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>> Mayor Reed: (gavel strike) Good evening. I'd like to call this session of the San José city council to order. This is a special meeting, June 14th, to hear the public testimony regarding the budget message. Tonight's a special meeting, that's the only thing we have on the agenda. And it's not a time that the council will be taking action. We're just here to give the public an additional opportunity to tell us what they think about next year's budget, around my budget message. So tonight is the beginning of the hearing on my budget message. The council will not be taking action on the budget message tonight. We're here to listen. After we've heard from the people who want to speak tonight, and there's a lot of you, then we'll continue the hearing until tomorrow when we'll vote on the budget message. Before we take the public testimony I want to describe the process that got us here. We began the process back in November when the council began to deal with a huge budget shortfall in the 2010-11 fiscal year which starts July 1st. Since November we've held dozens of hearings, study sessions, workshops, and community meetings. I've attended numerous community meetings with councilmembers and staff to discuss the budget and what we should do to close the huge gap that we're facing. We've done surveys including scientific polls to make sure we know if priorities of the people of San José. And of course you know that there are a million people in San José who couldn't be here tonight. And so we have to think about everybody. On March 23rd, the city council approved my March budget message with direction to the City Manager to seek a 10% reduction in total compensation from all of our employees to avoid layoffs and drastic cuts in services. Although we as a council have debated the mix of ongoing and one-time concessions, the council was unanimous that we should seek 10% in personnel cost savings. Then on May 3rd, following a direction from city council, the City Manager proposed a budget that was balanced with approximately \$55 million of revenues, fees, transfers and reserves, and about \$60 million of service reductions and job eliminations. Many hours of study sessions and hearings then took place over the next two weeks. Then by May 21st councilmembers issued more than 30 memos with their recommendations for changes to the City Manager's proposed budget. After considering all of that, I issued my June budget message on June 4th, revised it on June 11th. My message contains my recommendations for a balanced budget for the fiscal year that starts July 1st. My budget message includes a recommendation of funding for restoring branch library hours to four and a half days a week, keeping open 22 community centers that were slated for closure, in the City Manager's proposed operating budget, including Alma, Alum Rock, Alviso, Gardner, Starbird and Washington, increasing funding for the city's crossing guards, park rangers, and antigraffiti programs, and restoration of the fifth engine. Now, although this is my budget message, I did not prepare it all by myself. I want to acknowledge the enormous amount of assistance I received from my staff, led by Armando Gomez, the City Manager, City Attorney, and their staffs in preparing my budget message. I thank Vice Mayor Chirco, councilmembers Liccardo, Constant, and Herrera for their advice, comments and suggestions as I drafted the message, also want to thank all of the councilmembers for their many recommendations, which were contained in the over 30 memorandumss put forward by councilmembers. My budget message incorporates many ideas from the council memos, and I appreciate councilmembers' suggestions. Because some of those council memos involve collaboration among multiple councilmembers, number 2, community centers by Councilmembers Chirco, Liccardo and Nguyen; number 24, aquatics by Liccardo and Chu; number 27, concessions by Pyle, Nguyen and Herrera; 31, catalyst fund between Herrera, Liccardo and Pyle; and 35, libraries, Chirco and Liccardo. City attorney has concerns that the process might be considered a serial meeting of the majority of the council. Therefore, I will be making recommendations for some changes in the process when the council approves the schedule for next year's budget process. Again, the council will not vote on the budget message tonight. We're not making a decision tonight. We're here to listen to the community, and we'll be here as long as it takes so that everybody gets a chance to testify. And with that, it's time to hear from the public and as can you see, the room is full. There are lots and lots of people that want to speak so we're not going to leave until everybody gets a chance to speak but I am going to limit public testimony to one minute. So we will do that now. I will call a few names. When I call your name please come on down towards the front so we can cut down the transit time. You can stand over here. And we'll just keep going. Until we get done. Hopefully before tomorrow. So with that I want to start the testimony. I'll be calling down John Hessley, John Allen, Drew Allen and James Cahan.

>> Good evening, mayor, members of the council, I'm John Hessler, the vice president of the Santa Teresa foothills neighborhood association. We represent over 4200 homes in districts 2 and 10. We polled our membership and we also took a vote by the board of directors, and I'm here to report that the

association supports the mayor's call for the 10% reduction in city employee compensation. While this will represent a hardship we feel that is the only choice, the best alternative to preserving our important city services and city jobs, as many jobs as possible. And secondly, we're looking forward to the long term and, we recommend strongly, that this city for all new employees, come up with a new system, a pay as you go system like a 401(k) that is in the private sector. This will have the benefit of funding liabilities as opposed to leaving them as unfunded liabilities for future generations.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Dallas Allen, Drew Allen and then James Cahan.

>> I'm Dallas Allen, I'm from the story ridge neighborhood association, member, many of the people that I've talked to in our association agree with me, and we believe that the mayor is doing a good job and we approve of his budget. Or the collective budget.

>> Mayor Reed: Drew Allen, James Cahan, Sara Houghton.

>> Thank you, Mayor Reed, please city council, support Mayor Reed's proposals. Revenues are down. Mine are down. My employees are cut, in order to stay in business. Everyone likes to have more money. But sometimes, it's necessary to cut. And I -- my income was cut. There was no option, except work elsewhere, if I wanted to do so. The grand jury made the report very clear, the facts are clear, it's good, it's accurate. Anonymous I ask you, please, it's hard to have a stiff backbone but it's time to do so. Implement those grand jury recommendations. Don't just talk about it, go ahead and do it and plan for revenues to decline in the future. The world has already changed. It will not return to the way it used to be. Do not expect economic magic to happen. Scale down financial receipt expectations. Plan for and implement reduced income, expenditures, salary, benefits, days off and things such as that, pensions --

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

>> Thank you, sir.

