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>> Councilmember Chirco: All right, we're going to call the neighborhood services and education committee to order. And the first item on the agenda is to review of the work plan. That is correct, I'm not used to having review of the work plan.

>> Norberto Duenas: Madam Chair, members of the committee, first item is just a recommendation to defer the status report on yes, we can ... read East San José children's initiative to the September 9th, 2010 meeting. All you would need to do is make a motion for deferral.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Could I have a motion to defer item D 1.

>> Motion.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Is that a motion?

>> Sorry.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I have a motion and second to defer the status report on yes, we can. All those in favor, all those opposed hearing none, the motion carries. There are no consent items so we move on to the reports and the first report is on the libraries volunteer engagement program. And welcome Jane.

>> Jane Light: Thank you. So with me today are two people who have been working on some new concepts about how the library can use volunteers and we actually think these ideas are applicable to some of our other departments, too. So Joan Young, in the blue, is our volunteer coordinator. We have one position, and that's fortunate to have Joan. And Carey bloom who manages Joan and also is responsible for our marketing communications, and all of our library grants. So they're going to explain how we began thinking differently, and then, kind of where we are at this point and where we think we're going.

>> Thank you for letting us speak today on the volunteer engagement program. Offering San José residents an opportunity to give back to their community, through volunteerism is a library priority. We have about 800 volunteers who contribute 5500 hours per month of service. And the library like many organizations has long had a traditional volunteer program where volunteers are given a specific task to complete and told exactly how the task is done like straightening the children's area and checking DVDs for their conditions and things like that. These volunteers have also been expected to commit to ongoing service coming in every Tuesday from 2:00 to 4:00 for example. And that used to work for most volunteers but a growing number of today's volunteers are looking for a different experience. They want to use their skills and talents and creativity. They want to make an impact in their community and they want flexible schedules that fit with their busy lifestyles. So these volunteers are referred to as high impact volunteers. For example, the King library docent program began in 2003 when Nancy freeman a community volunteer came up with an idea where a program where trained docents would give public tours of the artwork in the library and general tours of the library and its resources. She worked as part of a team with staff and accomplished this goal, and to date we have had over a thousand tours serving 8,000 people since the new library opened. Volunteer engagement is a new model to work with high impact volunteers. In this model volunteers are recruited for specific positions that require applicable expertise. For example, someone with a photography background might come in and document programs at events at the library. Volunteers work in collaborative relationships with staff, and can be part of a project team. With this type of volunteer you tell them what you want them to do, not necessarily how. They bring their own expertise to figure out how. This kind of volunteer work is results oriented. Success is measured by the attainment of outcome and it takes the focus off of regularly scheduled volunteering that is ongoing and allows for flexible scheduling working in a community at home or at a library. It's important to put this new model in place, so that the library can benefit from these high impact volunteers. High impact volunteers do not replicate staff roles. They expand available skills and expertise to meet community needs, for example, we have technology mentors, who give one on one assistance to our customers on e-mail or basic Internet usage. And they can enhance services. At Berryessa branch we have a volunteer who coordinates a couple of Chinese cultural events per year and they draw over a thousand people to each. And another benefit is that high impact volunteers widen the library's circle of influence in the community. As Almaden, we have a job seeker support group that meets once a week and it draws people from the community who might never have learned of the resources the library has to offer in job seeking skills.

>> Not sure how to do this. I can speak into this and see you at the same time. To better equip public libraries in California to work with high impact volunteers the California state library began the get-involved initiative in late 2008, and through a competitive process the library was selected to be one of six pilot libraries from all the libraries across the state. What that meant was, a team of ten staff members and volunteers received training on the volunteer engagement model for about six months from some national experts. The pilot was successful and the state library grew the initiative and during that time the original pilot sites received additional support and training from late 2009 into 2010. And today staff and volunteers from 50 library systems across the state have been trained on the model so it is catching on like wildfire. Another benefit of the get involved initiative is a community leader premium service account with volunteer match. And volunteer match is an online service that helps volunteers connect with volunteer opportunities in their community. Through postings such as the one we have here for the library's children's fair it's used by over 70,000 nonprofits across the country and over 100 corporate employees volunteer Websites. The upgraded membership has some key benefits that the free membership does not. For instance, we can put lovely photos on, that attract people to the listing. We can attach documents such as the full job description. We can ask the applicants to answer a couple questions when they return their interest form. The upgraded membership provides better results than the free membership, volunteer match says that they generate three times as many volunteer referrals as the free account. So we're delighted to be using this. And the library has been testing it out on a limited basis getting our feet wet understanding the capability and it's proving to be very effective and efficient. We've had over 485 referrals for the positions we've posted and the vast majority of those volunteers turned out to be really qualified candidates. Now even before get involved high impact volunteers were working in the library on a small scale, such as Nancy Freeman which Joan discussed. What we've learned through the training though is enabling us to implement best practices for volunteer engagement in the library and giving us an opportunity to create more high impact volunteer opportunities throughout the system. The team of staff and volunteers who are part of the initiative developed an implementation plan and corresponding training programs. That began in July at the library's all staff in-service training where an overview of high impact volunteers and the model was given. This month and next library managers will receive some training so they can lead this movement in their branches and units and then in the fall we'll begin system wide training on the engagement model and using volunteer match. Working with high impact volunteers is just one of the components of the library's volunteer program. There will still be opportunities for teens to do their community service, still opportunities for people who want a more traditional experience tidying shelves, helping with events. But the engagement model gives us an exciting opportunity to collaborate with our community members in new ways so we can expand and enhance the services we offer San José residents. Are there questions?

>> Councilmember Chirco: Does the committee have any questions? Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you, chair Chirco. So based on the activities now where volunteers are lined up for is there pretty much endless demand for them? So if 100 people showed up for the way you have the program today could they be easily be slotted to fill those ways you've set up volunteering today in our library?

>> The engagement model is driven right now by -- in two ways. One is assessing our needs and then either doing posting on volunteer match for a position or working with our networks in the community or an individual who accommodation in and says, I have 40 years of marketing experience. I'd like to help you get the word out to your community. So it is a one-on-one type of process. Plus we haven't done the training yet system-wide for it.

>> Jane Light: But on the other hand we have had 400 some people come to us. Most of them have been placed. Our literacy program is kind of continually looking for new tutor volunteers because most of those folks commit six months or to a year and often move on. And we have an ongoing need. So we are constantly filling. Joan, recently, for the children's fair, how many volunteers did you get --

>> 160.

>> Jane Light: Just for that one day. So there are just so many opportunities it is great for people to tell us what they're interested in and we will try to find a spot for them.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: That's great. Now, understanding the sensitivity of not affecting permanent employees in the library, and how volunteering is, as you said in your statement, not interfering with those that are

employed in that position, but yet faced with the paradigm of constricted resources on top of residents saying they would love the opportunity to volunteer, where is it you see the potential where volunteering could take an inch forward into that uncomfortable zone but you are putting the onus on the community for people to stand up?

>> Jane Light: Well, we have some good examples, some of which are really still twinkles in my eye. But for example, we currently have a limited number -- quite a limited number -- of classes taught by librarians on how to do research on the Internet. And some of those are kind of basic level, and it would really be great to get some trained volunteers who could give some of that basic stuff, freeing up our professional librarians to do more advanced training. Because there is a lot of stuff that people are dying to learn about you know is there life after Google, can you do better searching? If you are looking for a job and you want to research your company or your industry, how do you efficiently do that before your interview? Those kinds of things we really haven't had the staff time to do, and so we're thinking well, if we could get some volunteers to teach them the basic stuff, with the curriculum we develop, so we know the quality is there, then our staff with the even higher level of skills, can do that. So we're looking at a lot of those kinds of ideas, and staff on the whole is really pretty excited about it. And it isn't a hard line. I recently had a wonderful evening at the Tully community library volunteer recognition event. One of the men there who is being honored teaches the classes in Vietnamese on using the Internet and using resources that are Vietnamese related. Another guy there teaches a class for children every Saturday morning in the Vietnamese language because there is not the set of Chinese languages that children with Chinese backgrounds can often do. This guy stepped forward, and so when he did that, somebody else stepped forward and said, well I want to teach Cambodian. So now we have got two volunteers in that library on Saturdays teaching language classes to kids whose parents really want them to learn the language, but who don't have other resources. All being done by volunteers because there was a space for it, there's library materials for it and a library staff that was open and didn't say oh no you can't do that. So really I would say our staff partly because we had the in-service and our union, involved our union stewards in planning for this so this is not a surprise and we really work very closely together.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Those are fantastic programs and examples of augmenting programming and offering more within the existing facility. But Jane, do you ever see the potential to use volunteers that could actually extend the open hours of the library? I understand you have the domain expertise that what to happen with any given shift of the library, I admit I don't know that, but you do. Where do you see we could enable to offload some of those work to where it could be slotted to a volunteer therefore being able to keep a library branch open another hour or two hours a week, wherever that could be?

>> Jane Light: Pierluigi, I don't know where that could happen. For example the folks who help take overdues, who help get library cards, have 40 hours of training in order to be able do that, and we need to really be able to account for them and they have access to the confidential library records that are protected under state law from public records act. So we recognize there's some real, you know, need to have staff who are accountable who are going to be here every week and who are trained to do that. And that, and now that we've kind of automated the checkout process, that kind of one on one assistance is the bulk of what we do.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Fair enough, thank you Jane. Thank you, rest of the library staff.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Councilmember Chu.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you, Madam Chair. It looks like there are a lot of people that are willing to volunteer in the library. Could you give us 45 seconds or a minute commercial on how do they take advantage of the volunteer match? Does the community need a premium services account? How, if they want to volunteer, because I -- this is new to me. How can I sign on?

>> In terms of if you were a volunteer you want to know like what you do?

>> Councilmember Chu: Right.

>> If you google volunteer opportunities, usually the first thing that comes up is volunteer match. It's nationwide. You enter in your zip code. It comes up with volunteer opportunities in your area. The key fault is five miles but you can put in 20 miles. Volunteer, child, adult literacy, things like that. Then it comes up with a long list

of opportunities and you scroll through them and if you want to help you click on I want to help. And then the agency can attach a job description or any applications that need to be signed. And the person just hits submit, and it comes right to us in an e-mail. So it's very simple.

>> Councilmember Chu: All right, sounds like something even can I handle. Definitely good possibility that we will reduce some library hours for the next year. Will that have any impact to your volunteer program?

>> Jane Light: No, I don't think it will. We actually discussed that internally as we were planning this in-service and we knew there were cuts looming and we thought well is that going to make people say oh we wouldn't possibly have the time do that or discussing being replaced by volunteers. But in discussion with our union stewards, we agreed, you know, we've been working on this for two years, life goes on, let's move ahead. So what we realized is that we are keeping Joan, who is actually funded by the library parcel tax, she will continue to be our key person. Each library will have the kind of assigned lead person to work with the volunteers and so we continue to have that group. And we see when you're talking about 5,000 hours a month of volunteers, that means we have a real resource we need to continue to work with.

>> Councilmember Chu: Okay, thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I want to thank the library as usual. You're on the leading edge of innovative programs that add depth and texture to our resources which are very limited. So how I really see this program is, it's a pretty bear-bones, somebody to unlock the library, and oversee kind of the necessary. But with this kind of volunteerism, it allows for as you pointed out the classes, diversity of programs, opportunities that we would not be able to give, if it weren't for the kind and quality of volunteers that we're getting. So this is really exciting. And as with so many parts of the library, you're pioneering programs that hopefully we can then utilize in other areas of the city. So thank you for a great report, and look forward to continuing your success.

>> Thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: If there are no questions by anyone in the audience, if I could have a motion.

>> Motion.

>> Second.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Motion and second to approve the report. All in favor, opposed, that passes, thank you very much Joan and Carrie. The next report is on inclusive early literacy services for young children.

>> Jane Light: And that too is a report on a grant that we received as a result of hearing from the community about a need. And today we have Jean Herriges who is a senior librarian currently at the West valley branch, but when we started this project she was a children's librarian at the King library and she was the project leader for this. And Sandra Stewart whom I think you've seen, met before, who has been our system wide coordinator of youth services. So Jean's going to talk a little bit about what we've done and first of all why we did it.

