the motion, I'm sorry. And if it fails, then I look forward to supporting a motion that brings it back in June.

>> Mayor Reed: Vice Mayor Chirco.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I'd like Sal caruso to come down. I have a question for him.

>> Yes, Vice Mayor.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Could you address the status of the financing if we go to August 2nd?

>> Uncertain. Because what we've discussed with them is that they'll hold with us for the 30-day deferral. They've committed to that because we told them that there is at least a slim possibility that we can do that. And so they've committed to that. They have not committed beyond that and that's my concern. And I do commit personally that if the staff notices two meetings at once you know sends it out immediately, tomorrow morning and notices a public hearing, one after -- or two community meetings, one after the other I will be there. I will clear my calendar, whatever is necessary to accommodate the will of this council.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Thank you. Councilmember Herrera, I totally, totally understand. We're trying to meet, as with everything we do, so many goals. So I'm going to make a friendly amendment, and it will be up to you to accept it or not, because we are going to hit the reset button, it would go to the Planning Commission, then they would have the public, is that we do the 30-day, we do the June. My district has also had the problem where communities that were right next door were not notified, some district, some area not even in district 9 was notified of a public meeting. So I know how challenging that can be. So if we can meet kind of our normal time lines of noticing the community, you know, with the Planning Commission and then have the public meeting, I realize our calendar is very challenged as the mayor said. But I think there's many goals we're trying to accomplish here. So my friendly amendment would be to do a 30-day.

>> Councilmember Herrera: Vice Mayor, I was not hearing the first time that it was going back to Planning Commission. And I think the fact that it is, it will be challenging to do it in 30 days. But I think that does add an -- it is basically a do-over and so I hope the community there can feel good about the fact that we are going to be able to have it go through the Planning Commission. We also can have two meetings, one of them doesn't necessarily need planning staff. I think I just heard the developer offer up that so I think we can work together and go that so I will accept your friendly amendment.

>> Mayor Reed: Secunder also accepts it so the amendment is amended by friendly amendment to June 15th, back to the council with the Planning Commission meeting in the middle there. Staff, if I understand that that's conceivable doable --

>> Joe Horwedel: Yeah, that's what I'm looking at, we'd do a community meeting somewhere around June 2nd-3rd, do the Planning Commission on the 9th, and the council on the 15th.

>> Mayor Reed: Okay, that's the motion. Councilmember Chu.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you, mayor. Just wanted to disclose that my staff has talked to Sal caruso.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Kalra.

>> Councilmember Kalra: Thank you, mayor and I appreciate the dialogue up here and I appreciate Councilmember Herrera for understanding the value of the balance of both, of making sure this project goes forward but also making sure that the community gets no less due process than would be expected of anyone else. The fact that we're going to go back to planning is really a do-over. I had a chance to speak with Sal caruso and Sal says he's willing to meet even on a weekly basis, I hope he stays true to that, councilmembers, not every one will be that the Planning Department puts on, oftentimes applicants if they can sit down from a group in the community they can really get a lot of the details or questions answered better than anything done you know before us. So I'd really encourage everyone to work together and I look forward to seeing everyone in a month and hopefully all the major questions will be answered and at that time we'll take in all the feedback, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Campos.

>> Councilmember Campos: I will be supporting the motion and Councilmember Herrera, I think it is very courageous of you to make sure that your community is getting the opportunity to be able to hear the project. I think for you, staff, the applicant did open an avenue to say that he will meet with them at two meetings, or as many meetings as needed. But I think that he did commit to two and I think we've heard that staff does not necessarily have to be at those meetings, at least one of the meetings, so that's encouraging. And I think the fact that they're going to have the opportunity to go through the Planning Department once again, excuse me, Planning Commission, before it comes back to council, so I will be supporting the motion.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you mayor. I just wanted to tell the residents of Councilmember Herrera's district you do have a strong advocate advocating for you and Councilmember Herrera I know it's in a tough spot sometimes the way these things fly. Joe and Laurel if you happen to know what one of those dates could be, since the concerned residents are here now, that that could be spit out. Instead of someone being told that it got lost in the mail.

>> Joe Horwedel: I ax going to have to figure out the logistics of where to put it and so we'll decide that tomorrow.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Pyle.

>> Councilmember Pyle: I did meet with Sal caruso, and somebody else from the Planning Department. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: I think we're done with that. I think that's all the -- [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: We only have a couple more items. We have a motion to defer this to June 15th.

>> Joe Horwedel: Correct and I would ask the council to recognize that we're going to create this as a general plan hearing, essentially going back to rules and having to write a lot of rules is the City Attorney okay?

>> City Attorney Doyle: Yes.

>> Mayor Reed: That means the other items on the general plan hearing that we have had can move forward independently?

>> Joe Horwedel: That is our next item.

>> Mayor Reed: That's our next item, okay. On the motion, all in favor, opposed, none opposed, that's approved. Our next item is 10.2, that is to basically close out the general plan hearings we've had on April 27th and May 18th.

>> Motion to approve.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Reed: Motion is to approve all the general plan actions, except for the one we just deferred, that's a separate item. But all the other actions to complete this set of general plan hearings. Discussion on that? Nobody wants to debate that? Okay, good. All in favor, opposed, none opposed, that's approved. Completes the general plan hearings. Next item is 11.1, hearing on the consent calendar, on land use items, I think there's only one item on the consent calendar. Councilmember Liccardo.

>> Councilmember Liccardo: Sorry, that was on the next item, actually. I pulled the trigger too soon.

>> Mayor Reed: Okay, so item 11.A is an item to follow on with the general plan amendments on the Winchester boulevard which we just approved finally, on 11.A is there a motion?

>> Motion to approve.

>> Mayor Reed: Motion to approve, all in favor, opposed none opposed, 11.2 is an administrative hearing and consideration of an appeal of the Planning Commission's decision to approve a conditional use permit. Councilmember Liccardo.

>> Councilmember Liccardo: Thank you, mayor. Our office was contacted by a representative from the applicant Jeff Hair today, about an apparent error in the memorandum, on page 2. I attributed the second set of violations on South 11th Street to the applicant. The applicant is one of three brothers who founded Riviera care, that's responsible for that site on South 11th Street. He wasn't the owner of record, his brother Mustafa was at the time. So I wanted to correct that. That was -- apparently he was not the owner of record. In any event, I'd like to make a motion to approve the recommendation set out on page 1 of my memorandum, the replacement memorandum dated May 17th.

>> Councilmember Herrera: Second.

>> Mayor Reed: A motion to approve based on the memorandum from Councilmember Liccardo. I do have some requests from the public to speak on this item. I don't know if I have the applicant in this -- or the appellant. I'd like to take whoever's filed the appeal.

>> Joe Horwedel: Jeff Hair is the appellant.

>> Mayor Reed: All right, we'll do that first, Mr. Hair.

>> Evening, council I know it's a long evening, and you have a lot to go so I'll make it very brief and thank you for the opportunity to speak. On behalf of the owners of this property, on North Fifth Street, the staff report lays out the history, I won't belabor the issue. I just want to highlight a couple of quick points here. That is, this property has been apartment use university use, zoning last not changed. The two buildings were purchased by the current owners in 1992. At the time the property had 32 rooms and they've been paying the occupancy permit fees for 32 rooms ever since. In 2005 after the redevelopment agency abandoned plans to acquire this property for a number of proposed uses, including relocating the Donner house the city initiated a zoning review of the property and decided that it to evaluate the legal nonconforming uses. In 19 -- approximately two years later, in 26, the city made a determination that this was a legal nonconforming use for guest houses. And it was decided at that time that the owners should apply for a conditional use permit to bring it in line with the current room configuration. So that application was filed in 27. This is the application that is before you tonight. We appreciate staff's recommendation for approval and acknowledge the Planning Commission's vote as well to approve their change. We understand the concerns of the neighbors. The proposal calls for a reduction of the existing 32 rooms

down to 27. We would like to note, as one additional correction in the record, as Councilmember Liccardo noted the owners of this property do not own the property on 11th street. The -- and the owner Sammy Sevenkaya is on the property every day. They have complies with everything the city has imposed. I would like to reply to the report of drinking and disorderly conduct. The residents are not drinkers, drinking is not allowed neither is the unruly behavior, loitering or panhandling. In fact it can get them kicked out after consulting with their conservators. They have been disciplined in the past and lost their opportunity to live here. It is unlikely that these unruly conducts are attributed to the general population of homeless that unfortunately don't have a place to live and occupy the downtown area. Nonetheless the owners continue to maintain they are ready willing and able to continue working with the neighbors and with the city. They have a 24 hour number, they are there, you can come up and knock on the door and management will be there to greet them and discuss any issues of concern that are there. Reverend Jim Crawford have come over a couple of times to discuss those issues and those issues have been taken care of, as a history of this. The owners would like to continue to maintain their working relationship with the city to meet the requirements and meet the very, very tough challenge of providing special needs housing for a very vulnerable part of our population.

>> Mayor Reed: Are you intending to save any of your time for the owner to speak?

>> Beg your pardon?

>> Mayor Reed: You're running out of time if you want the owner to speak.

>> I'm here to answer questions, Sammy Sevenkaya is in the room.

>> Mayor Reed: Okay, we'll take the public testimony now. Christy Lynn and Helen Tindall.

>> Thank you, city officials my name is Elton Lynn and I am a pastor of a church called haven here in San José. And we met Sammy and the residents at the houses about five years ago. And have gotten to hear the stories and understand the struggles of a community of people that have had lifelong mental illness and have -- and many people who we would ignore on the street and wouldn't even make eye contact with. And we've learned along the way that God doesn't love them any less than us. And they are just as entitled to basic human rights and the ability and the pride to call somewhere home. And we've gotten to know Sammy and Sammy is very much of a father figure to these people. And he has had this 20-year legacy of character for people that are hard to care for. In speaking to the residents we barely here a bad word about Sammy. Approval would be a significant step towards standing up for people who aren't able to stand up for themselves and caring for people that are hard to care for so thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Christine Kim, Ellen Tindall. Going once, going twice.

>> Hi, I'm Christine Kim and I am for the conditional use permit for the Victorian home. I was a few places where these people can live, this is their home. And it's been their home for 20-some years, some less, some even more, and just like Elton has said, I believe we should treat them as proper citizens of San José. And we should give them their right to have homes. If you don't support this permit, who knows what can happen to this home? And the people may be on the streets, and then there will be another problem. So I am definitely for this permit. And for the people that we are -- that we call our friends. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Ellen Tindall. [applause]

>> Good evening, I'm Helen Tindall, I'm here to support the Planning Commission's decision to approve this remodeling project of the residential house. My son has been a resident of this house for over 14 years. And I can attest that the residents there receive close supervision and they comply with their medications and the house rules. I understand there's a concern in the community that this boarding house might reduce property values and I don't think we can allow people to move into our neighborhoods and then ask other people to move out because it affects their property values. The boarding houses are very important in our community. These are our families that live in these boarding houses, when they cannot live at home or because they have no home or families to go to. It's very draining for a family to take care of a mentally disabled family member full time. These residents are highly functional individuals who comply with their medication and house rules reduction in the --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Reduction in the houses can increase homelessness.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. That concludes the public testimony on this item. Councilmember Kalra.