>> Mayor Reed: James Cahan, Sarah Houghton Jan, Gay Gayle.

>> Honorable Mayor, vice chair, councilmembers, I speak as a private citizen, but the experience as a prosecutor of 16 years. Your proposed budget, makes community safety fade. My suggestion to you is that the community alternative budget which takes the already volunteer reductions from law enforcement and the vacant seats that are already in place is enough to budget of balance your budget and keep the community safe. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sara Houghton Jan, Gay Gayle, Dennis Martin.

>> My name is Sara Houghton Jan, and I've worked for the city for three years as the digital features for the library system. I oversee web and tech services for the entire system, and I stayed for this meeting because I'm finding that the budget strategy that the mayor's proposing are requiring drastic cuts from city employees like me. And this is going to drastically affect my standard of living. The cuts you're proposing mean that I can't afford my current rent and I'm going to have to move. They mean that for the first time since I was 18, I won't be able to contribute the max contribution to my IRA. Means I can't afford the medical treatments that I have to pay out of pocket for because our insurance plan doesn't cover them. These are real changes to my life, a real employee who works for San José every day. I believe in what we do here and I want to work with you. I ask that you work with us, the unions, and not against us. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Gay Gayle. Followed by Dennis Martin and Pat Saucedo.

>> Good evening. I'm a District 3 resident, a volunteer and also a city employee of 13 years. I don't understand why we can't entertain approaches that other jurisdictions have used such as furloughs. When I lose 10% of my income I'm not going to be able to retire in San José. I'm going to have to leave. My co-pays next month in July will go up from \$40 to \$105 per month just for medical, just for prescriptions, not even for visiting the doctor. This downturn, this economic crutch we're in has been caused by the largest economic decline in almost 100 years. By the \$60 million in new accounting requirement to you by the arbitration awards, and the city has budgeted \$700,000 for police and fire arbitration. In the past we've never won. I think we should look better at how we expend our money. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Dennis Martin, Pat Saucedo, Ross Signorino.

>> Good evening, mayor and council. I'm speaking tonight on behalf of the arts commission. The commission is appreciative of the efforts of the mayor to address our concerns particularly the recommendation to reinstate arts express funding providing an opportunity to devise a transition plan that we hope could extend the life of this program beyond 2011. We also appreciate the direction to develop

new strategy on the use of T.O.T. Adjusted for inflation arts grants T.O.T. is at the lowest level ever. T.O.T. is used as a life line for General Fund, staff positions are being shifted to T.O.T. at an alarming rate. We ask that you halt the proposed shift in funding of 1.3 staff positions from General Fund to T.O.T. until the commission has had a chance to review and make policy recommendations. A better alternative would be to use the 150,000 in OCA relocation funds noted in item C of your message to provide one year of staff support. That would allow time to work on policy recommendations for 2011-12 and provide well thought out input on new T.O.T. policies.

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

>> Please do not raid T.O.T. for staff payroll, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Pat Saucedo, Ross Signorino, Rose Dhaliwal.

>> Pat Saucedo. San José Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce. First, the chamber would like to thank all who have worked on the budget. Tonight and tomorrow is your, the council's opportunity, to move San José's fiscal ball into home field advantage by adopting Mayor Reed's budget proposal. Overwhelmingly, San José's residents and businesses agree that the mayor's budget proposals are the right thing to do. Be strong, be leaders, be responsible, for all San José stakeholders, and support Mayor Reed's budget proposals before you today. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Ross Signorino, Rose Daliwhal, chili Ayala.

>> Ross Signorino: Thank you, Mr. Mayor, members of city council. I was anxious to come here tonight to speak on this subject. I am in agreement with what you're trying to do is reduce the budget by this 10% you are trying to get from the other employees here. And I think it's a good thing and I come here to tell you that that's the way the people of San José feel, the rank and file people that are not here but they do feel this way. And then before closing I don't want to lose this moment either. I want to thank Councilmember Herrera for her decision coming up with the courage she had to do what she has to do now in order to help San José in the best way it can, reducing this budget. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Rose Dhaliwal followed by Tili Ayala, Melanie Bright, Kevin Fish.

>> Hello, councilmembers and Mayor Reed. I represent the District 8 youth commission. The commission has expressed their concern that the elimination of Betty Montoya and Veronica Ruiz would really impact us. The work the commission does requires many meetings in order to accomplish all of our goals. Currently we meet on a monthly basis along with monthly trainings. However with the current budget deficit, we realize the need to cut down on the hours and staff support. So the commission suggested a 28% reduction in meetings resulting in 9 to 10 meetings per year. Staff support for the youth commission is also essential. Both Betty and Veronica serve as the youth commission's connection to the city government. They provide us the necessary resources to connect the youth of the city with the city government, enabling the youth to become empowered and involved. I hope you can take our request into consideration so that we may maintain our staff support. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Tili Ayala, Melanie Bright, Kevin fish, Linda Brogan.