>> Thank you. So as Jane mentioned, we had parents that came to library staff, parents of children with autism and other disabilities. And they requested that the library offer story times that were adapted for their children so that they can could have more benefit for them. So two of our branches began presenting story times and the parents were very enthusiastic about it. So Sandra and Carrie and the rest of the library decided to try to expand the program. We applied for and received a \$39,100 grant from the library services and technology act which is administered by the California state library. And the grant helped us improve services for children with autism and other disabilities through the library story times and also the library's book for little hands programs that works with early educators. Autism as some of you might know is a developmental disorder that affects how a person communicates with others. And autism diagnoses are on the rise. Currently the estimate is that one in 100 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with either autism or a related disorder. It is also been found that early intervention including oral reading and songs like the kinds of things we do at story time can really benefit young children. So one of the major components of our grant was training for library staff. And we partnered with the inclusion collaborative of the Santa Clara County office of education. Their organization works to promote

inclusion of children with special needs in classrooms with children who don't have special needs. So they helped us learn how to adapt our current story times and to provide story times that are inclusive for all children. And another major component of the grant was adapting the library's books for little hands curriculum idea kit. So the staff from the inclusion collaborative provided the training for our librarians and other library staff. And trained all of us in disability awareness, and also, in how to modify our story times, and the books for little hands materials, so that they would be more inclusive for all children. So we got some photos here for you, and Sandra has some items that she'll be showing you as examples. We have offered so far over 60 inclusive story times throughout the library system, and we also include some adaptations in all of our story times. When I talk about adaptations, the way the inclusion collaborative helped us identify what that meant is they gave the example that all of us use adaptations in our everyday lives to make things easier for us. Like, of course, I wear glasses because otherwise I wouldn't be able to see you. And then the one that I thought was pretty good was GPS. Lots of us use GPS so that we won't get lost and that's an adaptation that a lot of us can identify with. Hearing aids, Sandra mentioned a step stool, we might use that to adapted our surroundings and these are the kinds of things we would use during the story times. The picture up at the top, there's a girl sitting on a carpet square. Sometimes you could use a mat. That helps the child define their personal space. This is useful for kids with autism, but also for any kid that has trouble sitting still, which at times could be any kid, of course. And then below that you'll see some scheduling icons and Sandra's going to kind of show and tell those. So these we use during story time. It lists the different activities we'll be doing in a story time so the child can keep track of where we are. So for instance, if it says story, you, after you read the story you take that off and put it in all done at the bottom. Then kids can keep track of where you are in the program. These are also beneficial for English learners both children and their caregivers because it has the icon with the word. And then another adaptation we might use would be these fidget toys, some kids and us too benefit with having something to occupy our hands and that helps keep your mind focused.

>> Blackberry.

>> Exactly. Or doodling, if any of you are doodling up there it keeps your mind focused but your hands are busy. So here we have a photo of story time in action, inclusive story time in action. This is taken at the Berryessa branch library, and you'll see between the two staff in the back, there is the flannel board and they have the story schedule on the left-hand side and across the top those are the story time guidelines kind of like the behavior rules. The kids of course are sitting on their carpet squares. And you'll see -- bless you -- on the right-hand side in the foreground there is a girl sitting on the caregiver's lap and that's perfectly acceptable. If they don't want to sit on the carpet square or the mat and this is how they feel comfortable we would encourage that. This is the photo of inclusive story time at the West valley branch. So again you can see the story time schedule in the back behind the librarian, and they're on their carpet squares. And next to the librarian on the easel there is a real large book. So we found that the large format books are very useful for kids that have trouble focusing on real small details in books, so we use these books, and we've adapted them with icons similar to the story schedule icons so say if you're talking about the bus driver in -- this is the wheels on the bus story then you would have an icon of the driver. And you could show the kids this is the driver and then it goes in the story right here because we're talking about the driver. So it's another way to kind of make the story a little interactive for kids who have a little difficulty focusing. Okay. So Sandra has some more things. As I mentioned the inclusion collaborative helped us select books and materials to use in the books for little hands curriculum idea kit. Here are a couple of items. The first one on the left, those are tactile letters. And the ones that we're passing around look a little different. The main idea is that kids who learn better through touch can feel the shape of the letter. And those I think are kind of like sandpaper. The one on the right, those are called weighted snap bags. They're kind of like bean bags. Right, yeah, they're heavy. Some kids benefit from having like you could put them on your shoulder or your lap and it gives them like a feeling of stability. It can also work on their small motor skills with the snap, and they are easier to toss or catch than a ball would be. Books for little hands also developed an all about me kit. And it includes a doll that models what different disabilities might need to -- for the adaptations they use in for everyday life. And includes books on books about kids with special needs and books about differences. And there are other examples of these, too. We didn't include all of them. And that's it. Are there any questions?

>> Councilmember Chirco: Any questions by the committee? You want the toys back, Pierluigi?

>> Jane Light: Next time we'll remember to bring toys. I just wanted to comment that this has really been -- it's a great example of parents feeling comfortable enough to approach staff with a need, staff being quick enough to

meet the need and talk and how to make this a system-wide way to address the need. But we've already had inquiries from several of the other libraries in California wanting to replicate this, and I think we're going to be doing a conference program at the California Library Association on the inclusion story times, too. So this has been a really good experience for us, and really has changed the way that we do our story times, all of them. So...

>> Councilmember Chirco: I just have to tell you, how excited I was when I read this. Having worked in preschools and elementary school and frankly one of my friends has dyslexia, and these are a lot of the things I used to help him learn. And now to see it actually in a curriculum-type program, it just enriches the learning for all children. And it also catches those that might have learning disabilities, such as autism. So it just seems like such a simple thing but what a powerful thing. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to speak to the committee on this agenda item? If I could have a motion to accept the report.

>> So moved.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Second.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I have a motion and second to accept this fantastic report. All those in favor? All those opposed hearing none that carries and thank you so much, Jean and Sandra.

>> Thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Great, keep up the great work. The next item on the agenda is the library early care and education status report.

>> Jane Light: And I think you all know Dawn Perry, who is the coordinator of our early care and education program.

>> Good afternoon. Excuse me. Thank you for the opportunity to report on the library's early care education and services program which includes smart start and books for little hands which you've heard a few things about that already. The five year San José early care and education strategic work plan entitled Investment in the Future was adopted by the city council in June of 2009. This work plan provides guidance for the work of the early care and education services unit. The work plan includes four goal areas, and this report will give an overview of this past year's program accomplishments towards meeting these goals. In October of 2008, the local early education planning council of Santa Clara County released a county wide needs assessment for childcare. In that report it was found that San José has a gap of nearly 30,000 childcare spaces, approximately 2500 for infant toddler, 10,000 for preschool age children and 17,000 for school age children. As a result our first goal is to increase the number of quality early education spaces to meet the diverse needs of San José families. Through the library's partnership with redevelopment agency and other funders, moneys have been provided for facilities construction and program quality improvement. Program quality improvement grants provides funds to childcare centers and family childcare homes to enhance the quality of their early education programs through staff training materials and equipment. There are currently 51 active smart start sites which translates to approximately 3900 new and improved spaces for young children. Over the past years, the library and redevelopment agency has forged an excellent partnership. Organizations that receive redevelopment funds for childcare facility construction or have received program quality improvement funds, commit to operating an early education program and to meet smart start program quality standards. The smart start program quality standards ensure that children attending these programs receive a quality early education experience. The library then administers oversight of the compliance to these program standards. An example of the smart start program is this downtown liquor store that was renovated recently into a preschool childcare center for 80 children, infants through preschool age. Even in this economic downturn, this center's infant and toddler rooms filled quickly, and they currently have a waiting list. For the past ten years the smart start family childcare training program funded by CDBG funds assists low to moderate income residents to open or retain home-based, state-licensed childcare businesses. This program that only increases the number and quality of childcare space available to our City's children, but also increases the number of microenterprises run mostly by minority women. The participants complete ten months of academic courses and workshops to build business skills, increase knowledge of child development, along with personal growth and leadership skills. For this program, we partner with National Hispanic University, U.C. Davis

Extension, West Ed Program for Infant Toddler Caregivers, and others. On May 8th of this year 74 women and our first gentleman completed the program. This translates to approximately 500 childcare spaces. The number of spaces created by this training program so far, since its inception, is about 3,000 childcare spaces. And the total number of early education spaces from both of these programs, the facility construction and the family childcare training is almost 7,000 spaces. Our second goal is to increase the supply of trained early educators by providing and facilitating professional development. For each new smart start childcare center classroom, approximately 2.5 jobs are created and about one-third of the family childcare training participants become new business owners. To also support ongoing professional development the ECE services unit partners with the county office of education to coordinate the annual smart start conference. The conference brings together over 500 childcare providers, childcare center staff and administrators and parents for workshops on many child related topics. It is the only annual early education conference in Santa Clara County. Also, in 2008, the library was awarded a three-year, \$277,000 grant, from the U.S. Department of Education to provide scholarships to preschool teachers working at smart start sites. And these scholarships assist them in completing an associate or bachelor degree program in early childhood education. 13 teachers are now participating in this program. A second grant from the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of \$191,593 provided additional early educator and parent education workshops, along with the creation of take-home family activity kits distributed through the library branches. Also, each year the books for little hands program which you heard about in a couple of instances this afternoon, which is partially funded by Healthy Neighborhoods Venture Fund, provides early literacy materials and resources to nearly 250 early educators which support over 5,000 young children a year. This year, a grant from the state library provided the opportunity for us to adapt those resource materials for children with special needs and English language learners. That's like you just heard about. The third goal of the work plan is to increase public awareness and advocacy on the importance of quality early childhood experiences. The annual children's fair is one way we strive to meet this goal. In April the children's fair celebrated its 22nd year with 45 booths staffed by local nonprofits, businesses, community organizations and government agencies that provide services to families with young children. Each booth provides information and resources to the parents and caregivers on a variety of topics such as child health, early education quality childcare and recreation activities along with a free hands-on activities for the children. Over 5,000 attend this fair each year. We also take evaluations from the attendees and from this year's evaluations we had comments such as excellent opportunity to showcase the various programs offered for children in the San José area, it is very interesting to have a place where children and families can learn, and we come every year, which I really like to hear. The ECE services unit also provides staff report -- support to the city's early care and education commission. The commission is committed to becoming more visible in the community and sharing information about the critical first years of a child's development. The fourth goal is to integrate the City of San José's early care and education strategic work plan with other city, local, state and national initiatives to ensure a quality early care and education system. To ensure that the work plan activity is in line with other initiatives, the early care and education services staff holds leadership positions in several local and state organizations and regularly participates with the national league of cities institute for youth education and families. And we've just become one of 11 communities that are working on a pre-K-8 initiative with a transition that goes through those years. The staff is also partnering with other organizations on local initiatives such as SJ 2020, the Santa Clara County preschool master plan, we actually co-chaired the quality committee for that, the Franklin McKinley children's initiative and East San José reads. Some overall updates, as the last moneys from the initial redevelopment agency funds for facility construction projects has been expended and no additional moneys have been budgeted for that purpose, the library is currently implementing two federal grafts, as I mentioned and had submitted an application for a third to the U.S. health and human services department and we're waiting to hear back on that acceptance. These moneys along with CDBG funding for the family childcare training program has provided the opportunity to create and improve nearly 7,000 childcare spaces throughout the city. Some of our next steps will include continuing to create smart start as a brand for quality childcare which is recognizable by both parents and operators and caregivers, to continual the family childcare training program that's been so successful these past ten years, to seek out initiatives to benefit smart start sites such as training and group discounts. And we just gave a training to 50 staff from smart start sites having to do with kindergarten readiness assessment. Increased sponsorships for events such as the smart start conference and children's fair so those events can continue. We also continue to seek out additional funding resources to support smart start and books for little hands and of course continue our involvement in local and state initiatives. And if you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Any questions from the committee? Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you very much for the presentation. RDA, how much has RDA spent since inception? I know RDA has been doing some things in this area and sometimes they don't get the credit for --

>> I think there was a \$3 million fund total from the redevelopment agency.

>> It was five, and if last 1.4 was extended this year.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: I think that's an important note to come out there because I think there's some folks out there that perceive redevelopment money not spent in a wise manner and I think and especially Vice Mayor Chirco's leadership in this area, it's good to account for that cumulative total.

>> That \$5 million total brought in a leverage of another 5 to 10 million.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Councilmember Chu.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you, Vice Mayor. I too wanted to thank the vice mayor for her leadership in this area, and facing the budget shortfall in the next few years, do you see any reduction of your program here?