>> Councilmember Kalra: Thank you mayor. I just wanted to thank those that spoke and the applicant for providing a residence for those that need it. I know that the downtown neighborhood certainly are overburdened with these kinds of facilities and it's very important to have good management as outlined in Councilmember Liccardo's memo we're very constrained by law so just the fact that we are able to get in a policy that has a good neighbor agreement is a big win for the neighborhood and I think is a good thing. And so I'm confident that the manager will comply with that, and at least now we have rules set in place where otherwise we wouldn't if we didn't go forward and allow those to go forward. So I'll thank Councilmember Liccardo for that and support the motion.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you mayor. I wanted to thank Councilmember Liccardo as well, if the applicant could contact me at some point so I could do a tour of the facility, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: We have a motion to approve based on Councilmember Liccardo's memo. All in favor, opposed, none opposed. Our next item is 11.3, zoning for property at the corner of airport parkway and old Bayshore highway. Before we get started on this I want to disclose that my staff and I have met with Matt love and the owners of Garden City. Councilmember Liccardo.

>> Councilmember Liccardo: I've complete with the owners as well and had many conversations with the members of the Rosemary garden neighborhood as well. I don't think -- I think I saw Jerry de Young.

>> Mayor Reed: I think they both are here.

>> Councilmember Liccardo: Hi Jerry. If one of the two of you could come down. I know that you're going to make a presentation. Thanks Jerry. I wanted to make a motion. But before I did I just wanted assurance, at least on the side of the applicant, that everything is fine with regard to the offer suggested on page 1 of my memorandum, actually the memo signed by Mayor Reed and myself on May 14th, regarding reimbursement of the city for lighting and traffic calming improvements along that corridor up to no greater than \$100,000. I just want to assure that's okay with the applicant.

>> Yes, Mr. Mayor, if I might Councilmember Liccardo yes it is acceptable to the applicant. And simply, thank you for making that request. And would ask that the council approve this.

>> Councilmember Liccardo: Thank you. I appreciate the applicant's willingness to work with the neighborhood, as well as with my office and I make a motion to approve, with the conditions, actually not with the conditions, with the offer outlined on page 1 of that memo.

>> Mayor Reed: Motion to approve. As outlined in the memo. Councilmember Constant.

>> Councilmember Constant: I just wanted to disclose I've had numerous conversations with Garden City in relation to this project, and I support.

>> Mayor Reed: Councilmember Chu.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you, mayor. I would also wanted to disclose I have at least two conversation with the representative from Garden City and I will be supporting the motion.

>> Mayor Reed: I have no cards from the public on this. None. We have a motion.

>> Joe Horwedel: Mr. Mayor. I did want to go through and just acknowledge that this is a PD zoning that came in on March the 1st. And we are at the hearing here on May the -- middle of may.

>> Mayor Reed: 18th.

>> Joe Horwedel: And that was really the work of Jeannie Hamilton of my staff that she went through and personally worked the community meetings for this, worked with Mr. Deyoung and Mr. Love, knowing it was very important for other issues that we're working for on the city so she personally delivered this one on behalf of the organization.

>> Mayor Reed: That's a very good record. That's probably the best I've seen in a long time so that's good. It's good to have some projects moving ahead in these tough times. Councilmember Liccardo.

>> Councilmember Liccardo: I did want to acknowledge the speedy work of planning staff. In fact it was so fast I didn't know it was on the planning calendar until last week but I also want to thank the the leadership of Rosemary gardens.

>> Mayor Reed: I see no other comments. All in favor, opposed none opposed that's approved. Okay, that concludes the land use items. We can now turn our attention to the hearing on the proposed operating budgets for fiscal year 2010-11 and the proposed fees and charges for the City of San José. I think that's why a lot of people are still here. And again, this is a hearing tonight. The council's had many, many hours already in study sessions in which people have come to testify. And so we've had a lot of time to study the budget but this is one of the times for the public to come out and tell us what they think. And I know that's why you're here. This is not a debate tonight. This is for the public to give us some testimony so the council will not be discussing the budget and we won't be voting on the budget. That comes later in June. And so we will hopefully give everybody a chance to testify before midnight. This is the ninth year of shortfalls. So some of you have been here meeting after meeting for nine years as we've contemplated how to close a budget gap every year. And if you just look back over that nine years you can see our average cost per employee has gone up 64% while revenues have gone up 18%. As a result we've shrunk from 7400 employees down to 6600 today. And what we're trying to deal with here in this next few weeks is a gap of \$116 million. That's more than 15% of our revenues. And we're looking at additional shortfalls in the following year and the following year and the following years. The proposed budget that the manager put together, and was put out on May 3rd that everybody's had a chance to look at includes recommendations for \$62 million worth of service reductions, and layoffs, in order to close that \$116 million gap. One of the alternatives to that is the direction the council's given to seek a 10% reduction in pay and benefits from our employees in order to avoid service cuts and layoffs. If we don't get those kinds of concessions we'll shrink from 6600 employees down to 5600 employees in the next fiscal year. Over the last 24 hours or so we've received some proposals for concessions. I think that's a good thing. Preliminary estimate of the value is about \$20 million of one time savings to the General Fund. That's a good start but it still leaves over \$40 million in service reductions even if we were able to come to agreement on all of the proposed concessions and we're not there yet so we have a lot of work to do. And -- but we do have some opportunities. The council will be considering contracts with most of our bargaining units over the next few weeks. Council will have to make some decisions about concessions versus layoffs and service cuts. And we'll do it all out in public and you're all welcome to attend all of those meetings in addition to tonight. So for tonight, we have a lot of people who want to talk. It looks like everybody left still wants to speak, and that's okay. We're still again allowing one minute per speaker so when I call your name please come on down towards the front. But what I would like to do, I have cards for everybody. I'd like to see if there are, it's about 9:00. Students should be going home to do their homework and get ready for school tomorrow. So if there are students here who need to go to school tomorrow, and like to get home to do your homework, I'd like to take your testimony first. So students, come on down and I'll take you out of order. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: So I'm only going to do this on the promise that you'll go home and do your homework. Although you should have been doing your homework when you were listening to the boring stuff earlier. Give me your name so I can pull your name out of the stack.

>> Thank you, Mr. Mayor. My name is Amanda Aldama I represent district 7 on the youth commission. Hello. I'm here to offer suggestions on the budget crisis. So I understand that library hours and staff are proposed to be reduced. However this will hurt youth the most and San José State students especially that go to MLK library. A possibility to maintain these services that would be for the city to look into a work study program where the students can earn credit and also, the services would still be maintained for the community and the students as well. Another option, instead of reducing library branch hours to three days a week would be to open the libraries at a later time in the afternoon, rather than in the mid morning, when students are in school. Also, because a shift in the hours would allow more youth to take advantage of the library resources, and also have a safe place to learn and gather. To conclude, community centers and the citywide sports program also allow youth to have positive outlets so please take these suggestions under consideration and thank you so much and I will do my homework tonight.

>> Mayor Reed: Thank you. [cheering and applause]

>> Hello, my name is Rosaline Dhaliwal, I'm from district 8. District 8 is greatly lacking for programs reserved solely for teens. The programs for District 8 currently provide, they're for children 12 and under and for senior citizens. Any teen programs such as those in the East Valley YMCA and the Boys and Girls Club are located in the northern end of district 8, and they are at risk for elimination. These centers are located far from the two high schools Evergreen valley high school and silver creek high school, these centers in these areas will be greatly beneficial for all the youth attending the high schools and living in the area. As they will keep them safe and provide a place for mentoring and tutoring. I recommend an evenly distributed budget among the residents of all ages opposed to an elimination of certain programs. Current programs have changed so many lives and the sports programs have raised the confidence levels of many youth, so please consider the risk of eliminating these safe havens for youth. Thank you. [applause]

>> Okay, hi, my name is Mariam Khan, and I understand that many of the community centers will be going on a reuse cycle list, because of the current budget situation. However, a few of the centers on that list must be saved. Such centers as the Washington Youth United and Gardner, have been identified by the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force itself as gang hot spots. These centers provide Public Safety to the community and are safe places for our teens. Basically the list of centers must be ranked on need and you will realize that centers such as Washington youth are needed by the economically disadvantaged and by teens who hardly have a voice and who need a safe spot away from the gang invisible boundaries. Please keep that in mind when you're making your decision. Thank you so much! [applause]

>> Hello, my name is Roseo and I want you guys not to close the centers because not only me that use the center, there's a lot of people that use the centers. So especially because I play soccer there and there's more activities and I would like for -- I would like not to close -- like for you guys not to close it. It doesn't only help me, it helps all of us, like all the like young people like all of them and please like I would like you guys not to close them. Thank you. [applause]

>> My name is Aron carrerra and I'm here tonight representing district 3 and all the youth in our district. I'm really concerned about the deduction in funds for the youth centers. I wouldn't like to see the centers closing because unfortunately there is a big issue with gangs involving our youth. And I wouldn't like to see any more crime involving our youth in our city so if please keep our centers open so that the youth don't have to be scared of walking to a youth center or walking home. And if you keep the centers open you're going to save a lot of lives. And please let's do, let's make San José the safest city in the country. And keep our centers open. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Tony Nguyen. This is Dakota Nguyen. We live in district 2. Couple of points. First of all, I hope you enforce the children's bill of rights and towards their education. Given the choice between crossing guards and home work centers, I choose homework centers, two workers can organize 1600 volunteers and those volunteers are the civically minded, they are the ones that will build your next generation. Third thing, the library. It's \$35 per head per year. That's a bargain. This is \$100 worth of children's books right here, four books. This little one eats ten of these a week. She reads voraciously. In any case acknowledge the libraries are the best bang for the buck. In any case, please support the libraries. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hello. My name's Rosaldo Reles and I'm a youth leader at the MACSA intervention center. I'm here to represent our youth, not just any district. I'm here to represent the youth. I ask you to please reconsider the cuts, closing those youth centers would be like closing the doors to the future. We are the future and therefore I believe we deserve a right to educate ourselves to have the same chances and opportunities you guys have. MACSA has been open for more than 40 years and I'm sure a lot of you guys have heard about it you know if not your family members and such. Therefore I don't believe you guys should make budget cuts, because we are the future, you know, I'm sure -- I don't know how to put it you know, I'm speaking from my heart. I'm not rigging this, you know, and I would just sincerely ask you to reconsider. Because I mean a lot of us come in this part of the family --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Cally Rose Stork. I'm 11 years old, and I'm in hilltop 4H. I have two pigs and a steer. I go down to the barn two times a day to feed my animals and take care of them. I train them for a minimum of two hours, and I am very passionate about my projects. I feel safe when I go to Emma Prusch park. When the rangers at Emma Prusch park are there, they do a wonderful job of keeping free from trouble to -- so I can feel safe. When I come to do my work, I realize that the location of the neighborhood it has its share of troubles. But when I'm in the park I do not feel that way. It is my opinion that -- if we remove the rangers from their post, the troubles of the park on the streets will come to the park.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hello, my name is Martha Smith and I am from hilltop 4H and I am here to represent the rangers of Emma Prusch park. Currently I have seven animals at this park and thankfully for the rangers they help protect not only me, my little brother but my animals. They keep young kids from feeding them and they educate them and it's -- I appreciate their help. So please, keep them here, and they'll do their job. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Jamie I'm also here for hilltop 4H. I'm here to tell you that we have almost a thousand kids for 4H. Without our rangers we'll be taking away a very valuable opportunity for the youth in our community. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening. My name is James McAllister. I attend Willow Glen high school I also go to the Alma community center. We need to keep all of the centers open, not just Alma. Every single one. They keep our kids identity of trouble. The community centers do good, a whole lot of good. Councilmember Nguyen, I believe we've met before at the Alma community center and it's just a great opportunity for some kids, they've never been able to be a part of. And so we need to keep these community centers open, not just Alma, every single one. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, everyone, my name is Lesha Lopez. I'm here against the budget cut for our community centers and libraries. Many people in the community use these resources to build upon their education as well as help kids stay out of trouble. And because future -- and to become future leaders. I hope you take this in consideration for a better foundation to keep funding our programs. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hello everyone my name is Revue Ignez. I'm from district 3 but I represent all districts here. I'm here against the budget cuts. I don't understand that you guys want to reduce the cuts and fundings for some programs. But I strongly believe that cutting some of those funding is like taking education away from some students. Um -- and I believe that that's not right. It's like we hold the key to the future, as well as to the present. And taking away our libraries and our recreation centers is like taking away the key to the doors that have opened to us. Those libraries provide us with information that help us build upon our education. [cheering and applause]

>> And the recreation centers are a way to help students get help with homework, they have tutors, and great leaders. They provide --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Thank you.

>> Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Raul Cervantes. I have been attending the youth center for four years. I am president of the youth center and I am proud of that title. The ideas for this center are endless. Aside from daily activities we already have such as dodge ball, bingo, Foosball, and arts and crafts, we come up with more activities to improve our youth center. Some of the ideas we would like to accomplish would be impossible if our youth centers would be closed down. With our center closed down the youth would be more likely to do drugs and get into gangs. Taking the youth center away from us would be like taking the fun away from our lives. Thank you for your time and I ask you please do not close the Los Paseos youth center down.

>> Hi. My name is mattie and I'm 14 years old. The environment makes me feel safe and if it shuts down I wouldn't know what to do. I've been going here for almost four years and honestly they've been some of the best four years of my life. The youth center opens up many doors and holds many opportunities not only for me but for the teens that go there. I have changed and matured since going there, I would want all the future teens going there to have an experience that I've had for the past years. I'm vice president of the youth center and have so many ideas only if the youth center stays open. So please please please please keep the Los Paseos youth center open. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi name is April Rivera and I'm one of the kids that go to the lose Paseos youth center. I think closing down the youth center is a wrong decision to make. The reason we think that is it's our second home. Where else would we go after school if you close the center down? Do you want us on the streets or would you rather have us be able to do fun activities and be well supervised by the staff? As a girl I feel safe at the youth center and trust me all parents can't afford to put us in a facility that cost money. If the parents didn't care where the kids went then we wouldn't be here. Please do us a favor and keep us safe by keeping the Los Paseos youth center up and running. Thank you.

>> My name is Shabina Zandiwali, and I've been attending Los Paseos youth center for about two years. The teen center isn't just a place where you come and go, it's like a second home. They say a key word in life is communicating. Well, I know if I have a problem that I can't explain to my parents there is always somebody there for me. They're really supportive I know what you must be thinking, why keep a place like this open? I bet if you closed it down you would have all these intelligent kids doing jobs and being in gangs. Because these kids these days fall under pressure. On one leaders have taught us much teach me how to communicate with respect showed me what life is made of. Don't close down the place where I can be free. [applause]

>> Hello, just want to say hi. My name is Jason Harper and I'm here today to prevent Los Paseos youth center from being closed down. I don't want it to close down. All I do in the activities are make -- the activities that it provides for me. I like playing the sports there like if the youth center closed down, fit closed down, I want to know what to do. Last Friday, the teen center was closed and I was really bored and I didn't know what to do. I can't even imagine what the teen center was really closed down, I would really have knowing to do. Please don't close the youth center down, thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Garlanini Heng, and I'm the district 5 youth commissioner. District 5 has the highest amount of youth of all the districts of San José. Many of these youth have been or so are involved in some way with the youth centers, especially the Alum Rock youth center located in the heart of my district. It serves both James Lick High School and Palla Middle School students, providing the youth there with an essential, healthy and safe environment for them to grow. And as youth commissioner I am both fully aware and understanding of the budget deficit. However if you say that the youth are our future, then make us your priority. Keep our youth related services. Thank you. [applause]

>> My name is Virgil.

>> My name is Mikey.

>> My name is Justine.

>> They all go to the Alma youth center. They have fun there. They play games, they play sports. And they really love it. The one thing that you could ask them, if they want to go to the youth center or go play at the park with mommie, they pick number 1, the youth center. Please don't close the youth center for my children. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Jonathan and I've been going to the Alma youth center for about four months. I've been doing my homework lately, I've been staying out of trouble lately, it's a really cool place so I hope you don't close it down. Thank you. [applause]

>> My name is Alex, and I'm representing Alma and I wanted it to stay open because it keeps us out of trouble. [applause]

>> Hi, I'm Mitchell, I want Alma to stay open. I play games, and that's it. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Marian and I'm a volunteer at the Alma youth center. Even though my daughter is in candahar, Afghanistan fighting in the war getting bombed at every day and my 17-year-old son was just diagnosed with leukemia and he's at the Children's Hospital I take time out of my life away from my kids to stand here today to fight for these kids. Because I've seen so much progress come, you know, just seen a lot of progress with these kids, and how they've grown and just the change that the center has helped them make. And I just think that it would be a shame for you guys to close the center. I think that these kids deserve a chance and just you know please keep it open. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Lorena, I've been going to the Alma center for about three years. I just go there, I do my homework, I have friends, I stay out of trouble, I'm not in the streets as much and it just -- it feels safe there. And it's just helped me through a lot. So yeah, please keep the Alma center open. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Raul Carrera and I have been going to the youth center for Washington, since I was eight years old. And I think you shouldn't close the center. Because I have not been in the streets lately. And it helps me a lot. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is José de Guzman. I'm representing the Washington youth center and I do not believe you should close the youth center down. I used to go, used to be a youth there. It is a place where not only youth can go, it's not necessarily they get taught, it's a place for them to go and have a good time. You know, it's not -- it's just a safe place off the street. You know, that's just what we want. That's exactly why we're open, that's the only reason we should be open. Regardless of what else goes on, it's a safe place. I go to San José State, and with the help of my mentors, they help me attend San José State, they push me to continue to go to school. And I need to do something in return to my community, and the center should not be closed down. Thank you. [applause]

>> I'm just in a hurry to get home to my three kids. My name is Frank Cortez, and I am president of the Alum Rock business association. As president of the Alum Rock business association I'm here tonight on behalf of the businesses of the Alum Rock area to implore you to keep the Alum Rock youth center open. Without it the neighborhood will suffer as well as the businesses of the area. The parents will have to pay for after school programs to keep their children active, straining their already tight budgets. Parents who cannot afford it might get into bad choices and get into trouble with nowhere to go. Please don't punish your children for your bad financial decisions. [cheering and applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Next I want to let the folks down here who need the podium lower to testify, to just come and testify, in order, if you're lined up, so we can get this down to a height where you can speak.

>> Hello. My name is Tracy Book and this is Gary Book and we've been part of the OTS program for a little over 14 years now. Gary plays power soccer at Alviso community center and I understand with the cuts in the OTS program you are looking for alternatives to our program but please, can you make sure we get at least the same quality of service that we have been getting and that our services are not lowered to where they won't have a program or they'll have very limited access to a program. They're limited as it is, but to limit them more really, really would be bad for them. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening. My name is Anya Patel. I'm 22 years old and I'm speaking on behalf of the office of therapeutic services. I'm here as a supporter of the athletes, volunteers and staff. I've been involved for ten years, first as an athlete, now I'm a volunteer for programs that are available for younger children and I also am a athlete for a basketball program. One question I have for you is how can I help? Do I go to councilmembers of my area? Different nonprofit organizations? What can I do? And I would also like to address something about the hubs. I --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Okay, thank you. [applause]

>> The San José steamrollers are a wheelchair soccer team that play games and practices at Alviso youth center. We play with 60 other teams across the country. This team has provided me the opportunity to be an athlete, and create lifelong friendships. The athletes come from a variety of areas across San José, therefore, the hub model would be somewhat ineffective. And cause for future elimination in the future. In 2003 we were honored by then mayor Reed for winning the national championship in 2003. If OCS is eliminated then no one will be able to achieve anything. As we cannot achieve this together. Because it would split us up. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening. My name is Jimmy Doarte. I'm a representative of OTS. I've been working with the program for 17 years of my life. I can't see a good program to go to waste like that by shutting down OTS. We wouldn't have any survival needs without OTS. They give us therapy, they give us friends and they give us many supports to our local youth centers. We use the local youth centers so why not keep them open as well? So for closing down one things hurts us all. That's all there is to it. How can I become a productive member of society, wanting to work for the City of San José, if there is no City of San José for me to work at? That's it. [applause]

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed and esteemed councilmembers. My name is Jenny Mitchell and I'm a member of the San José steam rollers as I have been for a number of years. We have all learned that education is key, knowledge is power, your residents here have told you that. Knowledge is power. And I don't think that you know enough about our program. I don't think you know what our program provides for disabled people like all of us down here. So therefore, I would like to invite you to our tournament this coming weekend. We have 35 athletes coming down to play for two days of power soccer games. I don't know where else you would get that. But the City of San José has been extremely important in sponsoring us. I don't, haven't seen you at our practices. We won the western regional tournament at San José State last March and I haven't seen you there so I would like to personally hand over these invitations to all of you to come see us play and come see what your program supports, see what can you do for us. Thank you. [applause]

>> I'm Anna, and I'm representing the office of therapeutic services. I started this program 16 years ago at a junior sports camp in San José. Through San José I learned about a program called wheels on fire. This program has enabled me to compete in wheelchair sports, traveling across California and the United States. It has -- what's it called, it has expanded my social exponentially. I recently joined the adult program called the San José spokes and I still volunteer for wheels on fire every Saturday. I'm now in college and I am majoring in recreational therapy because of this program. It has inspired me to do that. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, thanks for having us tonight. My name's Mike Ely, I'm a recreation leader for the City of San José and I've been a coach for the sports camp for disabled youth for 26 years. That depends on the city support and services. I've also been a coach for disabled student programs, wheels on fire for 20 years. This program has sent juniors and adult athletes to the paralympic games for over 20 years. I've worked with these kids and young adults and watched them grow up from college and become solid citizens in other communities and around the United States. And some of the other programs such as fitness, weight training, tennis, bowling I'm a participant also. There are many people that depend on these programs because it is one of the few activities that they can even do. Cutting any or all of these OTS services for the disabled will be a tragedy of monumental proportions for

these individuals and the community of San José as a whole. I'm here to ask for you to save these disabled programs for all the community in San José. [applause]

>> I'll wrap it up for all these people. My name is Don Perry, resident of district 10. I'm a coach of the San José steam rollers which is a disabled sports soccer program that's funded by the City of San José by the office of therapeutic services. I strongly urge you to keep the office of therapeutic services. I've heard angel Rios talk about we're going to keep the disabled programs and move them into the community centers. If you eliminate the OTS, which really provides a framework and advocate for people with disabilities in the city, that will be the first step in the demise of the program, disabled programs for people like this that you've heard speak. I strongly urge you on behalf of all the disabled people in San José to keep funding the office of therapeutic services. It is a great gem in the City of San José. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Thank you. I'm going to start calling some names. My estimated time to be finished with the testimony is somewhere around midnight. So we have a lot of people that still want to speak. And we'll just call a few and come on down, please, to be close to the front. So it cuts the transit sometime. San Gerinaldo, Esther Medina, Cynthia Bojorquez.

>> My name is Esther Medina. And I was director of MACSA for 20 years. We opened the youth center 15 years ago with the understanding that it was a collaborative effort, where the school would provide the land for a dollar a year, the city would provide the maintenance and the utilities and MACSA would leverage all kinds of youth providers to come in with us, to provide a continuum of services all in one place. I think it's a good investment for the city. There's -- it's right in the middle, people criticize us, why are you putting a youth center there. It's in the middle of 17 gangs, you know. I mean we don't want to put little Mickey Mouse things out there. We put them where the services are needed. A lot of the -- a lot of the people here, you know, have the same problems, and if you go and you know disrupt all the service programs, you're going to either pay for it now or you're going to pay for it later that is --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry the time is up.

>> That's the truth right there.

>> Mayor Reed: Sam Dramaldo, Cynthia Bojorquez and then Celia Ramirez.