>> Hi, my name is Tili Ayala, recently moved from Philadelphia. After attending a disability advisory commission's meeting I can say and request, please prioritize your decisions in spending and balancing the budget. Think about the majority, we the majority, the citizens of this great City of San José. And the staff at City Hall, that work hard to uphold justice, with great leadership. I support the mayor, and his decision to host the San José gymnastics city U.S.A. This will help our city in revenue towards businesses and employment. Please think about the majority. What will benefit the city as a whole. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Melanie Bright, Kevin Fish, Linda Brogan, Mark Brogan.

>> Hi, I'm Melanie Bright, I'm here on behalf of the rangers, not only at Emma Prusch park but in the whole city. I'm the current president of Hilltop 4H, and I have about 12 animals housed at Prusch park. I have been in 4H since I was 9. I have known and made friendships with rangers like Wes, Heather, Dennis, Ranger and Lena, just to name a few. Having a ranger there every day is like having guards there to protect not only myself but other members of the club and the park visitors. Without the rangers there to keep order the safety of the park is reduced dramatically. If the rangers are removed it allows gangs to come in and take over the park. Not all of you have children but for those of you who do would you want to take your child to a park where there's no one there to help and protect you? Removing rangers and other maintenance workers is like removing police officers and other safety officials. It jeopardizes the community as a whole, not individually. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Kevin Fish, Linda Brogan, Mark Brogan.

>> I'm Kevin R. Fish. I say support the libraries because we can learn about the world. From unification of Viet Nam in 1802 to the rise of Africa's kingdoms during Middle Ages in Europe, to the founding of the

American Federation of Labor and beyond. Now as a result, we can travel abroad, and get along better with people, better interpersonal relations, and that can also lead to better relations between governments. All because we can learn from the library. Now, we talk about cuts. And we talk about caring about people. That is heartless hypocrisy. Support the libraries benefits everybody. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Linda Brogan, Mark Brogan, Mirabel Aguilar and Rudy Tennis.

>> 22 years ago when I interviewed for my city position I vowed to give 100% to my duties and obligation as a civil servant. In exchange for this I expected a decent wage and fair benefits and a nice retirement. 22 years later I have -- I am proud to say that I have fulfilled my part of this promise. However with this salary and benefit reductions the city will be unfulfilling their half of the promise. I have dedicated my career to public service, and my life, family and future deeply and significantly impacted. The benefits being decreased is a huge impact in that I have a child with a chronic illness. We must take him regularly to a specialist to monitor his health. Additionally he needs medications and medical supplies. So not only will we suffer a loss of income, our family will further be dealt a blow with medical benefits be reduced and costs significantly increased. City council I urge you to look at that time impact these salary reductions impose on these already struggling families to serve the City of San José and its constituents and remember we too are registered voters and if we cannot count on your support you may not be able to count on our support as voters.

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

>> Hi, my name is Mark Brogan, I thank you for hearing us this evening. I'm a constituent in Rose Herrera's council district. I'm a financial analyst with the city. I've been with the city for over ten years. What I'd like to point out is if you go through with all of the cuts that you're talking about, I'm a fortunate one that I'll be able to refinance my house and make the payment smaller so I'm not underwater. What it will also do to me is the cuts that you're planning will cost me tens of thousands of dollars over the life of the loan because I will not be able to pay the amount that I'm paying right now. I will also have to reduce almost to zero both my wife, who just spoke, and myself, our 457 contributions. I don't know what else to do. My children are doing very well in school. I won't be able to continue why saving for their college education.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up.

>> Thank you for your time.

>> Mayor Reed: Next speaker is Rudy tennis, followed by Mirabel Aguilar and then Kevin mock.

>> Mr. Mayor, and city council members, my name is Rudy tennis and I'm a member of the St. John Benet parish also a member of the San José pact. I'm very concerned about the closing of those youth centers, our youth centers, closing the centers, and others will only encourage more violence in the streets. Keeping the centers detours them from seeking gang participation. I would actually endorse very highly to keep in mind that they prevent crime. They are like a confirmation service. I do jail ministry and I'm very much aware of the problem. I would appreciate making a big effort to keep the centers open if necessary. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Mirabel Aguilar, Carey mock, Robert Robles.

>> Honorable mayor and council, my name is Mirabel Aguilar and I'm a member of AEA, IFPTE local 21. I've been a city employee for over 21 years. I strongly urge you to reject imposition on the city of San José workers. I have a vested interest in the city of San José as both a resident and an employee. For me imposition translates into losing everything I've ever worked for, including my home. I have a single income through these tough economic times I've been forced to invest and potentially lose all of my savings. But I'm willing to make sacrifices. That is why IFPTE local 21 along with seven other unions have put real money on the table that will save city services. This is why we have proposed to reduce our pay by 7.5%, increasing the amount we pay for health care, and agree to partner with the city to save retirement benefits. My co-workers and I have agreed to sacrifice to save city services. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Carey mock, Robert Robles, Tanya Froydenberger.

>> Good evening, mayor. My name is Carey mock, I'm a student at James Lick high school. I go to the Alum Rock youth center every day. I have stress in my life for school and home and where I live is kind of dangerous. The Alum Rock youth center means to me is that it is a calm place, and hang out with my friends and meet new people and play sports and keep me out of trouble in the streets and it's safe. If you close the youth center, I don't know what I'll be doing and it won't have a real place to hang out at and keep me out of trouble. Please create a budget that puts young people like me first. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Robert Robles, Tanya Froidenberger, Diana Wilkerson.