>> Joe Horwedel: This program here has how many FTE in the General Fund? 2 and three quarters, so it think it's probably the most leveraged program in the city given that you just heard him talking \$700,000 a year now between the CDBG dollars and the federal dollars. We're seeing such a small investment very hard to cut it when you got two and three-quarters people. But we also see it as sort of a leveraging opportunity kind of unparalleled in the city.

>> Councilmember Chu: Great, thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: A couple of things. I would like to ask my fellow councilmembers, I will be leaving at the end of this year. I would like to throw down the challenge to both of you to become advocates. I really see early care and education as a part of a continuum of services we need to deliver to our residents to revitalize our economy, which are housing, jobs, quality schools, and quality childcare slots. Because when your parents know that their children are in a safe nurturing environment, they can focus on their jobs and not be distracted or lose time on the job because they're either having to find or take care of their children. So I think as a whole package of economic incentive this has been a key element. And the program you talked about that's funded by CDBG, and I know Kansen you've been to one. What a powerful program. And every one of these is what I would like to look at as micro-loans. Because you take a few dollars invested in people then they become self-sustaining. They generate jobs for themselves as well as for others and you get the quality childcare providers and slots in the community that is so desperately needed. But I did have a question as well as lots of pride that you guys have accomplished. You did mention that at least six childcare centers have closed, I wanted to know what the circumstances were, why they closed and what was lost?

>> We had one that was located in a church near Boynton avenue near district 1. That was closed for lack of enrollment. It was a fairly small center with 39 -- 60 children, sorry, between 40 and 60 children. So all ever those spaces just disappears. We had one near Branham lane East in district 2. Where it's -- several these, wasn't necessarily because of loss of jobs parent but this one in particular the landlord went from giving the land for free, to raising it to \$7,000 for rent and the program operator just could not afford that. And that was 39 children that lost spaces there. The rest was a nonprofit organization that actually runs quite a few centers. They had four centers in the Alum Rock school district that were on school sites, that the district took back those facilities. And that was approximately 100 preschoolers that lost their preschools for that reason.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Does the district open preschools of their own? Were they just substituting a program that they --

>> No, they took back the facilities, the classroom. So there are no preschools in that -- run by this particular organization.

>> Councilmember Chirco: You know that's a double tragedy because that community needs more than any, the affordable childcare slots. So I would look to staff, well, one, are these -- can we use the dollars that were invested in these and transfer them to another site if that could be found? Or are the dollars gone because of -- I know the dollars have to be used for capital purposes.

>> Right. Some of the operating cost comes from state contracts, the state Department of Education, provides subsidies to low income families and that's usually what the operator uses. So if those moneys have either been returned to the state or dispersed to other locations, it would be difficult now, other children would now lose though spaces if they now --

>> Councilmember Chirco: That's such a tragedy, that's 200 slots that were lost in largely areas that critically need affordable quality childcare. Is there any way like when we -- well, like, and I happen to know this was Alum Rock school district, that when we fund a childcare center in a public agency there has to be a contractual obligation that they have to maintain it for I don't know, five years.

>> I believe these were not redevelopment contracts so they were for a shorter period of time. So those contracts are those compliance contracts that run out with us. But we try to keep the bonds so we can support their ongoing quality. So that -- they fulfilled their contracts.

>> Jane Light: So those smart start grantees who received redevelopment dollars have quite lengthy periods of time that they must maintain. I think it ranges from 15 to 30 years depending on the size and date in which the city granted -- the redevelopment agency granted those dollars. But for the folks who have gotten \$10,000 or \$15,000 grants from other sources we've had over the years to fix up the playground, paint, you know, deal with safety issues, those folks tend to have a much shorter period that they must maintain facility. So none of those is out of compliance, is my understanding.

>> Councilmember Chirco: One last comment and I'll make it to Norberto, in our schools-city collaborative, we partner with the schools on many things. And one of my questions is that when there's dollars put into a childcare that the out of school, that's something we're giving that community or partnering with that school district. And to have a conversation with that school district when there is a decision to discontinue a service that we have invested dollars in, so to bring that up at the school-cities collaborative I think would not be inappropriate.

>> Norberto Duenas: Sure, we'll add it to the work plan for discussion.

>> Councilmember Chirco: And one general plea, if and when we ever have redevelopment dollars if we could look at trying to fund in small ways, for big impact, the type of programs we've just talked about now. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the -- this agenda item? And if not could I have a motion to accept the report.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: So move.

>> Councilmember Chu: Second.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I have a motion and second to accept this wonderful report. All those in favor? All those opposed? Hearing none that motion carries. Thank you Dawn. The next item is Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services annual report.

>> Good afternoon. I'm Julie Edmonds Motta, the assistant director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and I'm joined today by Jay Castellano, deputy director of administration for our department. We're here today to go over the 2009 annual report for the Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services department. You should have a full report in your packet. This is our annual report, strategies for sustainability. And just pause for a moment as we're getting the PowerPoint loaded up here. I believe you also have the PowerPoint in your packet and in the packet itself I believe the PowerPoint is included. It's just a short four-slide presentation with an intro. So we start off with a background and that is to let you know as you recall the mayor and council adopted council policy 1-21, revenue and pricing policy in June of last year. As a part of that process the department committed to coming back on an annual basis and reporting on our financial sustainability. So one of the cattle

lists for this report is to do that but also to give you a comprehensive overview of our department accomplishments for the year. So we'll be highlighted some of PRNS's accomplishments over the past year, highlighting the pricing and revenue changes which in essence are in lieu of the fees and charges book. Furl in the past the parks and recreation department had 66 prices of the pricing and revenue changes in the fees and charges book and that has been delegated to the City Manager's authority. There's also the report itself is 18 pages long, and we really see it as a great outside marketing tool. We work with partners, we're also seeking sponsorships and partnerships and this document really helps us have a communication tool with our partners. The content of the report really is in four main sections, program and service accomplishments, key pricing and revenue changes, budget highlights and community engagement highlights. And we'll go into some more detail on each of those sections. I think it is important one service employment we would like to highlight, the grand opening of happy hollow park and zoo. It has been a wonderful success, great comments from those who have visited, the visitor comments have been very positive. We have been tracking slightly above our attendance projections and our revenue projections are slightly above. In this manner we hope to achieve 80% cost recovery on this site, for the four months of this year and 100% cost recover next year. We are really hopeful that we can be at 100% cost recovery in the current fiscal year. Just a few highlights of our programs. We provide over 450 fee classes last year with 40,000 registrants. Volunteers provided a half a million hours of service. You know these productive partnerships with our volunteers are just so vital for us. We tried to outline in the report, give you some examples of all the great organizations that work with us, and every single hour makes a difference. But just to call out a few who are pretty notable, I think it would be real important to call out Terry Reilly's leadership and the friends of the rose garden, who really made a difference at the rose garden. The friends of the rose garden held a rededication ceremony in May, where we were able to recognize the garden as the sole official test garden for Northern California by the All American Rose Gardens. And that really would not have been possible without our volunteers helping us to achieve that. In addition, the holiday parade has hundreds of thousands of hours of volunteers for the parade and the Christmas in the park, and graffiti and cleanup, litter cleanups, just on and on. We really have some great partnerships in the community, make a difference for us in addition to our commissions, committees and task forces. Just a couple of quick highlights on pricing and revenue itself. In 2009, revenues, the department last year committed to a delta goal if you will or an increase in revenues of \$1.2 million. That was over our fees and charge base of \$1.9 million. We have already achieved the 1.2 million goal and we are tracking to be at 1.5 million at the end of the scholarly. We're very happy to report that. In addition in '10-'11 revenues will also exceed '09-'10 revenues going up again by 27% or \$2.6 million. This is definitely a long-term project, to be more business oriented in our department. And we're going through each and every one of our fees and charges on a line item basis. If you looked at it in a chart there are over 500 line items everything from to give you an example recreation swim for youth, recreation swim adult, so we have over 500 line items that we are systematically going through one by one. Thus far we have been able to review 151 different line items and then address them to an appropriate rate based on the cost-recovery goals that the mayor and council adopted in the budget cycle. Also important to us of course is access and affordability. So we've dedicated, as you know 3% of our fee activity line item to scholarships, and last year we were able to provide over 800 scholarships valued at almost \$150,000 to ensure access to our programs, as well. We've had the support of some great nonprofit organizations and launching those this year. San José's parks foundation just launched in April. The Guadalupe river park, formerly the friends of, is now converted to a conservancy, and it's assisting us, as well. And the Happy Hollow, formerly corporation, is now the Happy Hollow Foundation, all in an effort to help us achieve our mission through a variety of manners. That's just some of the key highlights. I'd like to recognize two members of the PRNS staff, park manager Cindy Rebben and park manager Peggie Donatelli, who are in the audience and really did a lot of heavy lifting putting the report together. And so with that we're available for questions.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Questions by the committee members? Councilmember Chu.

>> Councilmember Chu: A quick one on the volunteerism. Where you mentioned number of volunteers that provide 500,000 hours of services. I know the county park and rec has a program that can train a volunteer to even go off mow the lawns and trim the trees and drive the county vehicles. Do we have anything similar to that?

>> Yes, we have a simple program where they can do some basic maintenance with some oversight and some training. We haven't quite gotten to the mower level yet but they can do some simple things.

>> Councilmember Chu: How can we expand that volunteer program, so you know, again, I know that we have a lot of people that really wanted to volunteer their time. And probably help us to maintain some of our parks. So how do -- how can we expand the volunteer program? Using the similar volunteer match, are we taking advantage of that volunteer match that the librarians were talking about?

>> We have a very active adopt-a-park and adopt-a-trail program, and we have a volunteer coordinator. And one of the things we were able to do in the budget this year is maintain that volunteer coordinator. And as a result of having a person dedicated on the park side to working with groups we've been able to make a substantial increase in our volunteer hours in that particular area. Volunteers, individual volunteers can come to us, even high school students who need to do volunteer hours can come and we'll work with them and log their community service hours. It's also been really great to recently we've been able to work more with corporations when they have volunteer days and they want to bring their folks out and working at different loans.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thinking of volunteer match the software program that Jane was talking about will help? I don't know much about the program. She just give us a 30-second commercial on it. But would you probably look into it to see if that's another way that we can have volunteers to sign up for some works in PRNS?

>> Certainly, we can look into that. We have a number of mechanisms and we'd be glad to find additional ones that would help us.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you, chair Chirco. Number one, I wanted to thank for the report everyone in the back that contributed to it. In the every day PRNS organization, you operate under very challenging times, and the expectations are as much as we can get, and I think it delivers but it's a challenge, right? I would second Councilmember Chu's comments that if volunteer opportunities can be expanded into operating equipment, machinery et cetera with the proper training I think that would be great. I'm very happy to hear those comments and I think giving people the opportunity, that option to do that is ideal. And also the council changing the policy a couple years ago, is now letting corporations be much more active in volunteering. Tomorrow we'll have 200 employees from Google at the rose garden which I think is a good deal. We couldn't do that in years past so these are good things. Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Thank you for a great report. And as I'd mentioned to you earlier I really love the format of your annual report. Every time I look at it I find some new data point that's just fascinating so I really like the format. I do echo what Councilmember Chu and Oliverio said but my concern is our liability. When you're talking about the 500,000 hours that's a lot of community service that's provided in a safe manner. But as we look at some of the jobs it takes higher levels of training and our liability I think we need to approach it thoughtfully, so always thinking, you know, because it's exposing our community to liabilities that we really want to be ultracautious about. But I thought this was a great report. And the one -- couple of things that I really liked that were in here, one of them, and of course this is my plea to -- I realize in the Mayor's Budget Message it dogs maintain funding for one more year for the senior nutrition program. But 250,000 meals served to seniors through the senior nutrition program. So I -- I realize that's to give us the year to try and find alternatives. So wishing you luck, and success on that issue. So great report. And you might let Danny the dragon know that the council is pleased to hear he's past his tummy trouble.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the committee on this agenda item? If not can I have a motion to accept the report.

>> Motion.

>> Second.

>> Councilmember Chirco: With enthusiasm. All those in favor, all those opposed, that motion carries. Thank you Julie. And the next item on the agenda is the status report on golf courses.