>> Hello Mayor Reed, City Manager Figone, and council members. I'm pretty sure you all know me. I'm one of those employees that helps set up for all of your committee events and press conferences with a smile on my face. Tonight I come to you saddened, letting you all know I'm one of those employees that will be affected if our mayor, City Manager, and council votes on laying off facility attendants and contracting out custodial staff. I was born and raised in San José and I've been working with the city for 13 years. In the 13 years with the city I have accumulated close to 1200 hours of sick leave to show my appreciation and dedication in being part of what I think is a great city. In these past 13 years with the city I have met wonderful people who are now like family, and to find out my family is willing to let a few employees that make the least amount of money in the city go really hurts my heart. Tonight I plead to you all please reconsider contracting out custodial staff. There are other positions in the city that will help our budget other than targeting the employees that make the least amount of money in the city. Please help keep open the community centers and libraries. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Cynthia Bojorquez.

>> In the next month you will make difficult decisions regarding the city's budget. You will ask yourself how account city afford to provide services. In the case of the MACSA youth center, the question should be, can you afford not to. I know this council is driven by a sense of values. Public safety, strong neighborhoods, and collaboration. The MACSA youth center supports those values on a daily basis. Last Halloween two young people were stabbed in district 5. As a member of the mayor's organic task force, buildings strong families and providing safe places for young people is what we do at the youth center. Our gem is a tremendous asset to the community and is open Monday through Friday until 10:00 p.m. Your subsidy makes this possible. We use the City's dollars to leverage outside funds so that we can offer preschool programs, family literacy, recreation music and dance

instruction. Unlike many of the new hubs that were built as a result of measure P funds the district 5 hub was built with far less programming space because the MACSA youth --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Celia Martinez, Paula Martinez, Mary Rios. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Celia Ramirez. I'm here to share my personal experience. My daughters have been participating in the MACSA football clinic for a year. Our experience has been very positive. It saddens me to hear that the center might be closed. The mentoring and the soccer skills have brought my daughters self esteem. It is nice that they have a safe place to go and learn and stay fit. It doesn't matter on the soccer scales, MACSA teaches all levels and makes them feel equal. Everybody doesn't get -- teaches to don't give up stay positive respect others and most important to stay in school. Please don't close the center. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Paula Martinez, Mary Rios, Francisco Robles.

>> Good evening, mayor, council and city manager. I'm not here to talk about what the unions are are not doing but to speak on behalf of one of our employees personal plight. Did you know City Hall custody can an John Clera is scheduled to retire in September of this year, with 15 years of service, isn't that great, but he just received a layoff effect, it is going to leave him six days shive of qualifying for medical for life. John is an excellent employee. He always used to have a smile, now his smile is forced. John's upbeat demeanor has been replaced with internal sadness, despair and stress. This is not right, the right way for any employee nearing retirement to be treated and to have to put through. What possibly can the mayor, council and city manager do for employees like custodian John Clera as he is not the only employee dealing with this and who are within weeks and months from retirement. A possible solution? Make them part-time with benefits. I know when crunching the numbers and trying to balance the huge deficit you don't see the face of employees or personal impact. How would each one of you feel having to come to workday in and day out in silent anguish with not uncertainty that you'll be losing medical benefits because you are a few months shy of 15 years of dedicated. Please help John Serra.

>> Mayor Reed: Mary Rios, Francisco Robles, Daniella Chavez

>> Peace be with you all. I just wanted to say thank you God for I work at Gardner community center. I wanted to thank God for putting me in Gardner community center because not only I have found a job there, I have a second home. I look daily to going to work there. The staff pick me up, the kids pick me up, it's better than a home and family environment. To piggyback, one of the kids on a daily basis reminds me I'm his best friend. I don't know if your co-workers or people you serve consider you a best friend. Please keep our centers open you are here elected by the people for the people and pleats remember that. The voice is loud, we fee need to save our centers and our libraries. Thank you, good evening.

>> Mayor Reed: Daniela Sanchez, Eva Sanchez, Emma Chavez. Pat Saucedo.

>> Hello everybody, I'm here to represent Gardner community center for the seniors. I don't want you to close the center because I'm a part of it and I also do volunteer work. I've been working at the center it's been four generations, my mother worked there volunteered, I worked there volunteered, my daughter, grand kids go there, you can't close the center because we wouldn't have anywhere to go. You can't do that. Election year, this is it, right? Know in November don't you all want to be revoted again? Don't close the centers down, thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Daniela Chavez Eva Chavez, Will Bick, Pat Saucedo.

>> Good evening, mayor and everybody and Sam Liccardo. My name is Eva Chavez and I've been working 22 years for the City of San José and for MACSA out of the Olinder community center. I have dedicated all these years to keep children clean cut, to keep them out of jail, out of juvenile hall. And I hope that the CDBG will continue to fund our program. Because if they don't, those children, they go to Olinder school, come to Olinder center are going to be very unsafe. That whole community as a whole is going to suffer. They will be recruited by gangs or they will be left alone at home. So you know, I really, really respect your decisions. But I want you to keep that in mind. Don't close the MACSA latch key program that has been there for 22 years. Because the parents need you, the children need you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Pat Saucedo. Followed by Will Bick, Liz Hunt, and Lewis Shear.

>> Mayor and council, Pat Saucedo, San José Silicon Valley chamber of commerce. No easy solutions. I am going to mention four things, not the only thing to be done but the business community and the chamber believe they will be the foundation for rebuilding a long term sustainable budget. One, adopt the 10% across-the-board salary and benefit package reduction the mayor has asked for in this coming budget year. Two, relax policy criteria and expand the ability of the city management to contract out noncore city services to the private and nonprofit sectors. 3, do not increase fees and charges for business and residents during this difficult economic time. Reduce revenue and more closed small businesses will not improve your revenue stream over the next two years. And 4, commit yourselves to rein in unsustainable expenditures by pursuing two-tier pensions and benefit packages in upcoming bargaining for future employees.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up. Will Bick followed by Liz Hunt and Lewis Sheer.

>> Hello, good evening. Thank you for the time to speak. I'm Will Bick, on behalf of the San José park rangers, I'm also a visitor to the parks, I love going to them. I want to encourage you to seek alternative proposals to the proposed cuts to the ranger program. Some of which have been proposed by my colleagues and myself in meetings with certain members of the council. The parks are a great place, and the whole reason that the ranger program is there is because, in earlier times, the citizens said, hey, these places are a mess, we can't go to our parks and visits in peace and enjoy our days. We want to continue to make those parks those nice places and as a visitor I want to see them stay that way too. All the money we put in the city has invested it would be sad disappointing and disgusting to see the parks go back to what they used to be before the program was there, so please seek alternatives. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Liz Hunt, followed by Lewis Sheer, Janey Reed and Marina Solis.

>> Hi, mayor and city council. Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight. My name is Liz Hunt. I'm the CEO of the Indian Health Center. Two of our HNVF programs are going to be cut entirely, and I've come to speak to you about one in particular, our American Indian Youth Empowerment Program. This program teaches our American Indian youth self esteem coping skills health education, healthy anything, physical activity and especially American Indian cultural traditions. Those traditions include weekly talking circles, sweat lodge ceremonies, traditional healing ceremonies, and drumming and traditional dancing classes. By teaching our youth about their American independencan culture it keeps them from gangs drugs and violence. American Indian youth have the highest rate of suicide and violence of any group. All of our youth group members live in hot spots of the city. And the American Indian culture is the best way to support these youth. This is the only program in the county that focuses on the American Indian culture.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Lewis Sheer, Janey Reed, Marina Solis. Ramin Naderi, Megan Lee, Amy Garland Tang. Some of these people have already testified. When I call your name please come down. Ben Field, Martin Monica.

>> Mr. Mayor, members of the city council, my name is Ben Field. I work for the South Bay labor council. Yesterday, a coalition of community and labor leaders announced a community budget that closes the City's budget shortfall without cuts to essential services. Parts of the alternative community budget may be criticized as one time savings that do not address the city's long term budgetary problems. Let me suggest that we have our hands full with the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Getting through fiscal year '10 and '11 without cutting essential services would be a major accomplishment, and it should be the city's highest priority. Santa Clara County and other counties like San Francisco are using one time budget cuts for getting through this budget

crisis, why because it is a better alternative than cutting essential services. You have a choice. You can choose some one-time cuts and preserve city services, or you can cut those services.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up.

>> Please choose a solution for all of us, thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Martin Monica.

>> Hello. My name is Martin Monica. I'm here as a law enforcement officer, I don't think any other officer will be here. And I think if I was still in San José PD I would go with the 10% cut because our kids are children of the future. We need to keep the centers open and all the other services to keep them out of the bad scenarios. And if we don't, then we don't care about our children. We need to go forward with the 10%, I believe that will make it keep the centers open and keep our children back on track. As a teacher I see the importance of the centers, I'm out there teaching and without the centers the kids will be out there doing gangs and being involved and also be victimized by other people. So I urge you to look at the 10% cut and keep the centers open. Thank you. [applause]

>> My name is Ramin Nadari, I represent Indian health center for San José American Indian youth program. Our program has been operating for the past ten years. We've received HNVF funding for about more over seven years, and for many years myself have spent many, many hours with our youth, trying to prevent them from joining the -- all the bad influences by teaching them about tobacco prevention, violence prevention, gang prevention, pregnancy prevention, teen health disease prevention and so on. Most of our kids live in the designated areas as hot spots and they are in desperate need of the funding to continue. Please find alternative funding to pay for services for American Indian youth. Otherwise, where will they go? [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Osvaldo Welas, Jennie Mitchell, Luis Rocha Jr., Jimmy Duarte. Jim Clark Moore. Patricia Munos.

>> Thank you, mayor and city council members for the opportunity to speak with you tonight. My name is Luis Rocha, Jr. and I live in the Evergreen area. I'm speaking tonight as the president of the MACSA board of directors. MACSA's youth center programs and our latchkey programs are critical for the Mayfair district and the Eastside. Due to the limited time, I would like to acknowledge the dozens of youth, their families and staff that were here tonight expressing their support for MACSA's programs. We also had here tonight dozens of youth and their family from Australia who are competing in our indoor soccer tournament at our youth center that passed up going to the Golden Gate Bridge to show their international solidarity with the youth of San José! I believe we can find a way to balance this budget without pitting people against each other, creative solutions will save services. We are one city, choose a exclusion for all of us. Thank you for your time.

>> Mayor Reed: Jim Clark Moore, followed by Patricia Munos and Reverend Rebecca Keikel.

>> Good evening, I'm Jim Clark Moore from District 6 and a pastor in the Santa Clara County Lutheran parish. I am also a former business owner, and I would like to address a return on investment in your budget priorities. When I was a youth pastor in the Richmond Menker SNI, I watched many young people languish from lost school programs, no youth center, no parks, no library, no roll models and no opportunity to escape the street. This was a huge cost to San José in both policing and property damage. My business alone had one \$15,000 theft. As a businessman I look at this as being a penny wise and pound foolish priority. Levy attacks. Don't sacrifice our youth. But there is a second nondollar cost to this. The cost of lost dreams, lost future, lost hope, lost children. As a apastor I beg you do not sacrifice the health and well-being of our vulnerable. Do not sacrifice our widows and orphans. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Christy Munos, Rebecca Keiken, Elizabeth Morrow. Reverend.

>> Reverend Rebecca Keiken with some of the voice. Director of the interfaith council on economics and justice. Thank you, Councilwoman Pyle, Nguyen, thank you, councilmember Chu and Kalra, for your moral compass that sets its sights on an alternative comprehensive solution to our budget. Thank you for your gifts of

intelligence, imagination and analysis, and thank you for your willingness to reject unnecessary budget cuts and instead to adopt creative solutions to save city services. Thank you on behalf of colleagues in the faith community and our community itself. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Angel Mendosa and then Beth Gonzales are next.