>> Good afternoon. My name is Robert Robles, and I am from the Alum Rock Youth Center. Some pressures I am facing is I am a dropout and I am a single father. It really affects me knowing that my daughter has to look up to me as a dropout father. I have been coming to the Alum Rock youth center for almost two years. I was introduced to the Alum Rock Youth Center from my younger brother. He's been attending Alum Rock Youth Center since it's been open. We enjoy it here and if you were to close the Alum Rock youth center I would be into the wrong things, I wouldn't have a second home to go to to get my mind off the negative things I have on my mind and that I would lose all the friendly relationships I have with the staff. I do a lot here at that time Alum Rock youth center like coaching volunteering and other leadership roles. Please create a city budgets that you puts young people like myself first. Thank you for your time.

>> Mayor Reed: Tanya Froidenberger followed by Diana Wilkerson and Gina Mamarimi.

>> Hi. I'm speaking as a member of the Alum Rock Youth Center Advisory Committee, the Alum Rock Educational Board, the Alum Rock Village Business Association Board, and a former trustee of the Alum Rock School District. I support the continued funding to adequately staff youth centers especially in communities like Alum Rock where we have the greatest need and the fewest resources to support our young people. It took the Alum Rock community 12 years of hard work to support the strong support of pact to open the doors to our beautiful energy efficient building in 2003. Since then countless young people in community groups have been served and supported by our highly qualified staff especially 13,000 kids in Alum Rock school district because that's the only fully equipped gym, public gym we have and it was also used by several basketball leagues and a fantastic hip hop group so please keep our youth centers open. This action is one of the most productive ways to close the growing gap between the haves and the have nots in San José. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Diana Wilkerson, Gina Nomaremmi, Dave Gonzales.

>> Good morning, my name is Diana Wilkerson, and I'm a member of St. John Vienne LOC PACT and also a member of the Alum Rock Youth Advisory Committee. I'm here this evening to advocate to keep the Alum Rock youth center open with its current staff. As well as speaking on behalf of the other community centers and the libraries. Our youth center is a model of collaboration of the Alum Rock elementary school district, the City of San José, and many nonprofits in our community. We have a strong advisory committee. That has raised over \$30,000, since its opening in 2003. To provide scholarships, for the youth and families who are financially unable to afford these programs. The youth center has given many of the youth a second chance as you've heard from some of the testimonies and the city staff work and supervising the youth are dedicated employees who have helped the youth build their self esteem and recognize them as productive young people.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up. Gina Nomaremmi, Dave Gonzales, Angel Mendoza and then Maria Mendoza.

>> Good evening, everybody, my name is Sunama, I visit the Alum Rock Youth Center very often. I see kids actively participating there. They receive supervision and direction there. And we are responsible for our youth, guide them into responsible, protective members of our community. If the center close I see trouble ahead. I believe you have the power to make a difference. Don't push the kids into the street. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Dave Gonzales. Angel Mendosa, Maria Mendosa.

>> I'm Dave Gonzales, from St. Joan Viani Parish PACT, that's people acting in community together. On May 18th there was tremendous public outpouring of support for vital services like the six high impact community centers. I think it was probably the best attend council meeting in this new facility and it may have broken a record for the old facility, as well. I want to thank the council, and the mayor, for embracing the desires of the community, and including funding in next year's budget for the six community centers. And I want to continue to urge you to pass a budget tomorrow that includes these services. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Maria Mendoza, Beth Gonzales.

>> Hi, my name is Angel Mendoza. My dad is a drug addict, so I haven't seen him once in my life. And living without him and just with my mom makes me sad, because she works hard to make my life better. I've been coming to the center for six years and I am currently attending James Lick high school and if you close the center you'll put me in the street. So please use tax dollars wisely and put us youth first.

>> Mayor Reed: Maria Mendoza, Beth Gonzales and then Bobby Yont.

>> My name is Maria Mendoza. I go to Alum Rock Youth Center. I used to get into a lot of trouble before going to the youth center. If you close us down there will be a lot of kids on the streets getting arrested. Use our tax dollars wisely and keep youth centers open. It's important that we keep our kids off the streets and alive. Please use city budgets wisely so that we for young people like us. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Beth Gonzales, Bobby Yont, Gary Cunningham.

>> Good evening, honorable mayor and councilmembers, I'm Beth Gonzales, Alum Rock youth center and the other youth centers and actually all community centers open. We need to keep our children safe. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Bobby Yont, Gary Cunningham and Alex Sanchez.

>> I'm Bobby Yont. I'm the vice chair of the arts commission and I'm here with the approval and behest and representing the arts commission. In your budget you propose transferring 1.3 positions from office cultural affairs permanently to the T.O.T. Councilmember Liccardo proposed a stopgap measure that would help us for one year. However this transfer of positions will result in an exponential growth of funding for these positions and will continue to decrease what is already a compacted amount of support for the arts groups in the community. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Gary Cunningham, Alex Sanchez, Wilma hashi.

>> Mr. Mayor, councilmembers, I'm Gary Cunningham. You have some difficult decisions to make on the budget, I don't envy you. However if we don't get a handle on this we're going to suffer greater consequences long-term down the road. We can't continue to kick the can down the road on the budget. We've got to address it. Lately there's a lot of corporations that have failed, that were too big to fail, but they failed. Vallejo has gone into bankruptcy and San José faces similar things if we don't address these serious budget issues. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Alex Sanchez, Wilma hashi, Jenny tie.