>> Peter Jensen: Peter Jensen some general services director and I'm joined by Albert Balagso, the director of PRNS. The staff memo gives you really just a brief cover memo, and then attaches the manager's budget addendum that we wrote on in subject, it was MBA number 38. The work that we're doing is in following the council direction from the mayor's March budget message which asked us to review land valuations and reviewing and sale of rancho Del pueblo. Our focus is on rancho Del pueblo. There's the file that you want. So just got a picture, Google map of it, just to orient you to the course. With King road running along the east side, 101 on the West, so that you have so the of orientation. You can't quite see 280 but 280 runs just to the South. I would also point out that the mayor's June budget message would direct us to continue the work that we're going to describe today. As I think you know, Rancho Del Pueblo is a nine-hole golf course that provides about 35,000 rounds a year, about 70% of those are played by youth and seniors. And it's the home of the First Tee Program, which is a youth life skills program that targets underprivileged youth. In our work we've looked at three different options. The first option is full residential development of the site. It assumes a medium density designation which is, we think, the highest value for the land. Be about 208 units under that scenario. The estimate from our consultant to the land value would be about \$18 million. Under that option. The second option, we had a couple of different variations of developing only a portion of the site. One would develop the Northeast corner, the driving range along King Road and the section that moves to the West. That one produces about 95 residential units and leaves about 15 acres for golf uses. The other version essentially flips that so that the development would be on the west side along 101. And the driving range portion and a couple of the holes would remain, again, for golf uses. Again, that's about 15 acres. Under either of those scenarios -- well, actually under the King Road development scenario the value is around \$7 million. The development of the West side of the property is estimated to be worth less than that by about a million. The third option is public private partnership. We have talked to first tee to explore whether there would be ways to have them help the city with the operating deficit, and the debt service payment at rancho Del pueblo. Together those are valued around \$650,000. The General Fund subsidy for the golf course program as a whole is about \$1 million. In the MBA we go through an explanation of the debt service obligations. And a couple of hours ago in rechecking this we discovered, through finance, that there had been an error in these calculations. So let me run you through that. So bottom of page 3 of the memo, we talk about the call-date being August 15th, 2017. So the bonds can't be retired before that date. But you can pay a prepayment requirement that would pay for all of the principal and interest payments from the date that you make a sale of the scores through that date, August 15th, 2017. And then you have to pay whatever the remaining balance is on the debt service, as well. The calculation that we had prior and if you look at the language in the memo, the -- the 5.4 million outstanding debt is correct. The \$450,000 of ongoing debt service is correct. The \$9.6 million of the prepayment amount is not correct. It is \$5.9 million. The error was the outstanding balance in 2017 was double-counted in the calculation. So the prepayment amount is smaller on rancho, similarly on Los Lagos, same error. So instead of \$38.8 million, the prepayment would be 22.8, because that is the amount of the outstanding balance as of 2017. So then if you go to the top of page 4, the effect of that change, we talk about the fact that you could pay down all of the debt service on Rancho Del pueblo, and then you would have a remaining amount that you could use perhaps against the Los Lagos debt. The net remaining about, instead of 8.5 million, becomes 12 million. So you wind up with more money that you could use against a possible payment against debt service. Last thing I want to go through is just the steps on the development process, so on those first two options, at full or partial development, the initial steps are a general plan amendment, planned development rezoning and an environmental impact report. Those are estimated by the consultant that if we can file those in July, that would take about eight months, and in total the council hearing for approval of those things would be estimated in spring of 2011. We would hope to be able do that in time for the council's consideration of the 11-12 budget. If the council approved it at that point and moved forward, there is a development permit application, development permit, tentative map, those kinds of things, that would likely be late fall of 2011, another six months or so. And then finally improvement plans, first, final map, grading permit, building permits, those kinds of things would likely be fall of 2012 by the time all of that was approved. So at the point that a sale could actually be done, and concurrent with this, what we want to do is go forward with some form of competitive process to find a development partner to work through all of these things. And the other thing to mention is that there be significant amount of public outreach, the EIR and the rezoning would have large component of public input, to

make sure we understood what that was before the council was asked to make any decisions. With that we're happy to answer questions.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Questions by the committee? Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you, chair. How much is the total acreage? I caught the one thing about the 15 acres if you build-d.

>> It's 30.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: So on the medium density what was that per acre?

>> Eight to 16.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: And then Albert how much space do you need for a soccer field?

>> Albert Balagso: About three acres.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: About three acres.

>> Albert Balagso: That's basically the footprint itself. You add another acre or two if you want to add the other amenities to it.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: So and then on -- when you were going with the city consultant, assuming 208 units, on 30 acres of land, did that anticipate like how much the park land dedication would be, like a rough number of the land?

>> I think the number that we had was about 700,000 was the estimate in terms of PDO/PIO.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Right, so that would translate to what, Albert if you hear that number, about half an acre or what?

>> Albert Balagso: Depends on the land, about half an acre. p.m.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: On this site if you built it to a density, building a village which we're talking about general plan 2040, you could increase in density where appropriate, you know, there's a variety of -- it's certainly an interesting parcel when you look on the map on how it's been done or what it is. But increasing the density to where it can be done, shrinking the footprint of the housing and allowing for a community-serving soccer field for this area, and ideally, too, I don't know if it's possible, but you got to run the number. So I'm certainly in favor of, as I've spoken many times, where we would still have two 18-hole golf courses in this city if this was sold completely for development. I think the public-private partnership thing will be problematic and again still have all that massive debt service and we could really reduce it. I know this will be a council decision but since this is at committee I feel comfortable saying this that I would look forward to getting the option on the full buildout but with the idea that we'd need to make this open space available for a soccer field, at least one. Again I think it's important you know because we hear a lot about first tee and the great things it does, it is a nice organization but we as a city subsidize that by making available a golf course that doesn't make money. But I think there could be soccer fields where there could be revenue neutral for leagues, it obviously allows a lot of people to participate in an kitchen sport which is healthy. And I'm going to look forward to more as this comes along. Thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Councilmember Chu.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you, Vice Mayor. The question is should we refer the site to the full council before we decided to move forward with the general plan amendment in November, so what's the process?

>> Norberto Duenas: I believe, Madam Chair, members of the committee, the sequence here, this is the manager's agenda addendum number 38. So when you approve the budget, when you have the discussion on

the budget on the 15th and the 22nd, you will be approving the recommendation that's in that manager's budget addendum. Number 38 for the staff to consider, continue to proceed with further exploration. So that's the direction that the council will give at that time or have the opportunity to give.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: One follow-up question if that's all right chair.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Yes.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: On the debt service that's been paid, that came out of the General Fund?

>> Peter Jensen: Debt service is paid out of the municipal golf course fund, but there's a \$1 million subsidy to that fund.

>> Albert Balagso: That's correct, the gap is funded through the general fund. But there is some that it comes through the golf course component which includes what we get from San José Muni as well as the profits that we get from Los Lagos.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Okay, thank you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I will share my thoughts when this comes to the council. But this is something I am very much against. On the general plan task force, we're looking at 450,000 give or take a hundred, additional people in the next 20, well 30 years because it is the 2040 plan. And we're going to continue and if we're going to keep our green belt we're going to have to continue to struggle to find off space. If we're going to keep the three acres per thousand of open park land and open space per resident, I realize this is an encroachment in the General Fund. But if this is converted to housing you'll never see this open space again. And having two soccer fields sounds good now. But in 20 years, you will need ten soccer fields at this location, and the land won't be there. I understand the problems we have. But when it comes to land, they don't make it anymore. It's not like you can buy it in the future, because it will be gone. And if we can't afford it now, just think where we're going to be in 20 years. So I realize this is a council directive and thank you for the report. I've been against this since it was first mentioned, open space is something we are far too short of. So is there then in the audience wishing to address the committee on this agenda item?

>> Councilmember Chu: Madam Chair can I ask a follow-up?

>> Councilmember Chirco: Yes, uh-huh.

>> Councilmember Chu: One of the options is just to not operating this land, as a golf course. Like we do with a lot of how much would that cost to the city to just shut down the facility and just leave the space as an open space?

>> Albert Balagso: You would still have the debt service and there are still associated operating costs but then you would transfer those maintenance costs into whatever the open space you would have. It would basically be a wash. You would still have a liability there.

>> Councilmember Chirco: If not, what -- if I could get a motion to accept the report, now it says to accept the staff report and work plan. Maybe I can ask Norberto to clarify.

>> Norberto Duenas: Just clarification. You will be when you take the action on the budget and the various managers' budget addendums, you will be asked to approve the recommendation that's on that manager's budget addendum 38, and that will happen on the 15th and/or the 22nd. So for this particular committee, it would be just the acceptance of the report.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Okay.

>> Peter Jensen: Actually if I could add one thing, the correction to numbers that I gave you verbally, is that something that we can incorporate into the record as it goes forward as part of the Mayor's Budget Message?

>> Norberto Duenas: You can incorporate it as part of the record. We may want to consider, though, giving a supplemental just to clarify those numbers. Both, I think we should do both.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I agree with you. So if I could have a motion to accept the report and then we'll get the supplemental with the corrected numbers.

>> So moved.

>> Second.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I have a motion and second to accept the report. All those in favor, all those opposed, hearing none is that that motion carries. The next item on the agenda is approval of the strong neighborhood business plan. You will note I left out initiative.

>> And you'll note we've left out initiative as well.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Way to go.

>> Good afternoon, all. My name is Kip Harkness. I'm the director of strong neighborhoods, and with me today are Ernest Guzman, also with strong neighborhoods, and Pete Colstead with strong neighborhoods on the neighborhood leader side. And we also were going to have Elsie Arranda join us. Unfortunately she's had a medical emergency in her family and will be unable to join us today. What I'd like to do is take a few minutes to present to you the work that we have been doing in collaboration with community to update the strong neighborhoods business plan. And as Madam Chair indicated, I want to make clear that this is a business plan that focuses both on the redevelopment area as well as citywide and how the two work together so that we are talking about strong neighborhoods not just the redevelopment area but strong neighborhoods across the city. For the past five months with literally hundreds of neighborhood leaders we have been working to adjust to the new reality of serious lack of funding from the redevelopment side due to the state take and drop in taxes and also the changes within both the economy and the fiscal side on the city. I don't need to tell any of you up here about those issues. We have sought to use that as an opportunity to ask ourselves the question, what is most important, and refocus our staff and our resources on those priorities which we, as a community, need to focus on in the time like this. The four goals that we've come up with and I'll present then in short order are removing barriers to neighborhood action, stabilizing neighborhoods in crisis, supporting neighborhoods action and mobilizing it, and connecting resources to priorities. In order to do that, we are going to need to reconstitute ourselves as a neighborhood solutions team, including all of the departments and groups that are mentioned up there, to focus and concentrate our efforts around those goals. We see within strong neighborhoods our mission is really to engage residents in health and well-being of their own community. And as we did this business plan update we went through a number of steps in a number of meetings. You see the six of them outlined here, that grew both in size and in collaborative nature until the very last ones we were truly working together on the creation of this business plan. As we asked the questions to ourselves, staff, and leaders, what is most important, we got over 600 different answers to that and did a number of exercises to both understand what was most important among the most important, and also what the different categories of those comments and suggestions and direction were. This gives you a sense of breakdown into about seven different categories what we heard. Not surprisingly resources and services are the top of the list. Close on the heels is community outreach and engagement and close behind that is the related category of information technology. The plea that we begin to use the Internet and other tools to more effectively collaborate with and engage with our communities. And then other priorities that emerge were safety and security, policy and regulation, social places and then a large miscellaneous category. What is particularly interesting on these is how they shift goal to goal and I'm going to spend a little bit of time on each of the goals and the shift and the emphasis is to me particularly interesting. So goal one, removing barriers to neighborhood action. You have actually had a lot of discussion already in this committee meeting about those barriers to volunteerism and how they can be expanded. Other barriers we've heard is access to community centers. When we asked what is most important in this goal, not surprisingly the very top piece was policy and regulation. In many cases that is our policy and regulation. So what we are proposing doing with goal 1 is to work collaboratively with the community and with our city partners to develop a top five list of common sense achievable changes to policy and practices that can support neighborhood volunteerism and the ability of