>> Thank you, mayor and councilmembers. I'm Sajata Vancutramen from West Vally Community Services. I'm here talking on behalf of the seniors who access our food pantry, these are very essential services and I'm requesting that the mayor and council look at because these are the services that the seniors depend on. The seniors are on fixed income. That income doesn't change but the cost of living changes. The seniors are able to save close to 200 to \$300 using the food pantry. We wish we could get more seniors here but because of the unreliable transportation and the cost of transportation, they're not here, and I'm representing them and their opinions. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Angel Mendosa, Beth Gonzales, Carlos Barahona, Dennis Hagerty, Bob Brownstein. Hector Ramirez. Sara Armes Gonzales. Bob, looks like you win the race. Go ahead, you go first.

>> Bob Brownstein: I wasn't even walking very fast. Mayor Reed and members of the council. We can balance this budget and save our critical services but to do that we have to acknowledge a couple of realities. First we have to recognize that we're going to have to struggle to save our services year after year after year. We're in the worst recession since the 1930s and under these conditions no level of government, not the country, the state, the county, or the city, can solve all of its fiscal problems for all time. To attempt a fully ongoing solution to this budget situation, is simply to raise false hopes and to produce tragic outcomes. Secondly, we have to recognize that we must stick together as a city. Youth, nonprofits, unions, churches, elected officials, all of us, because if at the end of this process we have a balanced budget and a divided city we will have failed and we will have failed terribly.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Bob Brownstein: Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Alana Solis, Dave Gonzales, Darcy Green.

>> I'm Dennis Hagerty. I'm here representing the Alum youth center. Some of you know there were hundreds of children here this evening that came to see city government in action. We brought 40. They had to return home because it was getting past their bed times. We understand the difficulty of trying to balance the budget. And we understand that there are differences of opinion about how to go about doing that. But we need to focus on what we share in common. I don't think anyone in this room wants to see services cut, libraries closed, community centers closed, youth centers closed and therefore we encourage the mayor, city council members, city administration, labor, and the community, to come together and open dialogue in a respectful way to examine the alternatives and in the spirit of cooperation and conciliation, and compromise, come up with a solution that's going to get us through this storm this year and then continue a dialogue for the ensuing years. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Alana Solis, Dave Gonzales, Darcy Green.

>> Good evening, I'm Dave Gonzales and I represent St. John Vianni pact, people acting in community together. And I'd like to speak very passionately in favor of the continued operation of the Alum Rock youth center. We've heard tonight some very compelling testimony about how important the Alum Rock youth center is and indeed how the other youth centers are, too. I think it's a simple proposition to say that we either get a 10% reduction, in compensation for our city employees, or we reduce the city workforce to 5600 employees. That would be very quick and that would be very surgical and perhaps for a little while it would solve the structural problem in the budget. But I want to suggest that our vital services deserve the opportunity to be funded, if only for one more year. Every year that we continue these services, we make this city safe.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> We save our community.

>> Mayor Reed: Darcy Green. To be followed by Denesha Washington and Joseph Leung.

>> Hi. The Alum Rock youth center changed the course of my life. It helped me to build a better relationship with my neighborhood, with my church, and with my family. I have heard each of you at one time or another express your commitment to the future of our city, and I believe very much in your commitment. So I'm not going to explain to you the necessary role youth centers in our communities play. You all know the lasting negative impact every center closing would have on our youth, our families, our neighborhood and on our future. Tonight is not the time for education. This is time for innovative compassionate leadership. Our communities have arrived here United. Please do not close our youth centers, please do not punish our working families. Instead choose to be creative. We are one city, choose a solution for all of us. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Deni-sha Washington, Joseph Leung, Dennis Martin, Anthony Stazinski, Joe Horwedel -- oh, sorry. Nina Camath. And Mark Kilihanapuli.

>> Good evening, pair and council I'm Dennis Martin. I'm chair of the San José arts commission and I'm here tonight to talk about arts education and the transit occupancy tax fund. Tonight you awarded the arts -- champion of arts education awards, next year's budget eliminates that program. It also eliminates a 31-year-old arts express program which gives tens of thousands of students the opportunity to see professional arts organizations up close and personal. We ask that you delay these cuts and direct the City Manager to work with the arts commission to find alternative means of delivery. Additionally the budget calls for the raid on the T.O.T. funds for another \$160,000 to pay for staff. We ask that you do not make that raid, and that you find other ways to deliver that. Thank you very much. And I call your attention to a letter that I've submitted to each of you. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hello, councilmembers, my name is Anthony Stachinski, and I am the president of Kamali'i 'O Ke Kai Outrigger Canoe Club. We're a club based in Lake Cunningham Park. It has been proposed to cut funding to the enhanced park services at the Marina of the Park. Lake Cunningham has been our home since 1988, sponsoring over a thousand San José citizens over the past 27 years. The proposed cuts put not only the park service's jobs at risk but access to an already limited community resource. We ask that you consider the positive influence that Lake Cunningham has on our community and the support the Services and jobs it provides. On behalf of our club I would like to thank you all for allowing us to use the lake to practice and as our home, thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, councilmembers, staff and citizens. My name is Mark Kilihanapuli. I have been a resident of Santa Clara County for 42 years. I am the coach of Kamali'i 'O Ke Kai and have been paddling for 29 years, in which I have coached 10 of those years at our practice site, Lake Cunningham Park, a place we call home. Kamali'i is the only San José outrigger club that offers a unique experience in the sport, culture, and family values of Polynesian canoe paddling. Our presence at Lake Cunningham gives an opportunity to citizens of all cultures, both young and old, an opportunity to participate in a sport that has been around for hundreds of years. It teaches individuals what team spirit is all about, what it takes for a crew of six to paddle as one. A sense of working not as one but as a team to succeed in achieving a goal, Lokahi, unity. This is what Kamali'i is all about, unifying a group of citizens from different backgrounds, teaching the values of Ohana, family, culture, participation and achievement. Many citizens have experienced the art of outrigger canoe racing, and some have never heard of such a sport or have had to travel far to experience here San José.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Cheryl Garcia. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Followed by Tony Nguyen and Casey Ong.

>> Good evening, councilmembers, Mayor, my name is Cheryl Garcia and I'm an outrigger paddler with Kamali'i 'O Ke Kai. I'm speaking on behalf of my personal experience as I grew up in the Evergreen valley, District 8,

attended school, and now the property tax paying voting citizen, purchased my home within this community in district 8. Lake Cunningham has been a permanent fixture in my youth. The lake has been a consistent resource for inland water access boating, fishing, sailing and paddling. That is a part of the fabric of our Evergreen community. Accessible unless you drive out 25 miles north or south. The lake and marina has always been available, and I would like my daughter to grow up and have the same experience and opportunity in this community to fish, sail, boat or paddle. Closing down the marina and having no access to the lake would be a huge impact on the community and our club that has been using the lake as its home practice site for over 20 years. We appreciate your time and consideration to listen to our club this evening and welcome each and every one of you to come out to see the local Polynesian spirit where we have within our community at water in Lake Cunningham. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Melanie Helmke. Dana Bainbridge Keith turner Omar Torrez. Yolanda Cruz.

>> Good evening, I'm Melanie Helmke. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you. It has been a year since I stood before you to ask you not to cut our city ranger program. I'm back before you tonight to ask you to honor the same request. I can't tell you enough how important our rangers are for our city parks. I have recently taken two pay cuts at work so that I may retain my own job. We have three small children in the family, and with no money, city parks have become our source of entertainment. We choose the city parks that have the rangers since these feel the safest and the cleanest of the parks. It is the rangers who make it that way. The city needs our rangers to keep our parks free from gangs, graffiti, and drunks. We need our rangers as the first responders that they are for emergencies that happen. These include injuries, big and small, fights, fires, and lost children. We all know the first few minutes after a child goes missing are the most critical. It is rangers who have begun the search before the police even arrive. The city will not be saving money by removing these vital people. They will only allow for increased vandalism, damage to the park facilities --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you. [applause]

>> Mr. Mayor, city council, some of my paper plated friends have already visited you earlier. We are here to represent the voices of the 95129 and the 951 two 0 residents who will be losing their meals. Dramatically effect my organization, West valley community services and its ability to service residents in the west valley region. 2500 clients in West San José alone but if the proposed budget passes 82% of that population approximately 2,000 people already receiving service will no longer be able to access our pantry. This cut also means that WVCS will no longer be able to take on new clients from West San José, a population that makes up 43% of our clientele. It's a lot of numbers. It's a lot of hungry people. I hope you can see your way to fix it for us, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Yolanda Cruz, Omar Torrez. Anna Ryan. Mike Elix.

>> My name is Yolanda Cruz, and I am the president of AFSME-MEF union representing 2500 hardworking and dedicated employees in the City of San José. We are the front line staff providing the valuable services to the citizens of San José. We are at the libraries, community centers, police dispatch and records, code enforcement, airport operations and every other department in this city. Last year my union did make a sacrifice to save the valuable services, we the front line workers provide. AFSCME was the only union with a closed contract who did this. Yet in the City Manager's budget recommendations this year our group was once again hit the hardest. We are the work class families who live in San José, and who provide pride and services to our communities. It's time to put an end to the finger pointing. Real solutions that save valuable city services are needed not employee bashing and scare tactics. We are one city. Choose a solution for all of us. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Omar Torrez, Daniel Zeppien, Frank Cortez, who already spoke, Harvey Darnell.

>> Hello, good evening everybody, my name is Omar Torrez. I live out in the Alma community, past president of the neighborhood association and also proud AFSME member. And I'm here to tell you it doesn't matter where I live. Community centers across the city are extremely important. MACSA, Alum Rock, Gardner, Washington, Alma, you name it. These are community centers in areas that are in dire need of these important

services. Gangs try to prevail in these communities and they don't because of these community centers. They're extremely important to us. You know, creative solutions, save services, choose the solution for all of us, we are one city, one community, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Harvey Darnell, Daniel Zapian, Lewis Alfonso, Ahum Mata.

>> Mayor, councilmembers, colleagues, you see me all the time, you've seen me come before you at budget time the last nine, ten years, asking for more police and fire, more public safety. Now we're in a very troubling time where we're going to have to cut the police and fire. But we're also in a really troubling time where we're going to cut the safety net. The safety net is the libraries and the communities centers. We had wonderful kids who came here tonight of not having the safety of safe places to go if we cut our community centers and libraries. I just talked with Jane Light. She said about a thousand kids a day go through our library branches. If we cut that in half we are potentially putting 500 kids on the street with fewer police officers to protect them. I don't want to see kids at risk going into gangs. I don't want to see them at risk being harmed. Anything you can do, any compromises you can do to keep our libraries and community centers open will be appreciated.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up. Daniel Zeppia n followed by Luis Alfonso --

>> My name is Daniel, thank you to Sam Liccardo, he told us about all that stuff. Basically, if you guys close down the centers, you're going to have a lot of kids out there, police pull them over and give them tickets more bad for the parents who actually have to pay for tall tickets. On account of that that's kind of wrong and basically, like it's another home for us I mean a lot of people already look at us like we're social outcasts each time kids walk around. Over there everyone kind of opens their arms, cool to chill over here and just hang out so it's just like another home for us. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Luis Alfonso, Ahu Mada, Rosa P, Michelle Berry, Augustin Millen, Marion Jensen, Ramon Ramirez, Debbie M, Lourdes Nuno.