>> I'm Alex Sanchez and I represent Starbird youth center. I want to keep Starbird open because it keeps me and my friends out of trouble and my friends and I have a fun place to go to where we can do things that keep us off the streets. There are good programs, they're to go, I can do my homework, when I go on the computers and I can stay away from gangs and trouble. It's important to me and my friends. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Wilma hashi, Jenny tie, Patricia McDonald.

>> My name is Wilma hashi and I want to thank the unions who are working with the mayor and the city council to help solve this budget problem. I appreciate the fact that many of them are working very hard to help you. I also here to support the libraries and this picture was turned in at pearl avenue library by I think it was a kindergartener, first grader at most, wanting you to know how important the library is to her. It says support libraries, support yourself. And I said would I bring this picture to the council and show it to you. So I'm also giving you this from a first grader at pearl avenue library. I don't know what school she went to just put in there. I would also urge you to reconsider opening the Bascom Library and the Seven Trees library. Jenny tie who is going to speak after me is one of the students from there, and she is going to let you know how important it is to her.

>> Mayor Reed: Jenny tie, followed by Patricia McDonald and Gabriel Ornellas.

>> Good evening, I'm a student in high school, and I just want to tell you why the Seven Trees is very important to me. It is simply very convenient, it's very close to school but more importantly, it's where our students go after school. We go there to do our school projects, it's where we go where we have resources for our education. A while back we had these cards where all the students wrote why we go. I turned them into Madison Nguyen. It's been there a long time, it's built and renovated, we're afraid if it's left alone it's going to be tagged before repopped I brought new cards, Tully library, those are very simple, they say please open the library because not many people can speak English. If you go back and look at the ones I turned in before those are from the high school students. Those I hope you look through again because they give real reasons why, I hope you will understand. I hope you'll take the time to go through them again. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Patricia McDonald, Gabriel Ornellas followed by Joe Denk.

>> Mayor Reed, councilmembers, I'm honored to be here tonight on behalf of the San José arts commission. I have the dubious honor of being the chair of the public art committee and that is why I am here. First of all I would ask to, in your prior message, of June 4th, we are in unison in asking the elimination of item F. In that message, you had asked to reduce the funding for public art, to libraries, and community centers. The bonds for all of these projects have been spent. There is no more. So now, we've gone into transportation and water pollution, sewage plants, and this actually is carrying forth your

vision. It carries forth the Green Vision. Decades and decades have been spent to bring the public art committee and public art in San José where it is today with the participation of many, many, many citizens. So I ask for this to happen. When you see the airport opening all of you have libraries that have been opened right now.

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

>> Well, please don't cut it.

>> Mayor Reed: Gabriel Ornellas, Joe Denk, followed by Day Anna butcher.

>> First, I don't think Starbird center should be closed, youth and seniors love being there, we enjoy it. To give you something to think about it's easier for gang members to convince a 12, 13, 14-year-old to gang banging than a 30-year-old. I meant every hour less they're entertained in the youth center is an hour less they're going to be on the streets like drugs, fighting, so I think you guys should keep our teen center open because all the teenagers enjoy it. And it's a safe place for me and my friends to go and it's like our second home. Thanks. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Joe Denk, Diana butcher, Phyllisitos Santos.

>> Good evening and thank you for this opportunity to speak. Honorable mayor and council, my name is Joe Denk. I'm an employee of the city for 20 years in environmental services department. I'm a member of CAMP and IFPT local 21. I strongly urge you to reject the imposition on the City of San José workers. I believe that the City of San José workers have made an offer to the city that will save the city more money than if they impose on the city. I know that the mayor and city council have worked many long hours, and believe that the 10% reduction in city workers' pay is reasonable. The amount of reduction for each city employee is going to be different. Some people may lose as much as 18%. It is going to hurt a lot of city workers. I do hope that you can find a compromise where --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Diana butcher. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Phyllisitos Santos and then George Tyson.

>> Good evening, I'm Diana Butcher, a member of AEA and local IFPTE 21. I've worked for the City of San José for over 23 years. I'm an engineer in the Department of Transportation and the sole wage earner in my household. I support my ten-year-old daughter and partially support my mother. The 15% pay decrease represented by the city's last, best and final offer to AEA will place a significant strain on our household budget and totally eliminate my ability to contribute dollars and time to my community, public schools and nonprofit organizations. Eight of the City's 11 bargaining units are willing to step up and share the pain, as demonstrated by their offers of reasonable, real money to the city. Unfortunately these win win proposals have been rejected by the city. Impositions are not current solutions of solutions of the problem but only a deferral of it to next year's process. The city's shortfall is not due to an increase in projected city employee cost but --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Phyllisitos Santos followed by George Santos and Mark Warwick.

>> Good evening, my name is Phyllisitos Santos, I have worked for the city of San José for 16 years as a custodian in the City Hall. I am a single mother with a 13-year-old son. I also live in San José. I struggle now to make my ends meet. If I lose my job, how will I provide for my son? Where I will live? If you outsource your custodians you will lose skilled, detail oriented and caring workers, who care about our job and the city we live in. You may believe that we are expendable but we are human beings with families. Yes, we are the most vulnerable of your employees, and most of us are afraid and scared to speak up. In the last few years management positions in the city have doubled. Solving this budget deficit is for all. But those of us, the bottom, should not be the ones who pay the biggest price.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: George Tyson. [applause]

>> Hello, my name is George Tyson and as of tomorrow, I'm the president of the West valley community services. West valley community services is an important agency that provides food pantry services, emergency assistance to keep families in their homes as well as case management to help coach people in how they can go through the myriad of services that are available to them. As of today, 43% of our clients come from West San José, 2,850. With the current budget, that is projected to drop to 450, leaving 2400 people with no place to go. I ask that you reconsider this in your budget and consider that West

valley is a very well run organization with a tremendously dedicated volunteers and employees and that every dollar that goes into a staff person motivates and enables dozens of volunteers that can glean from local grocery stores, that can provide computer support services, to the clients as well as work in the pantry. These are very important things, I ask that you consider them, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Mark Warlick, Lee Ellick, and Domingo.