neighborhood leaders to do what they want to do to improve their community. Goal 2, this is a large one for us and this is primarily within the existing redevelopment area. As we are all aware we are in the midst of an extreme economic crisis right now. What is also clear is this economic crisis while it affects all of us has hit some neighborhoods doubly and triply hard and that those neighborhoods are in crisis or at risk of being in crisis. So this goal will focus a lot of the on ground organizing resources towards those neighborhoods that are in crisis. As you can see the top answers that came out on what's most important on this are resources and services, community outreach and engagement and safety and security, particularly public safety. So the teams that we would create in these neighborhoods would focus on community organizing, enhanced community policing, code enforcement, housing rehabilitation, anti-graffiti and youth services, working as a single focused team in collaboration with schools, faith communities, and community based organizations and service providers. To give you a sense, right now we're working at determining which are the neighborhoods in crisis. We have a list of about 20 potential neighborhoods that we've identified, those have come from the mayor's gang prevention task force, and other sources as a potential list, and we're looking at seven different sources of data to try to understand which are the neighborhoods that are truly most in crisis. So we're looking at number of gang incidents, violent crime rate, code enforcement issues, unemployment rates, foreclosures, graffiti, and neighborhood perception based on our own survey work that we've done over the years. And just to give you a couple of statistics to highlight the vast range even within the redevelopment area, if you look at foreclosures, as an example, within the greater Gardner neighborhood there have been a surprisingly small number of foreclosures, if you go to East valley 680 on the other hand, a full 39% of the properties in East valley 680 are at some point in the foreclosure process. So even within the redevelopment area we've found these vast differences. And so what we're trying to do is look at all seven of those issues and figure out what are the neighborhoods that need our support the most. The other reason that we want to focus on these neighborhoods is that without this focus, our fear is that they will continue to deteriorate and they will begin to drag not only themselves but the surrounding neighborhoods down with them and then they will become an endless sink for resources that we don't have. So we cannot police our way out of these issues. We have to organize and collaborate and support our way out of these issues. And the quote here from the neighborhood leader is neighborhoods are very fragile right now. Neighborhoods in transition will fall into crisis. This map it just illustrates some of the data that we're working with to begin to look at the different neighborhoods. We have not as I said made a decision yet and are still working through the data to determine which ones are the best fit. We will also want to work closely with our partners to make sure that park and rec, housing, police department, code enforcement, and Department of Transportation and others concur with the choices and are able to prioritize those within their limited resources as well. Goal 3 is one that's a very exciting one and probably the one that's most different from what we do now in terms of the level of effort we're going to give to this. To focus on neighborhood action and mobilizing neighborhood action is one where we hope to take a stronger role citywide and within the redevelopment area in truly supporting strong neighborhood leaders and strong neighborhood organizations. To give you a couple of points that we're working on now as an example of this, neighborhood leadership training. Our hope is that we can take this business plan and create a new level of leadership training which creates very educated very connected very skilled neighborhood leaders, connects them with each other across the city, and that over time, course after course after course you begin to develop a cadre of neighborhood leaders, who all they have to do to get something done is pull out their Facebook, connect with each other, and mobilize those resources. And they're speaking the same language, they have the same understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the city organization, they can pull on each other to get work done. Another example of what we mean by mobilized neighborhood action is in the area of blighted properties. Every part of the city faces properties that are neglected by landlords. It's not something that's restricted to the redevelopment boundaries. We have code enforcement as a tool, but in many cases code enforcement isn't able to deal effectively with the very worst property owners and the very worst properties. One of the tools available to us through the legal department is the idea of a nuisance abatement and different tools, one of the things we're in discussions with our legal team right now is the idea of doing a training for community leaders, on how to legally, ethically and safely, do the research that's needed on these nuisance properties, provide that to our legal team and then we can go forward with a nuisance abatement. As a city, one of the obstacles for us doing the nuisance abatement is the vast amount of time and effort it takes to do the research properly. If we're able to mobilize community volunteers, and again in an ethical and legal way to do this, we can dramatically reduce the costs on our side and provide a very effective hammer against the very worst partners wherever they are in the city. A third example is quite literally providing tools for volunteers. The idea that many of our staff have talked about is, and I know that some of the different departments have pieces of this already. But what about warehouses and trucks, where rather than asking everybody to try to find their own tools and equipment, provide them some of the tools

and equipment that they need to do the work especially the more specialized tools that they may not have on a daily basis and literally make that available to volunteers who are doing work like this tree planting here where they may not have the rod you need to ram the earth in everybody's garage. So those are three of the examples to mobilize neighborhood action. The reason I've asked Ernest up here is what we're doing with this is, we are folding the functions of the neighborhood development center truly into the strong neighborhoods team. So he will continue to be a part of mobilizing neighborhood action and will be one of the leaders on these initiatives. Hear from the leaders themselves again, we need to train our leaders, empower our leaders, and trust our leaders. The interesting thing looking up at this again is the high scorers on this one were community engagement and outreach and information technology. It was much more about communication, than about resources. Or as much about communication as it was about resources which I found encouraging and interesting. Goal 4 connect resources to priorities. We still do have a significant redevelopment budget devoted to neighborhoods, approximately \$5 million this year in redevelopment funds will be going directly to neighborhood identified priorities in the strong neighborhoods areas. We will continue to implement those priorities as we have over the last decade. In addition, we will increasingly collaborate with community development block grant, the ESP and other stimulus funds that are available to us which are directly matched with the community priorities. We also hope to become more successful in collaborating with others and going after grants that directly come into the neighborhoods, whether we as a staff are direct beneficiary of them or not. Then lastly I just want to highlight very quickly two pieces outside of the framework of the goals of the business plan that we will continue to be and become increasingly involved in as a strong neighborhoods team. And they are interrelated. Civic engagement and development. We as strong neighborhoods would like to see ourselves as support to the City Manager and the rest of the city, whenever there is a need for excellent community and civic engagement around top priority project or issue, whether it's the budget or a large development potential project, we'd like to be there to support and take the lead. For example, the work we're current doing with the Diridon station area good neighborhood community where we're engaged with 31 different stakeholders around a potential ballpark, high speed rail, and other developments in the Diridon station area is for us an example of both civic engagement and supporting potential development. Also, specifically with development, as was mentioned earlier, the new general plan calls for a large increase in the number of folks who are residing within San José a lot of that increase will be in fill development that takes place within the urban growth boundary and within the redevelopment boundary so strong neighborhoods as a team peels we are uniquely positioned as part of both the redevelopment, the City Manager's office as both organizers and both having an expertise within development to support the development of those infill properties in a way that works for the landowner works for the developer and works for the surrounding neighborhoods. So very quickly, moving forward, our step right now is to present this to you for your comment, direction and guidance. Final step is to report this out and present this to the council as a whole and then to launch this with the neighborhood leaders and I'll let Pete talk a little bit more about this piece. And my conclusion is as we've heard and listened to neighborhood leaders and our staff there are three basic things that we feel we will require going forward. One is the creation of a flexible field based staff that has the technology and capacity to pull together the police, code enforcement, housing rehab antigraffiti and others in a truly focused and coordinated effort. Two, continued access to fund and resources from both the redevelopment agency, community development block grant and others, as well as the development of new sources of funding, and three, a renewed commitment to supporting a strong, capable network of neighborhood leaders and providing them the tools and training they need whether they're in the redevelopment agency or citywide. And with that I want to turn it over to Pete to let him do, as he says hi English to English translation and provide some perspective from the neighborhood.

>> This is one of the things we joke about. Would you leave that last slide up? My name is Pete Colsted, I'm in the Market Almaden neighborhood, which is just south of the convention center. I'm not here alone. With me in spirit is Sandra Solner from the University neighborhood, Elsie Arronda and Juan Estrada from the Eastside, East Valley 680 NAC, and also Steve Landou from the Winchester NAC on the Westside. So we've tried to get as many, as good a spread as possible to get talking about this. Let me back up a step and explain why I'm here. I'm on the Diridon good neighbor committee that's led by Kip and early this year, following the first meeting to discuss this business plan, Kip and I were getting together to talk about Diridon and before we got started we began to talk about SNI and the problems and basically an attitude from the neighbors that the first meeting was a complete waste of time. That began to grow into weekly meetings initially with Kip and myself. Eventually all the other people got into, I think we had about 10 or 12 people. We had to keep moving the location, because the group of people got to be so large. The -- in the end in the last two meetings that were described earlier, meetings 3 and 4 of the SNI business plan, the neighbors and the staff more or less co-produced those meetings. So that

there was input from both sides. The point is that there's been great collaboration already and I expect that this is going to go forward. The -- on June 28th of this month this sort of ad hoc group of people is going to get together and create what we're calling a CNAC, the coalition of NACs. And initially this will be formed around 19 board members one representing each of the SNI NACs and four committee chairs, which will parallel the four goals that Kip has described to you. So that there will be essentially a parallel structure just of neighbors which fits side by side with what the SNI group itself is going to do. Where are we going? Frankly, we're making this up as we go. We are really flying right now by the seat of our pants. We are in the middle of writing job descriptions for the board and the committee chairs. We are putting together bylaws for the organization. I met with UNSEC this morning so we are dealing with the mechanics of insurance and things, it's moving really fast. The way I've been describing it to people is you want to start with 19 NACs. Because with 19 entities you can get your arms around that. You can get 19 people to the table and get some sort of agreement. You can't do that citywide with 400 neighborhoods. We do want, however, to essentially extend this entire idea to the entire city and kind of what we're thinking of just the neighbors right now is there's funding apparently in this to go for two years, is that correct, Kip? We see that as our deadline. Then after two years we want to be independent, we want to be self-sufficient, so that if the money dries up, for SNI, we have a mechanism to move forward on our own. But at that point also we would like to expand it beyond the 19 SNI areas into a citywide operation. I think what's driving this is the ability to work with Kip. We have meetings which are completely wide-open. The candor level is extremely high. We have an agreement that nobody has an ego in these things and that we're going to say some things that will upset somebody or maybe we'll back off or maybe he we'll press. It's a great working relationship already, we see that moving forward. We've got a lot of commitment from the neighborhoods already and bottom line we think this is a good idea.

>> And with that we'll conclude our presentation.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Questions by the committee members. Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you, Pat, Ernest, and Kip. Kip, thank you very much for your ability to facilitate and narrow down many thoughts to one, or to more concise thoughts. Question on the top-10 lists. Do those remain?

>> The top 10 lists remain and part of the mission of the connect resources to priority group is to continue to implement those as possible with the redevelopment budget we will, a lot of the top 10 lists have service priorities and neighborhood action priorities so realistically over the next two years we'll be focus more on implementing those than implementing some of the capital projects certainly the ones that are unfunded. But we continue to see those as important to us over the long haul.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: And then on the original inception, was the top ten supposed to be that's it, because I know some have had a second top ten.

>> We had a process which we call renewing the action agenda. And the idea there was for those who had completed their top ten or had completed a majority of their top ten is to take them through a process of focusing on what's most importantly to them, looking at not only capital projects but looking at neighborhood action and social service, as well. So a number of the different groups have gone through that process and sort of have their second top ten, if you will. Not all of them have gone through that, and candidly, with the shift in the economy right now, I'm not sure how much sense it makes to be spending a lot of time talking about planning for things which we don't have resources. So part of our focus is making sure that we are able to focus on those things that we can change and implement within the two-year time horizon rather than trying to generate a new list of large capital projects.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: I would very much concur with that. I think leading folks on to San José that's going to happen that is tens of millions of dollars I think just drop it. Because it's you know to get the update on the project that will never be is sort of a waste of time and effective thing. I had a question also on the SNI -- strong neighborhoods, how sit that we get a larger percentage of that population that's covered by the map? Because a lot of times you'll have one to two people and when they speak for the whole area, but no one knows who they are. Maybe that's under Pat. You seem to have a larger idea there, right? It's Pat right?

>> Pete. I'm little confused by your question.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: I think we see a lot of times from people that emerge in positions that will say that you know they represent everyone. But no one knows who they are. And I think then they say, I speak for this neighborhood, when it's -- you know so it's difficult. I mean clearly the only people that really represent the area are the folks that are elected but we need good leadership and neighborhood participation to achieve our goals as a city but I'm curious to know how we expand that footprint to reach more of the folks that are probably watching American idol at home.

>> I'd actually like to have Ernest answer a little bit of this, I'm actually going to tee it up a little for him. You put your finger right on one of the difficult issues with a more participatory version of democracy. Certainly we have as our root and our foundation the elected representation, and our goal is to support democracy by creating a broad leadership that is really speaking for people as well. One of the definitions I use when I talk about with my staff and myself, is a leader has followers. One of the dangers of holding a community meeting and saying y'all come, is you get people who may be very articulate or very well spoken, but they may not necessarily be leaders. So part of our challenge is, how do we cultivate and support the existing leadership that's there, but also bring in new leadership, deeper leadership, leadership from underrepresented groups and unrepresented groups, and allow that to be a much more fertile ground so that frankly when you have the opinions that come to you, you know that there's a broader representation of ideas that are being presented. It still doesn't make it easier to sort out but it has the ability to bring together more of a true voice from the neighborhoods and I wanted to turn it over to Ernest because he's been probably been doing of us the deepest thinking of us on how you support the generation of new leaders citywide and how do you bring them into a process in an effective way.