>> Good evening, mayor and council, my name is Rosa Perada from the Alma Neighborhood Association. We're here to just let you know that Alma community is in agreement with the most recent memorandum set forth by Vice Mayor Chirco, Councilman Sam Liccardo and Councilwoman Madison Nguyen. We support creative ideas to save services. Alma community is one of the most densely populated, historically impoverished and needy neighborhoods. The Alma Center needs your support. Be responsible, San José, keep Alma youth and senior center open. Thank you.

>> (indecipherable) My name is Debra Murillo. I'm here on behalf of the Alma neighborhood association, the Washington coalition. We need a creative situation to be lifted up to solve our deficit. We stand here united and we need our electeds to be united as well. We want to thank Councilmember Nguyen, Liccardo and Chirco, for the memo that they presented, and that's exactly what our city needs, creative solutions. That keeps our city and community whole. I'd also like to say one more thing real quickly. I'm also a member of the American Indian community, and our community, Alma community has a very large native American community, too. So in terms of youth services for a native American community, I support that also. I am a kid that had services, took advantages of all your service and went to U.C. system, went to college, et cetera, and I guess you can say a success story. So I support all youth programs. Thank you. [applause]

>> Dear mayor, and city council, and the managers, my name is Debra Yu. This is the subject of community service for zip code 95129, 95130. Because they do a very good job, and I think other place cannot substitute their good work. I was a college university instructor from Taiwan with master's degree from U.S., with a lot of money bring up to U.S., but as a single parent I was accused, falsely accused in court, and by court mistake I lost my money, I lost my time, I lost my career. So after then I rent a place, and after the flood, the homeowner give us a harsh persecution, and credit cards give high interest rate, penalties, my financial hardships become financial crisis. We are almost --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry ma'am your time is up. Lourdes Nuno is our next speaker, Sujata Kevat, Anna Maria Ramirez, Mark cougar.

>> Good evening, mayor and city council. This is a lot of layoff plans in the city. This is nothing compared to what's happening to the city employees at the convention center. Team San José is using the current crisis to get rid of 90% of the city employees. These are the employees that they promised to retain. Team San José is in violation of their contract with the city, and Team San José is in direct violation of council policy 0-29. How can the council and City Manager allow them to openly violate the city council policy? Team San José is refusing to negotiate with the union, and unless you on the council enforce the policy, they will wrongfully terminate those who are hardworking employees. These wrongful terminations have effects on other city departments as well as convention center because of bumping all our employees.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Kevin Fish.

>> Mr. Mayor, members of the council, fellow citizens, I'm Kevin R. Fish. 30 years ago I was advocating for public libraries while they were talking about deep cuts, and they only had 3% of the general fund. Now, they're making more proposed deep cuts, and they're still 3% of the General Fund, and this is ridiculous, outrageous and heartless. We need to think of creative solutions. Think of this: There's independent researchers who use the library all the time. They have deadlines to meet. Explain that to the editors if the researcher has to wait four days for the library open. Same thing with the students, if they have to wait four days, they may be late on their homework, or their assignments and then explain their grades to the parents, teachers and administrators. We can learn a lot about stuff from the library, whether it's good law books, or things for the auditor's office. We can learn about all the countries of the world like Viet Nam and China.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Tuchacha Venkat, Annamarie Ramirez, Mark Kugar, Normal Calendar.

>> Mark Welar.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry.

>> My name is Mark Welar, and I'm VP of Kamali'i 'O Ke Kai canoe club. You've heard some of my fellow members speak earlier. I'm also a San José business owner. And I'm here to speak on behalf of the great park rangers and the services provided at Lake Cunningham. Lake Cunningham is a rare and valuable community asset. Its services are using by local fishermen, boaters, and even San José's engineering department. For over 25 years it's been home to our canoe club and has provided a healthy release for stressed-out adults -- I invite you to come out sometime -- and has also given us the opportunity to teach hundreds upon hundreds of our youth, valuable life lessons like discipline, respect for themselves and respect for our community. We ask that you please consider the services offered and Lake Cunningham and the jobs they provide, not as an expense, but as a vital community service with a profound and positive impact upon the community as a whole, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Norma calendar, Jesus Rosas Reyes, Fortunata Leon, Michaela Rodriguez, Jay Manuel Herrera, Elana Martinez, Richard Lewis, Michelle La Port, Debra Yew, Tyler Lewis, John Messina, An Si Nguyen.

>> Hello, my name is Michaela Rodrigues, and I'm on the Friends of Grace board of directors. The Friends of Grace is a registered nonprofit that supports the city of San José's Grace Community Center located on 10th and San Fernando. Gracy Community Center is currently celebrating its 39th birthday, providing therapeutic services for adults with mental illnesses and or developmental disabilities. Grace offers 50 structured programs and additional unstructured activities to its members. Grace Community Center is open to its members Monday through Saturday serving 150 individuals a day, about 1300 to 1500 a year. Additionally, Grace's meal program provides up to 80 lunches and 65 breakfasts a day. The goals of the program are to provide recreation, education, counseling, social and community services so that the participants may develop a strong social support system, and greater independence. The program members are mostly poor, mentally ill adults who are marginalized by society and have no place to go during the day. Grace provides therapeutic care for those who are on the fringes of society but want to be part of the community. Grace's day rehab services are offered through a contract through Santa Clara County, which generates up to \$450,000 in revenue, which offsets the cost --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up.

>> Thank you for your support of Grace Community Center. [applause]

>> Hi there, my name is John messina, and one group that is not getting enough representation is the senior centers which provide the only hot meals to thousands of San José residents and voters and I support all of these groups out here, though. None of these groups need to have their funds cut. There is plenty of money here, it's how you spend it is creating the problem. You have decided that it's more important to inventory -- to hire an arborist to inventory the trees in front of people's houses than to keep a youth center or a library or a senior center open. In spite of three votes, decisive votes by the people that they don't want to use tax money for a stadium, you've already spent \$70 million towards the stadium. Likewise, even worse, you want to spends \$130 million for that worthless McEnergy convention center that should never have been built.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up.

>> Yes, I gather that your time is starting to be up.

>> Mayor Reed: Patty Dignan. Bijon Roccione, Tony Martinez, Cassandra Rios, Michelle Mendosa, Dennis Fiones. Pam Helmke, Keith Uriarte, Mark Lopez, April Rivera.

>> Good evening, my name is Tony Martinez, I'm a custodian here at City Hall. Each one of our MEF and AFSCME brothers and sisters have congregated for one unison reason and that is to save our jobs. Demand council to give more options demand they give you more choices, demand they are held accountable for their actions. So our councilmembers, going against the grain isn't easy but sometimes it's the right thing to do in spite of some negative peers. Fight for what is right noble and honorable. Avoid self-preservation, selfish agendas and greed. There are more options on the drawing board, these are the lively voices of your servants at work, thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, Mayor and council, Pam Helmke from San José park rangers. I'd like to thank you for your past support of the San José ranger program, but once again we find ourselves asking you to reconsider reductions to the park ranger program. For some 37 years our San José rangers provided resource production, public safety in our parks and on our trails. Over that time our population has essentially doubled, the park lands have been expanded, but the number of rangers has been reduced year after year. Today we're asking you that you hold the line on our staffing. We're not asking to gain. We're just asking to hold the line. This will allow us to retain sufficient staff and skills needed to protect our visitors, our natural and cultural resources, and work with our community partners to keep our parks safe and enjoyable havens for all of our citizens. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, mayor and councilmembers, I'm Judy Purrington. I live in the Edenvale round table neighborhood of District 2. The residents of San José need their essential services to continue. You've heard tonight from people telling you what our community means to us and what our services mean. Our community centers, our libraries, our other services, they're all important. We depend upon you to find creative solutions to safe those services. Don't let us down. I brought another 50 cards from patrons of the Edenvale library to tell you house important those services are to them.

>> Good evening, mayor, city council, my name is Mark Lopez, and I live in the Washington area. And I just would like to say that I'd like for all of you to consider not closing the centers, not just the Washington center but all the centers because they're very important as everybody has been saying here tonight. My family and I, we do a lot of volunteer service for the past 15 years over at Washington. My sister teaches a Mexican dance group and they've actually performed up here in the past. We also do an annual haunted house over at the Washington youth center so these centers are very important. They keep the kids out of trouble and into doing positive activities for their community. So please, I consider, for you to consider not to close the centers, thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Keith Uriarte, Rosio Porteo. Jaime Alvarado. Felica Marina Alvarado. If I've already called your name please come on down. Leila Arguerro. Aron Rocendez. R.J. Castro.

>> Good evening. My name is Alisa Marina Alvarado. I'm the artistic director of Teatro Vision, and I'm a resident of District 5, and thank you very much for the opportunity to speak, especially at this late hour. I'm here to ask you to please view the Mexican Heritage Center as also a critical piece in this fabric of services in the Eastside. The Mexican heritage stands at the threshold of a new plan to develop an art schools for youth children and families. And hand in hand with the community centers it holds so much potential for creating a healthier stronger community and playing a stronger role in the life of the Eastside. I also would like to ask you to echo the earlier request that the T.O.T. tax not be raided, it is a critical source of funding for the arts. And to please, reestablish the arts express program which offers an opportunity for young students to come and see plays, to go see plays with the lack of --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Good evening, my name is Lilia Arguello. And for the last four years I've been working with the county of office of education serving as visual and performing arts coordinator. I'm here to urge the mayor and the city council to reconsider the proposed elimination of the arts education and arts express programs that the city provides. In particular, the signature arts express provides access to quality arts and arts education experiences to thousands of children every year here in San José. I also once again want to remind the mayor and the city council that tonight, in honoring Joseph George middle school as a champion of arts education, the principal of the school shared with us that they were able to more than double their targets for API credited in large part to the students' participation in quality arts education which they provide to all of their students. Clearly the arts have a clear role to play in closing the achievement gap which I know is very important to the mayor and the city council. Please do not compromise your ability to address the achievement gap and close it in the next ten years. Please keep the arts education programs going. Thank you. [applause]

>> Dear mayor and councilmembers, [Spanish] if you don't understand what I'm saying you don't understand the damage you are doing to our community centers on district 5 so please do something creative and something more positive than you know recommending this to the use proposal. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed and councilmembers thank you for actually reminding me once again that in fact that we have much more in common than we have differences between us. You saw today people come out from all over the City of San José, all walks of life, all races and classes saying, services are an absolute priority. It is what the City of San José should be doing. And what we're saying is that we're tired of the state of California making cuts on the backs of working people and we're saying in the City of San José, we want to be able to say no, that's the priority for the City of San José to do. We're asking you to recognize that we're asking you to be creative, I'm glad to see labor's come out with some proposals that meets you part way. I hope they'll continue to meet you part way and that you'll also recognize that and work with them because what we should be talking about is how is it that we preserve these services and what's the price we have to pay in order to make that happen. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, mayor and city council thanks a lot for spending the time today. A couple of things I just wanted to bring to your attention. Back in February I attended a gang prevention task force meeting where the solution was to use city services through parks and rec to keep kids and others outside of the gangs. So if you go ahead and reduce some of those, those budgets what's the next plan? What's your solution? I know that as the police activities league soccer commissioner, on the Eastside of San José, my programs started out with 50 kids. We are now up to 300 kids and I came to that same meeting asking for your help in letting all the kids know about our program. And we recently had a soccer program that we ended up having eight teams of kids that are basically staying off the streets on Wednesdays and Fridays between 6:00 and 10:00. We have collaborated with the groups like MACSA, we collaborated with the boys and girls clubs and if we continue to collaborate with these kids --

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up. Fred Hirsh, Lourdes carera, Allen, Christian.