>> Mayor, city council, my name is Mark Warlick. I'm the president of the Blackford Neighborhood Action Coalition. The message is very simple, thank you. I believe that your budget is correct. So does the Blackford NAC. We brought a number of kids, teenagers from Starbird park here today. You can see them up there in green and they'd like to thank you, also, for keeping or trying to keep our community centers open. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Lee Ellick, Domingo, Tony Nguyen.

>> Good evening, my name is Lee Ellick. I'm moving from District 1 to District 7. I've received e-mails from the mayor. I support the 10% cut but I do not support layoffs. I think I heard the fire department was safe. But no layoffs or the fire trucks or personnel. If we have a quake or a terrorism attack we'll regret it. The libraries are another sore button. Every time we have tax proposals, parcel taxes, it is always for the kids in the libraries and yet it's the first thing we cut. So you should think about the libraries and not cut them. Let's see. Only other thing I had was I'm against layoffs generally, as long as we have money to support the illegal immigrants. Nobody's been able to give me an answer. How much money are we spending as a city on illegal immigrants? You should not lay off any worker unless you address that issue. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Domingo followed by Tony Nguyen and George Castro.

>> Lowell, San José city council. I'm a former member of grace community center. I'm here speaking on behalf of grace community center members. First I'd like to say for most of my life, I live with a mental disability. The hardships, wasn't -- the hardships, it wasn't but a few years back I was diagnosed with a mental disability. Through downtown mental health. I then found grace community center. It's because of my disability I was asked to leave. My point is, the regular staff there know me. I, for one, am not happy with a transitional program. I'm sure I speak for many, if not for all grace members. On behalf of full time and part time staff. What it comes down to is, they understand, they love. They know what we're about. So please, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Tony Nguyen, George Castro, David Salazar.

>> My name is Tony Nguyen. I live in district 2. On Saturday I spent about three hours at Edenvale library with a friend of mine talking to every person that went to the library. We weren't early enough to talk to the yoga class, but we did get a chance to talk to the youth commission, to the families that went to the wee hour, and then also for all the kids that went to the summer reading kickoff, and all of that was before 2:00.

We were able to collect 200 cards within a span of three hours of every person that was there. I support any budget that is balanced and any budget that preserves libraries community centers and pools, when you shut down the library, when you take away Saturdays from the libraries you basically send a death sentence to the friends group there. Without Saturdays we can't do book sales we can't do Internet sales and we can barely get by. Please protect the libraries and the community services many thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: George Castro, David Salazar, Victor Polvarino.

>> City council, I'm George Castro. I live in Berryessa, I devote a lot of my time to working with youth in the Alum Rock area. I'm the director of the Joseph George youth center. This was done on a volunteer basis. This was a center owned by the city that was closed in 2004. In my six years in this capacity I've seen budget cuts to the parks and recreation that caused the elimination of a lot of recreation leaders. I think to cut more recreation leaders is really penny wise and pound foolish. If you don't understand the value they have in preventive measures. When young kids become delinquent, or commit acts of violence then you need law enforcement and the criminal justice system which most of us cannot afford. So please keep our rec centers open. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: David Salazar, Victor Pulvarino, David Biagini.

>> Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Dave Salazar. Born and raised in San José, currently still live in San José, been a firefighter for 27 years, I'm the captain of one of the stations that's slated to be closed. We've had a call recently, I like give you one quick call, on April 29th we had a call, first and goodyear, engine 3 should have been on that call, they were on a medical call. Truck 3, who's slated to be closed, they were on another call. We got there, got the pulses back, person got in the

ambulance, we had a save. That story needs to be repeated time and time again. We need to keep fire station open. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Victor Pulvarino, David Biagini, Bill Leninger.

>> Good evening, I'm Victor Pulvarino, I'm a captain on engine 24 on Aborn Road. Just yesterday, during a period of high call volume we relied on the City of Santa Clara, the county of Santa Clara and the city of Milpitas fire departments to respond into our city, assist us with fighting a four alarm fire and cover station and respond on medical emergencies. Also on engine 24 yesterday with the assistance of a lifeguard we saved the life of a little five-year-old girl who nearly drown in a swimming pool okay? She went from not breathing to talking to her mom by the time we got to the hospital. I thank God we didn't have any fire station closed yesterday, otherwise we would have been dealing with an absolute tragedy. I urge you do not close any fire station in the City of San José. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: David Biagini, sorry ma'am you're going to have to wait until I call your name. You can submit your name. I've got hundreds of people who want to speak. David Biagini, Bill Leninger, Sylvia Lowe, Liz Hunt.