>> I guess I'll answer it in two ways, one of them has to do first of all with the kind of leadership we've been doing in the past in the neighborhood development center. A lot of it was old, tired, we've done this before. What we've tried to do over the last couple of years since I took over the NDC was to go ahead and create a series of new trainings. One of the things that we tried last year that was very successful and had about 75 participants was called neighbors in the chambers. That was a three-weekend, three-month commitment from -- that was offered citywide, to have people that wanted to participate but didn't know how. They were intimidated by coming to City Hall. So what we did was we created a curriculum to talk to people about you know, this was what government's about. If you're attending the, say, the June 22nd meeting where you're talking about the budget and the mayor and council is going to be voting on the budget that's the wrong meeting for you to be at. You need to be at the beginning of the discussion. Whether it's meeting with the department, whether it's meeting with the councilmembers, whatever it needs to be done, in terms of getting people confident about becoming leaders and educating not only themselves but also other community folks about how to deal with democracy in action. That was a very successful experiment. We ended up having, graduating from that class, at least 65 people. At a was about a year ago. So we tried something new and I've had people walk up to me saying you know that was the best class that I've taken. I've never seen anything like that, and actually I researched nationwide the kind of models that we finally created. So councilmember, it's that kind of training that we're going to have to put in place, more of. The second thing is when you ask about how do you get deeper down into the neighborhoods, and find, you know, how people may not necessarily represent an area, except for the electeds, one of the things we've been doing at the cap grant trainings which I changed over, was to be more pragmatic with neighborhood groups that were applying for funding about do you absolutely represent and do things for your neighborhoods, as a whole? And they have to verify to us that they aren't just a one or two person neighborhood group but rather that they actually have a constituency that supports them. And we've actually had people that can't verify that. So as a result, the committee when looking at that, that makes the awards on the grants, says you know this really doesn't represent a community. So there's a couple of two or three things that we've been doing over the course of the last two years that we think are going to be the base of creating something totally new. Having said that Kip said we have an exciting chance of developing leaders, not just the emerging leaders by that I mean you know you are talking about how you dig deeper down and get other people? We have a whole group of leaders that's been involved such as Pete for a while and I think one time it was when I was a regular resident, and didn't work for the city, we had this discussion about, you know, what's the next level for my kind of training. What do I do, what does Autumn Gutierrez do, what do other people that have been doing this for a while, what's our buy-in to getting valid training. And what people told us was, well, the next logical step for you is really to get appointed to a board or commission or to actually run for council. And the reality is that there is a another level of leadership that needs to be developed into the level that Kip has been talking about that is a very sophisticated but needs another type

of training sorts of a Ph.D. in community engagement. I know that all of you have had your groups that you belong to and particularly Madam Chair with your past experience you see the benefit of getting advanced training to develop you to your next steps. So that's the kind of thing that we're going to be doing as the NDC becomes a city wide effort of strong neighborhoods, is to not just deal with the emerging leaders and validate the fact that they actually represent the constituencies but also talk about developing a whole new level of network of leadership that the city hasn't seen on this kind of scale before.

>> So I know we've given a lot of air time to this but I think it's a really crucial question. The other piece we'll be doing is we'll be training a lot of our staff on retraining and training and their organize techniques and approaches and I'll give one quick example of one of the techniques I use. I'm a big believer on one on ones as a starting tool to learn about a community. But who you do the one on ones with is very crucial. So one of the questions that I've learned to ask of a broad number of people is who should I talk to, and ask them for three names. And if you start asking a variety of different people within the same community that same question, certain people emerge. So when I was in Japantown and did 75 one on ones, very quickly I understood that Reverend Sacamoto, though he never showed up to a community meeting, was somebody who I needed to talk to, learn from, and get his perspective on. Similarly, when we work with our organizers, we're going to be training them that they need to not just assume that the person who walks into the door or who picks up the phone and calls them is the only person they should be working with or is the leader who represents the community. Probably more than you wanted but --

>> Councilmember Oliverio: No, that all helps, and I appreciate that. Then on the goals, the goals actually may match whatever any neighborhood in the city wants but our issue is that SNIs do not represent the entire city.

>> Correct.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: And I have areas that I could take you into my district and out of my district that would fit the profile of a problematic neighborhood, yet they don't get any specific consideration. So I'm curious how we get there out to because I'm of a belief that everybody neighborhood should have sidewalks and streets that are paved and lighting, the basic infrastructure that a city is supposed to provide, regardless how time has left some areas and property values are higher than others everyone deserves that minimal level and I guess that is sort of the historical stuff since we're out of money, we aren't doing much anymore as we have done in the past but I think you know, because I even think in areas that don't have SNIs they still will have a problem with code enforcement or a nuisance abatement house or traffic calming. Things get done on the SNI list. I don't know if it's the neighborhood commission since it represents every district in this city regardless of SNI, is that going to be more of a role to push this out?

>> I see the neighborhood commission as being very important. If you have neighborhoods commission and I know you'll hear more from them and about them shortly. They have the ability to work strategically and work both within the redevelopment areas and outside the redevelopment areas so we are hoping to be tightly engaged as we have been with them. I also think and this was a challenge that Debra Figone the City Manager gave very clearly to us as we were developing the business plan that it is relevant, most relevant to the extent that it provides a way that we as a city do business not just to the extent that it helps the redevelopment area. So I think we're very aware of that challenge and that's the reason that we've drawn the neighborhood solutions team so broadly. Other than the folks on the redevelopment side, everybody else in that room has a truly citywide perspective and all of us are very clearly merged in our funding so that we are also taking that citywide piece so it's a challenge. It's one that we historical have not met as well. And it's one that I think you need to hold us accountable for as we go forward.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you, Kip. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Councilmember Chu.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you, Madam Chair. My question is very similar to councilmember Pierluigi's regarding to when you're trying to expand this strong neighborhood to outside of SNI area isn't there some duplication with our neighborhood commissions? You address a little bit I just wanted to kind of voice my

opinion. Instead of creating another boards and commissions and we could definitely put it on the neighborhood commission.

>> I'm going to let Ernest answer that, because he's part of the strong neighborhoods team and supports the neighborhood commission.

>> I think that what you're looking at are two different things. I think that what Pete's describing is more an informal network, although it will be formal in some sense, where they support each other and that's kind of a grass roots model. The commission that's been created is actually a formal advisory commission to the city and it is citywide and it's embedded you know in the enabling ordinance that the responsibility is to -- I'll talk a little bit about what's been going on recently because I know that you received letters regarding the budget and community policing that I delivered on May 28th. So those are the kinds of things that are very specific to the neighborhoods commission. I think I see a partnership potential between what the commission is going to be doing on a formal policy development recommendation level to you as councilmembers and the mayor as well as augmenting what the CNAC is going to be doing in terms of the grass roots efforts. I think that what you're going to see is actually drawing potential leadership for the commission at the neighborhood caucuses, eventually being drawn from the CNAC. Now understand also, the CNAC is only specific to at this point the SNI area which is one-third of the city. Eventually the vision is to go ahead and make it citywide. I think hand in hand between the neighborhoods commission and the CNAC that kind of strategy can be developed but that's still in early stages right now. We haven't actually had those discussions. But I think that we also have several commissioners on this emerging CNAC group. There was that discussion about how the commission is going to work with this emerging group that currently will represent one-third of the city. So I think it is going to be a work in progress. I don't see that s there necessarily going to be a duplication of effort, more an augmentation of effort.

>> And the frame that I would add is, I think of things in terms of tactics, operations and strategy. And the neighborhood associations and the NACs, wherever they are in the city, tend to be very tactical. They are very focused on the immediate needs of the neighborhood, the immediate concerns of the cleanup day or the dumpster day. The neighborhoods commission is very much a strategic body looking at policies and procedures and implications across the board and one of the things that was missing within the redevelopment area was this operational level of cross-coordination. So we're hoping that this lateral communication of neighborhood group to neighborhood group. So we're hoping in the initial phases the primary role of the CNAC is this lateral communication and coordination. But I am looking absolutely to the neighborhood commission to continue to have that strategic conversation direction and vision for the citywide piece.

>> Let me just throw in there also that from the neighbors standpoint we see exaggerate that same problem. There are NACs. There are neighborhood associations. There was a PAC. There are Yacs. There is UNSCC. There is so many different players that nobody can tell who's doing what and there's a lot of duplication of effort. That's why we picked this two-tier year window. We said at the end of this two years let's see where this is going to go. We would like to see that folded into one item. What that is, we don't know at this point. But we're coming at it from an efficiency standpoint, it's not so much who does what? Why are we doing if same things. Let's get out of the way and accomplish these things together.

>> Councilmember Chu: Great, Pete, for coming out and talking to us and thank you for your volunteer in the community. My next question is regarding to I have no doubt that we have a wonderful training program and I'm so happy for the 65 graduates from that program. The question is, outreach. How do you reach out or this is pretty much limited to the SNI area?

>> No. The neighbors in the chambers which we are hoping to replicate next year, that was open citywide. In other words we advertised in the Mercury News, we sent identity to all our database of neighborhood groups. It wasn't limited to SNI.

>> Councilmember Chu: I see.

>> And as a matter of fact it was interesting because I think only one-third ironically of the people that registered were in the SNI areas. The rest of them were outside of it. It was just you know regular residents that said you know I'm interested in doing this. I'm intrigued by the concept and they showed up. I think the first meeting we had

90 people show up. It finally dropped down to 65 that graduated. For the first time ever citywide, held, ended with a mock council session where we had a part of the students actually play the mayor, your roles, sat in your chairs and then we had a mock situation that they came and testified on and we had everything from a mock City Attorney, we actually had the mayor show up and give a presentation. My point on that, the emphasis was citywide. When we do it again it will be strictly citywide.

>> Councilmember Chu: That's nice to know. I just don't remember seeing that ad on the newspaper but please use my office. I'm pretty sure -- or the other council office as your resource to reach out to the community members to participate.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Kip, I bought into this, it's strong neighborhoods. Listening to Pete, I thought no, it's really strong neighborhood initiative. So tell me which it is.

>> Let me just jump in there. I'm not a professional at this. You know I've been involved with the strong neighborhoods initiative for three months just because my neighborhood hatches to be a NAC. This has evolved since January of this year into a much broader concept. So we -- a lot of the neighbors are coming within this from within the SNI program, and kind of reacting to what has happened in the past. But what we see is it is a citywide program, citywide problem that needs to be addressed.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Well, I hear that there's going to be a CNAC which is made up of the 19 SNI areas, you are going to have committees made up of the CNAC. I get concerned, as Councilmember Oliverio, and then you talk about there is two years' funding for this program, but it's coming out of I'm guessing out of redevelopment, and so that speaks only to the SNI areas. On my first year on council I kept bouncing a strong neighborhoods business plan because it was only an SNI. So help me understand why this is not an SNI business plan.

>> I think it's probably most useful to look at each of the goals in turn and spend a little bit of time with them again.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Please, let's not.

>> Okay.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Except for the one that stabilize neighborhoods in crisis and you're going to use surveys in areas that have already been surveyed which is your 19 SNI areas. And as Pierluigi mentioned there are areas that are marginal, one of them is Seven Trees, that became a pilot area. You don't have any data or historical data on those so how do you define an area in crisis?

>> Actually we are using data that's citywide available. All of the data we is citywide. We are starting on a citywide basis to identify the neighborhoods in crisis.

>> Councilmember Chirco: More specifically I have questions that you know Pete sounds like he's done a lot of work on this very familiar with this plan and it's being rolled out as a strong neighborhood citywide plan, and yet all of the implementation sounds like it's very focused and will be for two years. Now, Pete does cover that we want to reach out, expand and embrace. But what happens to the other two-thirds of the city?