>> Good evening, my name is Fred Hirsh. I'm on the executive board of plumbers and fitters locality 393 and a delegate to the South Bay labor council which I frequently represent at U.S. labor against the war. And I'd first like

to say that of course, you can find creative solutions to keep from closing the youth centers, the community centers, the libraries, the arts centers. And all of the groups, the request of all of the groups that have been here tonight. But I'd also like to let you know that the national priorities project tells us that taxpayers in San José will pay \$3.5 billion for total defense spending in fiscal year 2010. For that money, you can over-fund every request that was made here tonight. You can over-fund every obligation you have --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> -- to the workers of this city who make it a fine city and we can make this a model city after all -- [applause]

>> Good evening, Kerri Hamilton for citizens for environmental and economic justice. I think we all know that there is not a lot of economic justice in the world since greed and fraud brought our economy to its knees recently. We think the most important gift that you as decision makers can give to our city employees and community as a whole is to begin to set the city back on the course to a sustainable path with everyone working together. We all hope that a miracle will happen and that the budget gap will be able to be fully closed but now we need to focus on wants versus needs. As you've heard many times this evening youth and community centers and libraries especially in economically challenged neighborhoods are an important part of our economic safety net and should be a top priority. I also want to thank our community members for treating everyone respectfully this evening and apologize on behalf of our community to our City Manager for the way she was treated recently. My husband and I experienced the same thing many years ago and we know it's not representative of our city employees or our community as a whole.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Councilmembers, mayor, Vice Mayor, Sam how's it going. My name is Ivan, president of the Washington community coalition I'm here to let you guys know that please let us break these barriers of minorities to get a better education. I mean look at our college record, not a lot of us in minorities in the Washington area and Alma and the Eastside we have a low low percentage rate of people that go to college. Let us break these barriers, help us out, it takes a village, it takes a city, help us out. Thanks. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Christian, I'm from the Washington United youth center. I'm going to tell what you youth and adults have been working together going door to door also every morning going to business and going to church to get the word out about the threat to our center. We collected hundreds of letters, 4,000 signatures that supported the City's continued funding. We've been working hard to save our home. Please don't close the Washington United center because it's like our home. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, my name is La Ku and I'm a student at San José State university, I'm a member of metro for San José State. Youth and community members for the City of San José by doing so with already cuts to career centers library hours and cutting summer schools in our schools the City of San José is setting up a trap of violence hatred and oppression for the youth and poor in San José and also disconnecting the youth from the community and disconnecting the community from our elders. I march with Gardner Community Center today with families, with youth, with seniors and children and I'm here to demand not to ask but to demand that the City of San José and this council keep our centers open. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Forrest Williams, Stephen Kline, Victor Christobal, Patricia palomares Mason. Ray Mendosa. Clora Arelanno.

>> Good evening, mayor and councilmembers and City Manager and City Attorney. How are you today? I'm fine. I'm glad to be here. First I would like to offer a couple of suggestions. Number 1 is, consider the community budget recommendations. It's an innovative approach to a budget dilemma, services versus cuts. Number 2, save the Los Paseos youth program. Because we collaboratively worked to provide, they requested that and we were able to deliver that program to them. So don't take it away from them. Let's find a way to keep it. We worked with the school district and they helped us put that community center together for youth so we need to preserve

that. Number 3, economic development. Libraries are important for us if we're going to attract companies to come to this city to help us with our economic future.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> So don't cut the libraries if we want to grow economically. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Victor, remitting the community. I live in the neighborhood area so District 3, Councilmember Liccardo. We want to sea to you, don't close the Washington United youth center. When he you close the Washington United youth center, what do you want? I don't want that for my district, I want to say Washington United youth center now is time to take action. You talking too much, you not taking action, taking action tonight. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, mayor and councilmembers, my name is Steve Kline and I live in the Sherman oaks neighborhood. Tonight there has been an incredible outpouring of support from real people speaking about real solutions. It cannot be repeated fluff that libraries are vital to our city. In less than seven years our libraries have distributed over 100 million books and materials to City of San José residents. Our libraries preside -- provide essential tools for those searching for jobs during these tough economic times. In addition libraries provide a safe place for kids after school and during the summer months to continue and expand their learning opportunities. As of this fall we will have 20 libraries built in this great city. On 1/1/11, the library commission and the people of the city want all the libraries open. We are one city, choose a solution, thank you.

>> Hello to everybody, Buenos Noches, my name is Patricia Palomares Mason. I represent Gardner. And first of all, I would like to recognize each person from the council for the history that each person brings, their culture, their history, their ancestors and also the history that we need to make must be peaceful, must be to work together, to take care of our elders. Our seniors, our teens, our youth but most of all our families. In this paper I hold the names of the directors that we have had at Gardner. The names are Romeo Mendez, Rick Stanley, Claire Sunga, Bob Fitz, Dick Busbee, Allen Tokanaga, Tony Torrez. We must continue to make history at Gardner and other centers. These directors have believed in us, guided us, made leaders, made good people of us. But please, lets make this history positive, let's continue to make peace, let's make history for everyone. Not just for youth but for all of us. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up. [applause]

>> Good evening, my name is Cara areanno. I'm here to support arts express. I understand the city is not in the education business as you told me the other night and I understand ugly cuts must be made to balance the budget. I feel assured council and mayor that you will all do your best to attempt to preserve the city services. I'm asking the city to please take time to consider and make an effort to allow the community to step up and help administer the programs as an option to immediately cutting all services and what Dennis Martin said, thanks. [applause]

>> Good evening, mayor and council, my name is Rita Torrez, I'm here as the president of the Spartan Keyes resident action coalition. Our neighborhood will be impacted by the cut of city staff to the SNI program which has made a tremendous impacts on our community over the last ten years. The partnership we have embarked on with the redevelopment agency which has city staff as well as redevelopment agency staff has been cut quite a bit already with RDA staff cut and we're going to start losing the partners that we had with the city. The residents have learned quite a bit. We're doing a lot of work. But without that partner which has been a valuable resource to us we're going to start going backwards. Taking steps back. Which will be a real shame. Our neighborhood has had a lot of issues with crime. However, I understand, cuts have to be made. But please keep the parks and rec staff that we have had working with us. They need to be there to help us do outreach. We have a lot of immigrants, we need a lot of outreach.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Good evening, I'm Felipe Juarez. I am just here to remind the council that the suggested cuts, I'm not sure where the mayor gets the 64% increase. I have not seen that percentage, boy, I wish I did. I would like to remind the council that most of the employees in PRNS are part time, nonbenefitted, no pension. So I would hope that the future messages will not generalize in such an enormous and distortive manner. Council, you are squeezing the life blood from this city. I'm here tonight to put you the council to task, to try and find a better way than trying to put the blame of the city's problem on to the hardworking people who bring many of the services to our citizens. If you do not you will have to look at our children, our elderly, our youth right in the eye and tell them, explain to them why you had to cut all these services. [applause]

>> Good evening, my name is Ray Mendoza, I served in the District Attorney's office four four and a half years. I served as a community prosecutor, I have served on the mayor's gang task for about 20 years. No one wants to close youth centers, libraries, taking away money from families in very difficult times. However, there is priorities that we all must face and the first priority is the safety of our children. Libraries and youth centers provide those outlets. Tough times never last forever. The tough people do. Before you will have some very tough choices. I hope you can find a middle ground to keep some of the centers open during the critical times between 2:00 and 7:00 when kids are out of school. You can do that in addition to some minor cuts in other places.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> I hope a middle ground can be reached.

>> Mayor Reed: Karen Altria, followed by Eric Arias, Claudia Shope. Paula, and Nadine Cordova.

>> Good evening, mayor and city councilmembers, I'm Karen Altria. I'm with the San José Rep. And I understand that you're considering the elimination of Arts Express, the city's arts and cultural program. It's been in operation for over 30 years. I believe it's a significant cut which would mean the loss of a program that partners with many of San José's arts organization in an effort to provide arts exposure and education to more than 25,000 students per year would be a huge loss to our city and its residence. The major of the students were given, first and only experience in the arts for these student. In my 17 year tenure with the San José rep, red ladder theater, cultural awareness, conflict resolution skills, self confidence, creativity and academic success of our children's youth. Should be doing all that we can to expose the youth our youth to the arts and foster their connection to their activity. I believe strongness is essential for the vibrancy of our city. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up.

>> Hello, my name is Claudia Shope, and I live in the Goodyear Mastic neighborhood in District 3 near the Alma center. Please keep our centers, parks and libraries open and refrain from pitting the community and workers against each other. This just doesn't work. We're all one community. And we need to support each other. It's also not that easy just to move people to these big hubs, especially a lot of our frail seniors that have a hard time getting around, especially since they don't have the finances to do so. So please keep our centers open. Listen to some of the ideas that Bob Brownstein had and come up with your own solutions. I know you're all smart people, you can do it and I really hope you will. I've seen some you step up and do something in the past and I hope all of you will in the future.

>> Good evening mayor, city council. I'm here on behalf of MACSA youth center and all the youth centers in San José. The current economic landscape portends an end to an innovative city-funded sports program that has helped kids who need it most. The program has made a difference in the lives of children who otherwise would be wasting their nonschool hours in nonfruitful activities. This sports program has definitely promoted the physical health as well as the mental and emotional development of youth involved in it. Participants have been noted remarkable improvement in discipline and self-confidence as quell. To cut this program would have deprived those children to the opportunity to be better members of society and to excel later in their life. It is just frustrating to see the hopes they have in their hearts smashed because of budget problems. It has been proven --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you, you guys have a good night.

>> Beloved mayor and city council members, my name is Quasui Sesochi, a once gang-impacted youth with a high school GPA of .6. A product of our youth centers that took me to the U.C. campus, and touring almost all around the continent. I'm a specka woman. Washington United Youth Center opened their doors to our free and open beginning Aztec dance class and preColumbian music class led by a therapist for young children, ages 3 to 10, who can speak freely and learn to heal wounds from past abuses. Our community centers are our home. We are a community, we are United. Washington is a living entity, the elders, the children, the youth, the women, our hearts will be broken if this center is closed. Community centers such as Washington is a safe haven for us all. Not only will our youth and classes like adult and youth and men's and women's empowerment classes be out on the streets but think of how hot our climate is right now. Think of San José future, our future property values if we close our center. These social changes and dangers out on the streets will thrive. Not our community.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Paul, last initial A, Magdalena Carrasco. Gregg Lipman, Jane Lawson.

>> Thank you. First I'd like to say that I know all of you were all children one time or another. I would like you to remember where you got your help when you all needed it? Parents work two jobs, don't have time, and we need a safe place for them. Our youth and seniors all need help and I also would like to thank Sam Liccardo, Madison Nguyen and chirko to work on an idea, no matter what if you stepped the centers anywhere in the city you're going to get a lot of time and I still believe that if you work on the youth you will be able to reduce the police, because the kids need someplace to be safe, they need someplace that will help them. You got to remember who helped you, where you got your help.

>> Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, honorable mayor and members of the city council, hi there, my name is Magdaleno Carrasco, I stand before you as some we have a budget of \$118 million that must be addressed. However in balancing the budget we must make sure we don't recreational alternatives to at-risk youth and in defusing potential of retaliatory gang incidents. In District 5, much of the success has been attributed to the outstanding staff at the Alum Rock youth center and the willingness of our nonprofit partners to run off-hours programming at the center when called upon by the community. As a mother of young children growing up in the Eastside I know how important it is to have a safe place for our youth to go to and keep them off our streets. At the time we are reducing library hours and eliminating the citywide sports programs we cannot afford to lose such a valuable resource.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up. Greg Lipman, Jane Lawson.