>> Thank you, Mayor and councilmembers. My name is David Biagini. I'm a member of the neighborhoods commission and I would like to reiterate my support for the budget recommendations we recently submitted to you and highlight three of those. First recognize the link between community services and public safety. And give priority to community and youth centers and libraries. Second address the structural issues that are causing periodic budget problems and third, make it easier for the community to volunteer and fill the service gaps and look at other alternate methods of service delivery. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Bill Leninger, Sylvia Lowe, Liz Hunt and then Linda Didis.

>> Good evening, Bill Leninger, resident of San José since 1931. I read the editorial. And I respond to that first. You ask to respond to all the councilmembers which I'll do tonight. For starters, I found it very offensive. We are constantly pitting the community against the unions, and I find that really difficult thing because the union people are the community, a great many of them. They pay their taxes, they fund the libraries, they use the services, they have their folks in the nursing homes and in the community centers and I feel that some way, that they should be acknowledged as part of this process. And it's the unions that have been the way that I have been able to promote my value system in this community for many years. And I would encourage, I know there's an alternative budget. And there are tens of millions of dollars of concessions made and I would encourage that to be looked at seriously, in the proposed budget, because I think that is the way to go is the alternative budget rather than the budget proposed.

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

>> Thank you so much, my name is Sylvia Lowe. I'm a volunteer at Overfelt gardens. I just wanted to say that Overfelt gardens needs its ranger. We need them for the teen leadership and volunteer programs, we need them for the moon festival in its 17 year and we need them so the teens can be active in the civic life and giving tours to the Overfelt house and the Chinese cultural gardens. We also need the ranger because our park has priceless artifacts and pavilions. Without the rangers the park will be open to vandalism. We need the rangers for better future, also Overfelt has several open bodies of water. In the past we have had a few drownings where people were not in the park where there was no supervision in the park. Thank you so much.

>> Mayor Reed: Liz Hunt followed by Linda Didis and Pat Dando.

>> Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight, and thank you for providing us with this session. My name is Liz Hunt. I am the CEO of the Indian Health Center, we're a nonprofit agency that serves the needs of the American Indian community. I'm here to speak about our native American youth empowerment program which receives HNVF funding and is slated to be eliminated. My agency is a lone voice in expressing the needs of the American Indian community in this area and in this city. The and the American Indian culture is endangered. The future is our youth. Unfortunately American Indian youth has the highest rates of suicide and involvement in gangs. They need involvement with their culture because that's what saves their lives and that's what keeps the culture going. We're the only agency that can provide this. I respectfully request that if there's any funding for this program that it be provided if there's any way possible.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Linda Didis, Pat Dando, Edward Buoy.

>> Hi, I'm Linda Didis, I'm a union rep for the MEF and CEO AFSCME here in the city of San José. MEF represents or AFSME MEF represents 81 custodians and 27 facility attendants who are being proposed to be contracted out. Their wages are about \$40,000 a year. We're for the last month been engaged in negotiations with the city and offered concessions in order to try to keep these employees, unfortunately the city's offer for the solution is very severe, especially for our airport custodians and so we're requesting that the city use the competition policy so we can do an apples to apples comparison, and work through these concessions over a longer period of time. 85% of these 108 employees live in the City of San José, Eking out a near middle class existence. If they get laid off their hiring possibilities are very slim. They'll collect unemployment from the City, and will use the county for their health care providers. Thus becoming a burden --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> -- on the taxpayers. Please use the competition policy.

>> Mayor Reed: Pat Dando, Edward Buoy, followed by Mary Nguyen.

>> Mayor, councilmembers, thank you to each of you that have worked diligently over the last many months with city staff, with the community and with the city employees to try and find solutions to this devastating economic times that we're facing. Let me just say that you would be hard pressed to go through this city and find anyone, residents or business that has not had to suffer many of the same dilemmas that you've heard this evening. Lost jobs, lower salaries and trying to do more with less. Let me ask that you support the mayor's budget, that we work to resolve these issues that we have faced for the past nine years, and once and for all, get San José back on a healthy financial track. Again thank you for the opportunity for the public to have input throughout this difficult process. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Edward buoy, Mary Nguyen, Julie lamb.

>> My name is Edward buoy, I'm an incoming sophomore at Independence High School. Without the park rangers at Overfelt Gardens, the three lakes and ponds would be a huge disaster. There are people out there who are carelessly throwing plastic bags and litter and food into our lakes and ponds. With this happening our turtles, ducks, geese and other wild animals might try to eat them, therefore choke on the objects. The bodies of water will not look the same as before with our ranges gone, because the ranger will prevent those activities from happening. Instead of the park looking like a nice place to sit down and have a picnic, it would look like a filthy sewage where no one would ever want to come close to. We need our park rangers to protect our beautiful gardens from these careless people or we will never see our garden the same ever again.

>> Mayor Reed: Mary Nguyen, Julie lamb, Tien tran.

>> My name is Mary Nguyen. I'm an upcoming sophomore at independence high school. Please don't take away our park rangers out of Overfelt Gardens. Our park rangers are the ones who help us create a better place for our community. As of right now we are working as volunteers to plan the 17th annual Chinese moon festival on September 26th, 2010. By then it is possible that we have nearly 200 teenagers manning this event. This is a cultural arts festival where family and friends can come together. I myself attended this festival when I was little and I simply fell in love with it. I would like this event to continue for the years to come. It's not possible without our park rangers. Please don't eliminate our park rangers, as because they are an important part of our culturally -- our community and this cultural art festival. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Julie lam, Tien tran, and then Jeffrey Chan.