>> The funding is a blend from the redevelopment agency and the City Manager's office so what we're creating on the neighborhood action piece is making sure that we have a team that can work citywide on the issues that affect all neighborhoods. And we are pulling in the neighborhood development center into that to make use of their expertise and we are adding resources to that team above and beyond what we had before to make sure that they are strong as possible. The other ones, neighborhoods in crises are by and large restricted to the redevelopment areas and by and large funded by redevelopment dollars which carry with them those restrictions. The answer is it has to be both. It has to meet the needs of the strong neighborhoods initiative area which we have a 30-year plan commitment to through the redevelopment agency, and in order for us to really

meet our goal, it has to be effective citywide. The key pieces I see city wide are the neighborhood action, including the training and the resources available in terms of small grants and others, and also, the role with civic engagement processes that affect the entire city such as the budget process. And house communities are engaged in that. So much of our efforts around neighborhood action will have a citywide focus, much of our efforts around neighborhoods in crisis will have a focus within the redevelopment area, both because that is where the majority of the issues are and because of the restrictions on the redevelopment dollars.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I guess that I just need to know you know because never once was the neighborhood commission brought up. I know that's another report. And I'm being a bit stickier on this than I usually am because in the next six months I will be termed out of office. And so I get that the SNIs have restrictions on them. But I also want to know that this is truly a plan that willing be implemented to the entire city and how will that be unfolded?

>> Abi Magamfar: Madam Chair, Abi Magamfar deputy executive director redevelopment. I think Norberto can join me on this. Our intent is definitely for this to become a citywide. However, because of the way the structure is in place right now, as it was developed as initiative for the 19 different areas, the efforts that is been put in place in the last nine months as far as the business plan update is concerned, to engage other stakeholders that would be part of the expansion. And that is why the neighborhood commission it is critical as part of the expansion into the areas outside of the redevelopment project areas as well as the other areas that was identified in the last two, three years, that to be looked at as similar to a strong neighborhoods but on the city side.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I kind of get a sense that this is a strong neighborhood initiative work plan or business plan. In two years might be expanded to the city. Help me understand that.

>> Abi Magamfar: The initial plan that was developed back in 2004-2005 was indeed a strong neighborhood initiative plan. And in October-November 2009, whether we started looking at updating the plan, the intention was that it would be an expansion, an update of the initial plan. A lot of the elements of the originals plans are stills in here. But the expansion and update provides the ability to expand it citywide.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Then I would like to look at Norberto, when we had our premeeting, I maybe mistakenly understood that this was to be a citywide strong neighborhood business plan.

>> Norberto Duen,s: Again, I -- you know we view it as a citywide effort, Vice Mayor. We really do. I mean, we've, we used three pilot areas in nonSNI areas, Silver Leaf, Donna lane and Seven Trees to test the SNI models in those areas. I think we came to the conclusion that the SNI model, moving them out into technically nonSNI areas was something that was worthy and that was beneficial. We want to continue to be able to do that. I think what's happening here is that because of the combination of funding challenges, and some, and an effort to update the previous business plan, we see an opportunity to be able to integrate what are the things that have been beneficial from a strong neighborhoods initiative perspective and be able to carry those efforts citywide. So, you know, from our perspective, again, this will be an exercise that we're bringing forward that will continue to bring forward to this committee and in about three or four months let you know how it is that we're doing. But from our perspective, you know, we have a clear understanding that it's strong neighborhoods and these are issues that some of them will be beyond those strong neighborhoods initiative areas.

>> Councilmember Chirco: That was very helpful. But what I would say to Kip then, you haven't drawn a picture of how this will be unfolded in the nonSNI areas. Pete fold, you know, laid out a very comprehensive and what appeared to me to be restricted, to only the SNI areas. With the goal to ultimately expanding it to the rest of the city. How will this be implemented sooner rather than later?

>> I think you pose a fair challenge. And I believe it's important to begin the coordination with the CNAC immediately so that within the strong neighborhoods initiative areas they can begin to do the work that they need to. I think the challenge you mows today I haven't presented a clear picture as to how we truly roll this out as a citywide effort. I believe I owe you a better answer than I'm able to provide today to come back and say this is what we mean when we say citywide, these are the initiatives that will be taken and this is the effort that we will be adding to it.

>> Norberto Duenas: We have those pilot areas, Silver Leaf, Donna lane and Seven Trees, we are still responsible to continue to be engaged with those three areas to address some of the issues that they brought up that are important. And again those are nonredevelopment areas that we continue to be engaged in based on that exercise that we had a few years ago.

>> Abi Magamfar: And they are rolled in into the new plan. As well as the activities from the neighborhood commissions.

>> Councilmember Chirco: It would have been helpful if you had used those three on next steps for them. And how you were going to replicate what has been done so you start to have a work plan as you look at nonSNI areas that are in crisis. Because those problems haven't been resolved yet and that's been three years on its own. I would look forward to that report, because it's like Pierluigi pointed out, that having areas in his district that don't -- didn't qualify as an SNI but are at risk. So thank you for your patience and I look forward to additional information.

>> Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: I mean I keep thinking in my head here as we are talking about a specific geography of the city and we're not talking about the entire city and I as a city provide services to an entire city. Whether I'm in District 9, 4 or 6, if I pick up the phone I get citywide code enforcement. So it's strange to me. I guess I'm just looking for equity, for regardless of your line in the city, that you get a standard set of services at a minimum and that's how it is, you know as I mentioned before everyone should have code enforcement that reports to their neighborhood that they should have a street that's paved and sidewalks and street lighting and have adequate level of Public Safety or a library in their area but I still am kind of a little thrown is all and I guess I question that if we have this many questions in a committee and knowing our calendar on June 22nd is fairly full between budget and other items, medical cannabis, et cetera does that make sense to put this now on June 22nd?

>> Councilmember Chirco: Excuse me, Kip has said that you know, to come back with some better answers and I don't know what the work plan looks like for the next six months. But is there any way we could put to come back with a better vision?

>> Norberto Duenas: Well what I would recommend is we stay on course with the schedule and I mean we've already added updates on this SNI business plan to the NSE committee so we can bring updates to you as early as September. So that you know how things are unfolding. I mean you know what? In fairness to the staff, you know we are trying our best under very difficult circumstances to integrate a number of concepts and visions with very limited resources and still be effective in going out there and continuing our work in the neighborhoods. So, you know, we are going to have a little bit of space to be able to sort those things out and while we can't give you definitive answers or clear answers today, this is something we're going as we move into implementation, some of it is going to be new for us too. We need a little bit of space to work on the implementation space. That said we are very much cognizant that the communication with your offices is critical for the success of this effort. And we pledge to you that we would do that. That we will do that. And we will use this committee to keep you posted every step of the way on how this is going. We want to hear your feedback. We don't want to go too far ahead on something that you may feel that is not the right direction. But we do want to create a little bit of space to be able to move into implementation and let you know you know how we're doing and checking with you on a regular basis.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I would find that acceptable. Is an update, how often is the update on the work plan?

>> Norberto Duenas: We can do it I mean right now I have one update within the next six months but I think we can do an update in September and we can do another update in November and that gives us enough time to you know sort out all the staffing issues and putting the teams together and will give you a sort of an update in September and by November we have all the teams in place and will update you.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Chair.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Yes.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: I'll take that as an answer but I really think this is something we should come back with more answers. I personally would rather see this come to council around August 10th, once we get past our budget, once we get past August 3rd, which is when the council will decide what initiatives may go on the ballot, baseball, taxes, et cetera, and then come back with a more complete set. Because if three councilmembers are going to have this many questions, I would imagine when you have 11 you're going to have a lot more. I think at this point in time, there is no mission critical here, we're not missing a build date to go build a building or anything like that.

>> Councilmember Chirco: In all fairness this is a new process. The merging of the two. And I think it is time sensitive. Just simply because of the work involved. If we defer this until August then nothing can be done as far as organizing getting the teams in place. So I would prefer to see it move forward and then you said September and November?

>> Norberto Duenas: Yeah, I would suggest that we bring the first update to you on how things are going in September, first meeting in September, and then another update in November.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Because I know when we did the neighborhood commission it was forever. I mean it's just the process of the work we're engaged in. So I certainly have challenged Norberto and Kip and Ernest on many things. And despite the fact that I've enjoyed their company I look forward to more of it. So I would ask that this, you know, go forward as planned and we will do the learning along with them because it is a journey of learning. So if I could have a motion to accept this report, and then it can move forward, and then we would have a report in September.

>> Councilmember Chu: I'll make a motion to approve the report.

>> Councilmember Chirco: And if you're not comfortable seconding it, I would second it.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Fair enough.

>> Councilmember Chirco: And I understand I can do that. Okay I have a motion and second. All in favor? Aye. All those opposed.

>> Abi Magamfar: Madam Chair, I would like to suggest that the item be referred to the redevelopment agency board agenda for the 2002.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Okay, is that the appropriate place for it to be referred to?

>> Norberto Duenas: Yes, it will be a joint item. But we'll hear it when the redevelopment agency agenda comes up so that will be sooner on the agenda.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Okay and that would be referred as a joint item. We've already got the vote. That motion carries with two ayes and Pierluigi voting against it. And I -- for deferral. I would just maybe recommend having had a lengthy conversation with -- about this that maybe you can make an appointment and do some more learning. I'm still in the process. I've been here eight years. It's very helpful. So that motion carries. Thank you very much.

>> Could I make one closing comment?

>> Councilmember Chirco: Yes.

>> Don't confuse my bias or the bias of the SNI people that I hang with as the focus of this plan. We're coming from where we operate and so ideas about a two year time period and things like that, that's just coming out of

our own situation. So I think what Kip has been describing is beyond that. We just have to operate in what we know right now.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Well I have met so many examples of which you are one that really fine leadership that has come out of this work. It would be nice to expand that kind of skill-building to excellent people citywide.

>> Great, I agree with you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Thank you. The next item is the neighborhood commission update. Thank you earnest.

>> Madam Chair if I can invite the chair of the commission who has been patiently waiting here through most of the presentation.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Welcome Beth.

>> Madam Chair, councilmembers, this will be a fairly quick presentation, as required by the enabling ordinance we come to you every several months to give you an update as to what the commission has been doing as part of the pilot effort. Once again, these are the 2009-2010 work plan priorities, and they really are the mission of the commission. And we actually will be coming back to you within several months with the 2010-2011 priorities. So priority goal area on civic engagement. Part of what this has been about is increasing the visibility of the commission, to have the commission more effective in its mission. Part of the challenge has been as was brought up in this discussion earlier is that the commission is new, and is really going to hit its anniversary in July of actually meeting for the first time. So a lot of the work that's been done, in almost the first six months of the commission's existence was really a lot of training, getting to know what they needed to do and all of a sudden they were thrown into the budget process. Because that really occurred on November, January, and to let you know, the commission is not only not taken a break on any of its meetings, it actually has had several special meetings to be able to accommodate the enormous amount of information they've had to gather just on the budget alone. So -- but aside from the budget one of the things the commission has decided to do which fits into part of the discussion having to do with the budget was take on a couple of new topics. And we wanted to bring this to your attention because part of what we need to do is keep you posted on what the work plan development is as well as making sure that you buy into what the commission is doing is appropriate for what its charge is. So the -- they have decided to focus attention on first of all the current state of community policing in the city. Specifically, the discussion after we had the Chief of Police and the auditors office come and do several presentations, was really around the issue of community policing, the six-month rotation period which was a concern in terms of public safety, as well as the idea that in tough economic times, you really need to build rapport between the community friends out on the street along with the police, and the six-month rotation really affects that in an adverse way. The letter that was delivered to your office along to the mayor's on May 23rd really made a series of recommendations around that. The thrust of that is really the commission recommends to you as you examine and make your recommendations is really a two year rotation. Which the Chief of Police says he is supportive of. The commission took a long hard look at what was effective. Certainly, that's not the ideal situation, you'd like to have police officers stay longer than that. But given the fact of logistics of what's involved, they felt this was a fair recommendation to make for your consideration. The second item that they took on, which actually we had the first full presentation by the arborist last night, was the current street trees policy for the city. As you well know, and as Councilmember Oliverio has mentioned, this is a citywide commission. So trees are certainly city wide, and in the discussion around the creation of the commission, a lot of discussion had to do with where certain -- the commission was created with the promise that it would not duplicate any efforts, would not take on any particular efforts that were already being done by planning, by library, by historic landmarks commission. This particular area of streets policy doesn't fit in with any particular commission. And so the commissioners in discussing among themselves and the 30 representatives, actually we have four vacancies so the 26 representatives, really felt there were issues around this that were very confusing to them as neighborhood leaders that was also -- there didn't seem to be clarity of focus on what was expected of the property owners around trees, and so they felt that it was important to take this on as a -- as an item to perhaps create some recommendations to the mayor and council, yourselves, on what really should be a clear focus of policy for the city. So last night that discussion, the arborist was there for about an hour and a half answering a lot of questions. It's the beginning discussion, and certainly one of the things that emerged that was interesting to the