>> Good evening, mayor and city council members and city staff. My name is Greg Lipman, and I come here tonight as someone who has been working on developing new educational options in this city for quite some time. And one of the things that's often heard in this building and elsewhere is that one of the most important things when money is tight is to find places where we can develop leverage. Where we can get \$5 from a \$1 investment. And one of the co-founders of downtown college prep, I think it's important for me to share, for those of us who are trying to start new things in communities, for those of us who are trying to come to communities and find ways to develop leverage and work with the people in those communities. The community centers operate the same way that those entrepreneur centers that the redevelopment agency helps develop around the city works for people in private industry. There would be no Downtown College Prep without the Washington United Youth Center and --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up. Jane Lawson, followed by Jerry Shapui, Don Staub, and Zeke Cervantes.

>> My name is Jane Lawson with the San José park peace officer association of San José and a resident in District 1. I'm here to ask that the park ranger program be left intact. A sign cannot replace the watchful eye of the

ranger. As demonstrated recently in Alum Rock Park, where a park visitor knowingly climbed over barricades and ignored the signs. The park rangers provide the youth of San José leadership opportunities. Students from independence high school and Piedmont hills high volunteer and run the Moon Festival at Overfelt Gardens Park. These are our future civic leaders. I've seen it in action. Park rangers guide volunteer Boy Scouts and seagull project which donate items to our park. Every ranger here -- well, they're starting to leave -- can probably coming up with two revenue or cost savings ideas which should be taken more seriously. If you want a green city, connect to trails, then keeping the park ranger program intact will keep the parks and our community cultural --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Jerry Sheffuy, Don Staub, Zeke Cervantes, Maria Mendosa.

>> Good evening, my name is Jerry Sheffuy and I've been with the City of San José for the past nine years. During that time I've seen employees accomplish everything that the city has asked of them. You asked for new fire stations and 13 new fire stations are either complete or in the works. Now you want to lay off firefighters and possibly close one current fire station. You asked for new libraries. We have 21 new libraries in the works. We have what may be the most remarkable library system in the country, and now you want to lay off one-third of the library staff and close every branch for four days per week. Who are you listening to? Is it the developers? Is it the chamber of commerce that is giving you the mindset to build build build and then close the doors and lay off the service providers? You only say there is only one solution, for the city employee to take a permanent 10% cut. If we are able to do that you're still facing \$55 million deficit. This is not a solution. Mayor, City Manager, we need you to change direction, and work with your incredible employees, to balance the budget with service in mind.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Don Staub, Sayer Jemerson, Daniel Covorubias, James McAllister.

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed, council, staff, my name is Don Staub. I'm the president of West Valley Community Services, and we serve the West Valley area of San José, namely district 1. There is approximately 2800 residents there who require our services. The proposed budget cuts will virtually eliminate our ability to serve those people. We cannot, we've already gun stopping the applications and it will result in virtually no service to that area from West valley. I don't know where else those people can go because no one else can take the load either. So we ask you to do your best to maintain some reasonable level of basic needs funding to support these people to the best of your ability. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Kendrick Washington. Garrett Taylor. Brian O'Neil. Bill Leninger. Chabina. Raul Cervantes. Darryl Laver, I think, I can't quite read the last name. Alice Lopez, destiny and Sabrina, Donna Von Michigan chem Ray blocke, Ruby Lagunas, Ray Thai, Ron well Park, James Lynn, Steve Bailey, Danielle Hoffman? Denny star. Go ahead sir.

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed and city council. My name is Ray Blocke and I'm here to speak as a -- in my role as a volunteer at the Martin Luther King library. The issue that I want to talk about is the impact of the proposed 2010-2011 budget, and what impact that will have on the library and its branches. I've been volunteering as a docent there at the library for about seven years. I'm also involved with the Partners in Reading program which teaches adult literacy to well over 300 citizens of San José currently. I'm also a regular user of the library services. I understand the city council and the mayor have made some -- have to make some tough budget decisions to cover the next few weeks, but I thought it might help if you were able to hear from a member of the public who is both a user and works on a number of extraordinary programs that the library delivers to the community. Programs such as computer training, job hunting, interviews with developing skilled development, kids programs, establishing meeting rooms for various local organizations, youth services are just a small part of the variety of programs that will be affected by these budget cuts. The impact of these cuts will be felt by any resident whether checking out a book learning to read or write, listening to a lecture or hearing a musical performance or just wanted to go to their local branch library and check a book out. I would ask the members of the city council to carefully consider the impact of these budget cuts when making your budget decisions on the library --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you. [applause]

>> Hi, my name is Danielle Hoffman. I'm with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bay Area. I originally came here to thank you for including us in the proposed budget for next year. We run a thriving school-based mentoring program and a member of San José schools. We are doing very well. We're serving more kids than ever before. I brought in a big and a little with me today but unfortunately they were not able to stay. Thank you for being able to fund more of the programs that are proposed for this budget cuts. I can't imagine that you would have heard the testimony and the stories that I've been hearing over the past couple of hours and not been thinking of ways that you can preserve these community centers and libraries and park rangers. It sounds like they're doing incredible work and I hope that as you've been able to sustain fundings for our programs over the past couple of years that you can do the same for them, thank you. [applause]

>> Hello my name is Armando. First I'd like to thank Sam Liccardo for helping us out there over as Roosevelt. I'd like to talk about what the community center has done for me, and some of my friends, that I've noticed. When I first remember Gardner Community Center, I was about ten years old. It was shut down because they were building the new one. During that time period gang violence rose up the roof. I remember stabbings, shootings, crime went up incredibly. When the new Gardner community center was opened crime went right down. Because of them they've supported me, I've stayed off the streets, I know what I want to do with my life, I want to be a firefighter, I'm the first person in my family to that will graduate high school. The community center was there to support me. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Brian Hunley, Kiely Rose Phillips, Susan price, Jaime Beckwith. Steve bariantos. Connie Shaw, Juan Gutierrez. Go ahead sir.

>> Mr. Mayor, council, I'm Steve barianto, vice president of Washington NAC, and a member of Alma Community Center. Too bad our seniors couldn't stay here, but your agenda was too long for them. Budget crisis is budget crisis. Downsizing is downsizing. You start from the top and work your way down. The high scale jobs should be first. Our youth centers need to be opened. Just like your soccer stadium. We need to keep all our centers open. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed, and members of the city council. My name is Susan price Jang and I'm a resident of the Sherman Oaks neighborhood, which includes the Richmond and Menker apartment complex in which there was a gang injunction a few years ago. Ten years ago the city made a promise to our community, the pledge to open a district 6 community hub later a much needed library was also added to the plans. As a result the Bascom community center library will be completed this fall. However, the city says it will not be opened. Considering that the unions have made some major concessions, yesterday I ask you at the minimum, to at least bring on the Bascom library and the new Seven Trees library, online in January. Please do not pit neighborhood against neighborhood. We are one city, and select a solution for all of us. Thank you very much.

>> Good evening, Honorable mayor, city council members. I'm Connie Shaw, resident in San José District 3 for 27 years, and a teacher in the Oak Grove School District, South San José. Each year thousands of students in our district participate in the -- in Scoresa performance sponsored by our city's Arts Express program. These programs are wonderful in the richness of cultural experiences they've offered. We've experienced Taiko drumming, African drumming, Philippine, Chinese, Mexican dancing, opera, full orchestra, symphony orchestra, choir, chamber music and jazz. The children and their chaperon parents have experienced dozens of downtown revenues, including the CPA, California theater, La petite Trianon, arts express opens hearts and minds and builds community pride in our culturally rich great city. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, my name is Juan Gutierrez and I'm here to talk on behalf of the Washington United youth center. I grew up in the Washington area, since I was 12 years old. I had just came from Mexico and I didn't speak no English and the Washington youth center was more than just a center. It was like a home to me, it was like our house. And I saw the staff as family members. So it was a home away from my house. And growing up, with those -- with the great staff that was there it was not just like staff, it was more like mentors that drive me to be

successful in life. So I was the first one in my family to graduate from high school and the first one in my family to graduate from college. And everything I learned from there I came from here and I didn't speak no English and all of a sudden I talked to soul, to Tamara and all of them and they all gave me the energy and talked to Greg lipman as well and they believed in me and the whole community was there for me so --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> I mean -- thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Thank you. Laurie Wallace a.m. and Rudy Merling and I'm guessing about that last name. If anybody else put in a card, and you think I didn't call your name, it's probably because I mispronounced it. If you put in a card, please, this is the time. We're getting down to the end.

>> Hello, my name is Laurie Wallace, and I'm a San José native that is raising another generation of San José natives. And I'm going to be here long after everyone on this council is term limited out. I realize this meeting is about the fiscal 10 and 11 budget but I'm concerned about the long term health of my community. Decisions that are being made now are going to have long term impacts on this community and my family. I need rangers in my parks. I need librarians in my libraries. I need libraries open for my kids. I need things things. I have not heard alternatives to the pay cuts like closing city facilities, every other Friday like the state, like other jurisdictions have done. I have not heard about flattening the administration, and taking out some of the layers of management between me and you. I have not heard about dealing with performance issues of staff to get the people that are barriers internally taking care of so the good people in this community can get what they need done.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, first of all I want to thank Sam for all the work that he's done and continues to do in our community. I guess most of this conversation is for the rest of you. We're asking that you continue to keep the community centers open. Sam has developed a strategy in which he's looking to find funding and I thank him for that. That's Nguyen and Chuck also, I thank you. Everybody that's come up here I've learned about the politics of this city for this experience I feel for you it's been pretty complicated and pretty hard. But I want you to look and think about what is more important than the welfare of a child? What is more important than a community that looks out for the welfare of the children in the community? So I want you to weigh that out, thank you. [applause]

>> First of all I want to thank Sam, you're a good dude, man. So my name is Dennis Florez, my whole life I've been dodging bullets. I grew up in a really bad neighborhood not knowing where to go. It wasn't until about last year in June, July, that I actually found Garner community center. Gardner Community Center actually became my bulletproof vest. A bulletproof vest which I wear proudly. I wear it proudly because before Gardner Community Center I was just dodging, I didn't know what I was going to do. But now instead of dodging I'm taking the bullets, I know where I was headed. I was able to start my career because of Gardner community center. I'm doing what I have to do instead of being out in the street. Thank you. [applause]

>> Hello, my name is Jacob palomares Mason. Sam I'd like to thank you for all the support and everything. These community centers, a lot of people have been saying that these community centers are a second home for us. They really are. I mean, for me, I've been going to Gartner community Center my whole life. I'm 16, I've been going there since I was a little baby, and these are really second homes for us because the atmosphere in there, it's afamily, everybody is united, if you guys take that away, there's going to be no more family. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: That concludes the public testimony in this hearing. Before we adjourn, a lot of things were said tonight. Not all of them were 100% accurate. I want to see if Jennifer wants to add anything to correct any facts that might have been out there that were wrong. We're not going to discuss this or debate it but at least want to, if there's anything needs to be corrected, let's that.

>> Jennifer Maguire: Thank you mayor, Jennifer Maguire budget director. There was three statements that I did catch that I'd just like to clarify for the record. On our therapeutic services we are not eliminating all of our therapeutic services in the city. The proposal that is on the table in the City Manager's budget would still provide therapeutic services in five out of the ten proposed hubs, community center hubs. As far as park rangers go, we are recommending to retain park rangers in all parks with the exception of the Emma Prusch park, Overfelt gardens, and our trail systems. Those will no longer have dedicated staffing, but will occasionally get some park rangers in those, but we are eliminating some park rangers in the system. And then there was a statement that we did balance the budget with 100% ongoing solutions. Our budget strategy already assumes \$21 million in one-time funding. And with that, that will carry over our problem to 11-12, pretty much doubling our projected deficit for that year to about \$41 million. And in fact I want to point out that from 2011-12 through 2014-15, we will be facing about \$86 million in future deficits with growth expected in our revenue sources in that period. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Okay, I think we're done. We are going to adjourn. Thank you very much for being here tonight, folks. We appreciate your comments.