commission was the fact that there seems to be -- there's no one central location for maintenance of trees. In other words street trees are under the Department of Transportation, residential trees on residents' properties are under the -- under the Planning Department, trees in parks are under Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services. And even trees on property the fire departments are located on actually is under general services. So it's one of the things where, if a resident approaches, having difficulty, where do they go? Where are they directed? And this is some of the discussion and communication that came from the commissioners, that this adds to certainly not clarity of policy, but rather, a focus for the commission to perhaps start developing some ideas on recommendations to maybe streamline the effort for your consideration. So you see that this is new areas that they're going to take a look at. Certainly you know this fits within the budget discussion simply because the arborist said there isn't enough money right now for either a lot of the inspectors or a lot of what they do. So if we're going to be grappling with budget deficits for several years to come, recommendations on how to streamline and augment that would certainly be to the benefit of the council apples consideration. And finally, one of the things that the commission is going to be taking on is, once again, the revision of the updating of public policy 630 which is the notification process for residents on projects that emerge in their neighborhoods. On communication and outreach, one of the things that's really a priority is that folks, as was brought up earlier, need to talk among themselves, not just among themselves, but also how to talk effectively and communicate with the city. As I mentioned in my March presentation that there was going to be an April united neighbors of Santa Clara County conference. That did occur. We had alternative commissioners form a panel at a workshop form on April 17th and got some fairly interesting questions from the attendees. Mainly, a lot of it had to do with you know, what are you doing for us? You know how do we reach you? Things along those lines. So it was a good informative session for the commission and realizing that they really do need to become more visible in the community. And the outreach and communications subcommittee is working closely with the caucus subcommittee for the next major effort which will be the first annual caucuses that will be occurring late August, early September. Certainly that's going to be interesting because that will be the first time that the commissioners will take on the responsibility of communicating back to each of the neighborhood groups that they represent in their council districts, a lot of what they've done and also, it will work the other way, in terms of asking them, what are the priorities that you see now that we need to take back to our commission to talk about, and informing new recommendations to the mayor and councilmembers to take a look at. And also we're starting to develop a series of outreach documents, including a one page fact sheet. The committee felt there was something that needed to be handy out at meetings, that it wasn't simply a business card, but it was something for people to read so they know what the commission was about. And finally of course, the fact was that the priority for almost the last five or six months has been the budget and from being trained on the prization process to the mayor's meeting in January to helping get outreach out on each of the council district budget meetings, all that resulted in the fact that one of the things that had been committed to by the commission was to develop a series of recommendations for your consideration. On the regularly scheduled meeting on May 12th as councilmember -- Vice Mayor Chirco can well appreciate, resulted in almost the entire meeting discussing the budget. And that simply meant going through what are the priorities, what do we look at in making a recommendation? And we hit 9:10 and weren't finished. And so a specialty meeting was set up on May 20th which was a week later and it was a special meeting with only one particular item which was the budget, and putting together recommendations for your consideration. So the commission met for two hours that evening, and the letter that you received focusing on several areas for your consideration as you make your decision on the budget is result. I have to say I've worked with many groups who have worked very, very diligently on a variety of things. I think it was an eye opener as you can imagine with 26 people all around the room, all having different ideas on what priorities would be everything from saving you know my community center to saving my library to saving my favorite city volunteer effort to nail down the priorities that you finally got, which I think are very reasonable and very, very focused, rather than a simply -- a generalization. It is actually fairly remarkable among 26 different people that have only been working together for probably about ten months. It can be done and certainly I hope that as the chair hopes that when you consider your final decisions coming up on the 15th and the 22nd that you bear that in consideration. So I'll stop at this point, obviously much more to come including the discussion that Kip has brought together about the value of the commission and the whole going forward citywide effort but that's something we'll talk about as we go into the discussion of a new work plan for the neighborhoods commission. I would like to take some time if you're agreeable to have Beth make a quick statement and then we'll be open for questions then.

>> Well, thank you all certainly. This has been a very exciting year for us in the commission, getting to know each other, going through our training phase and then moving into our actual work and as Ernest said I think our learnings about the budget were partially about learning about the budget themselves as well as learning to work

together. On the commission we have some people who are very seasoned neighborhood advocates as well as new and developing leadership. So it's been a great process and our continuing intent is to focus on areas of community interest throughout the city but also to be a resource to support our neighborhoods and our city leadership both staff and council with our neighborhood view as well as identify best practices and share those. So we can best leverage the resources we have not just the City's resources, but the strengths and resources we have in our neighborhoods, and what we've learned working in working in different neighborhoods so we share that. One of the discussions we had had to do with street trees and the discussion was gosh how do people take care of the trees, every homeowner and resident on their own, how does that happen. I reside in the Naglee park neighborhood. We had actually developed a best practice through our naked. We developed a model through the neighborhood association, actually had negotiated a best price with a licensed vendor who is on the city's list and our neighborhood association actually incentivizes homeowners to participate by cost-sharing with the homeowner. So that is just one example. Throughout the city we believe there are hundreds of these types of neighborhood best practices that we can assist and share throughout the city.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Thank you so much. Are you ready for questions?

>> Yes, certainly.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Questions by the committee.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Did my colleagues receive this letter from the neighborhood commission on the budget?

>> I delivered them to the 18th floor on May 28th.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I remember getting it but the stack of letters on the budget was huge. So it probably wouldn't be a bad idea to redistribute it because I consider that letter --

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Electronic copies obviously much better.

>> We'll send it out.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Great, appreciate it.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: I would really like to know the feedback. Appreciates it.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I remember reading it but I don't remember what it said. Kansen.

>> Councilmember Chu: Thank you, Madam Chair. Looking at your new policy items, the community police being in the city my understanding was this current budget situation probably would be pretty much eliminated, shall I say? The -- we're not going to do much, we don't really have much of a budget to do the community policing. This is, I somehow heard the words from the chief.

>> Yes, I'll address that. Actually the community policing aspect is in a program itself. It really has to do it's more of a labor issue in terms of what's negotiated between on the contract. However recognizing that one of the things -- you know we wanted to tell you what the neighbors felt was vital, even recognizing that it was a labor issue between the city and the police unions, it was more of the fact that, you know, this is the kind of thing that when eventually you come into those negotiations, you should consider that moving from a six month to a one month. So it isn't about the budget itself cutting a community policing program it's more about the philosophy of your negotiations once you enter into that then.

>> Councilmember Chu: Okay do you have anything -- are we going to --

>> Norberto Duen,,s: No I think I've always viewed there's no one here from PD but community policing for us has been, you know, traditionally more a concept and a philosophy that does not really depend on the budget so whether you have 100 police officers or 20 police officers, philosophically you can complement a community

policing type approach. So I think the discussion that was held through the neighborhoods commission was more related to the six-month rotation and that's more of a meet-and-confer issue that was be part of the negotiations between the city.

>> Councilmember Chu: I will probably get more information about what's our community policing that arm being practicing in the City of San José. My second question is that we're losing four out of our neighborhood commissioners before the work really started. Do we have any exit interview to -- of those four members and --

>> We've actually had more turn jove than that but we currently have four vacancies. We have two vacancies in District 5, we have one vacancy in District 2, and we have one vacant in District 10. But actually over the course of the pilot project we probably had about five to six resignations. Now, the smart thing that the commission did at the beginning, and which you actually approved, was that alternates were selected. And so you don't see those vacancies because since they were already preapproved and looked at by the city attorney's office and you voted them in as part of the vote last June, what normally happens is, for instance we had one in district 6 come up recently, where someone resigned, and then we contacted the first alternate, Mr. Richard Allen, he said yes I'm still interested, you know he was selected like two years ago and so since he was already preapproved by yourselves and looked at by the city attorney's office, the procedure is just simply to move him into place so he was sworn in at the May 20th meeting.

>> Councilmember Chu: I'm really thrilled to know that we have a procedure in place to replace them so quickly but my question is why are we losing them so quickly?

>> Well, the chair can anecdotally talk to you a little bit about what the reasons are because they usually go to her as well as to us.

>> Yes, to answer their question the resignations that we have received, the individuals have stated for their own personal reasons, mostly time constraints. Our commission has a fairly robust schedule. We also have some subcommittees. And in the resignations that I received people have said basically because of work, family, other responsibilities, and also, since it had been some time since they were first selected and then seated and then we started, there were a lot of time considerations for them and in many cases, the time involved was more than they were able to give the at the time. So we luckily have a process in place.

>> Councilmember Chu: On the approval process we make it very clear about the commitment.

>> Yes.

>> Councilmember Chu: That's why I was very curious to know why we have so many people leaving this commission.

>> Yes and just to piggyback on this we have discussed with each of the council offices we could put together a special caucus for them if they need to be filled immediately. Each of the council offices has decided that rather than go through the time and effort to go through a special caucus they'll just wait for the special caucus in August-September and make that as a part of their regular caucus and just select the new members there. So we always offer to each of the -- if they don't have alternates each of the council office the ability to go ahead and put something together within 35 to 40 days to fill that vacancy.

>> Councilmember Chu: Signed up this is a pilot program so it was like two years?

>> Yes, yes. We're barely going on the first year. You approved this in June of last year. It officially began July 1, July 1 will be the first year and it's got one year beyond that.

>> Norberto Duen,,s: If I could comment, that is a very good comment, Councilmember Chu. It's work plan has been adopted by the NSC committee and the full council and that's really what's governing the neighborhoods commission over that two year pilot period so as we look at other roles and opportunities for the neighborhoods commission, down the road, we need to take into account that we need to finish the pilot program, based on council's direction, and then be able to come back to you and through the experiences that we're going to have

with the strong neighborhoods plan and other documents that we've heard, we'll be able to certainly discuss and bring to you forward how after the pilot, what would their work plan and what would their work look like. It's a very good mounted because it does give us there's a little bit of less flexibility on our part to be able to bring them in in certain things No. that pilot period is completed.

>> Councilmember Chu: And again I would like to maybe after the pilot program period I would like to know how we can have such a high turnover rate. This is really the crux of my question. You know, all other commissioners are appointed for a full year term. And they all know about their time commitment.

>> Norberto Duenas: Sure.

>> Councilmember Chu: I don't see such a high turnover rate in other commissions than this one. That's the crux of my questions.

>> Norberto Duenas: I think that's a good point and as we go through the pilot period I think we need to do some debriefing at the end and be able to come back with more specifics on that for you.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I can only speak to the commissioner that had to resign from my district. She wound up being appointed to the Planning Commission. Those kind of things happen and then there was an extend like a year and a half from the selection initially, to the actual taking the oath. So there was 18 months, and so. Any other -- any other questions by the committee? And if not anyone in the audience wishing to speak on this agenda item?

>> Actually I'd like to introduce Mauricio Estacio, who is another neighborhood commissioner. If you would like to say something.

>> Thank you Ernest. It's easier to pick this thing up. Just to elaborate on Ernest point on our work plan we did identify in our last subcommittee, the exploration of the SNI program and certainly many of the people serving on our commission work across the three tiers that Kip identified, tactical, operational and strategic and I think that we will definitely, I anticipate that we will do a lot of work to see how we can leverage those economies of scale and scope to bring all of these programs onto a citywide level.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Thank you very much and thank you for your service and you too Beth. I was especially touched when you were elected chair. Having come from the SNI experience, the depth that you brought. I thought was really a good factor in our new commission.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Councilmember Chirco: If I could have a motion to accept is the report.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: So moved.

>> Councilmember Chu: Second.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I have a motion and second to accept the report. All those in favor, aye, all those opposed, that motion carries. And the final item is the school city collaborative.

>> Norberto Duenas: Madam Chair, members of the committee, you have my report, dated May 24th. I'm available to answer any questions. The next meeting of the school-cities collaborative is next Wednesday, and I believe that's the 16th of June. That is the full group with the 19 school superintendents, and I'm available to answer any questions.

>> Councilmember Chirco: Questions? Well, just to say thank you to all the staff that work really hard on this. I know they have different work groups. I'm really excited that it is alive and well after having seen it kind of disappear. We do all serve the same community. Can I have a motion to accept the school-city.

>> Motion,.

>> Councilmember Chirco: I have a motion and second to accept the school city. All those in favor, all those opposed? That motion carries. Anyone in the audience like to address us on anything not on the agenda? And if not, the meeting is adjourned.