>> Good evening, city council, my name is Julie Lam, and I'm an incoming senior at Independence High School, which is located right next to Overfelt Gardens. Overfelt Gardens, which is home to the Chinese cultural gardens, was a gift to the citizens of San José and was a priceless artifact. How can this piece of history be left without care, protection, and oversight of a regular ranger assigned to our park? Think about it. This would be like leaving the doors of City Hall open to the public without security. So police please, do not eliminate our park rangers.

>> Mayor Reed: Stan tran, Jeffrey Chan, Alexander Lu.

>> My name is Sam tran, I'm part of the Chinese moon festival community Overfelt gardens is adjacent to my school. Therefore it is part of my community. Without rangers there could be potential problems with vandalism to the precious artifacts at the park. These artifacts have caused the city millions of dollars to construct. It is also a part of San José's history. We would like to preserve these artifacts for generations yet to come. For that reason we must have rangers on patrol to keep everything in order. Having our rangers will keep unwanted people out. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Jeffrey Chan, Alexander Lu, Emily Lee.

>> Good evening, rangers, my name is Jeffrey Chan and I'm an incoming sophomore from Independence high school. Rangers are the people that keep our parks running. They clean up after us and make sure our parks are safe. Without them our parks will not be able to function properly. These parks are a place for us to build everlasting relationships with friends and family. For me, the parks provide a place to learn things about life that a school cannot ever offer. Speaking about schools these parks provide a place for each and every one of us to spend time with families as well as friends, get work done, do research on nature, host events or to just relax and lower our stress levels. I'm not even spoken about the environmental benefits of these parks. Keep our parks going, all is lost, spare ranges and parks for all of our sakes. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Alexander Lu, Emily Lee, Chuck Wrangle.

>> Good evening, my name is Alexander Lu. I'm an incoming sophomore from Independence High School. We are planning to be giving weekend tours of Overfelt House and the garden itself. The rangers play an immensely huge role in the whole touring and planning process. Eliminating the rangers will not only mean eliminating our tour volunteer opportunities, but also our other volunteer opportunities. We offer at the parks. It is important that we have these opportunities because touring will allow members of the community to acknowledge the history and importance of the park. Therefore, respect the parks a lot more. It is also important for the students to have these volunteer opportunities because it will develop a passion for service and respect for the parks and community so please do not cut the rangers. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Emily Lee, Chuck Wrangle, Caroline Martin.

>> Good evening, city council members. My name is Emily Lee, and I'm an incoming sophomore at Independence High School. And I am part of the Chinese Moon Festival committee at Overfelt Gardens. In a few months we will be holding our annual Chinese Moon Festival. With the rangers, such events are possible. Our rangers are with us side by side every step of the way working with us behind the scenes to make these events absolutely successful. Every year hundreds of children attend Chinese moon festival and when they grow up they come back to make this event once again possible gaining a truly great leadership experience. I'm here simply speaking as a high school student to let you all know that these budget cuts are affecting my growth, not only as a person, but as leader I hope to become. So please reconsider and keep our wonderful park rangers. Thank you for your time.

>> Mayor Reed: Chuck Wrangle followed by Caroline Martin and Carla Inani.

>> Good evening. My name is Chuck Rangle. I'm the public information officer for the San José fire department. As you know, the fire department's public education department is scheduled to be cut. When I was told this I became very concerned. I was concerned for our community because I know what a positive impact the fire department public education last to the people we serve. Each year we go to 240 schools and reach 24,000 students with important fire safety messages. We participate in health fairs, career days, senior events, corporate speaking events, parades, shark engine events, juvenile fire status program, and the vials of life program. We coordinate over 800 events each year. Recently the pub ed department coordinated the procurement and delivery of over 250 smoke alarms to homes that previously had none. As a San José resident father of two young children and member of the San José fire department, I feel that I must reach out to you in hopes that you share my concern of allowing the fire department to continue to provide lifesaving information to the public with this lifesaving tool. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Caroline Martin, followed by Carla Inani and Doris Livsi.

>> Good evening, I'm Caroline Martin, as a D-9 resident, I'd like to remind you that proposed cuts will close school libraries one day a week, students. I would also ask that you as part of your cost saving measures continue to challenge city staff to streamline procedures like your library staff has done over the many years using grants and efficiency experts to find creative ways to continue to provide services. As a library commissioner we want you to know that we have unanimously asked you to reconsider opening Seven Trees and Bascom libraries in January of this year. That will protect bond dollars and guard the facility that has the one-year warranty and it still cost 160 K to keep the doors shut and that's money that could go towards keeping them open for six months. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Carla Inani, Doris livesge, Sujanta Nickaronan.

>> Good evening, my name is Carla Inani, I'm a member of CAMP and a long-time resident of San José. I've become very disheartened lately with the press. The unions tend to be looking worse and worse to our residents. We're -- us employees, we've all come forward with a good proposal to save city services, reduce the budget deficit, and work with the city to fund this gap. And I urge you not to impose on the unions and to and to improve our proposal. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Doris Livesgi, Sujaka Vankaronan, Brock Hill.

>> Mayor and councilmembers, my name is Doris Livesgi. I'm a San José resident and taxpayer for 37 years. Public workers receive benefits more than three times as generous as those paid to the private sector workers. Why can't you reduce the workforce and as new employees are added do so with a realistic benefit package. As real life workers deal with the world of fair competition it is time for city workers to do the same. We know enhanced compensation packages were offered during the dot-com bubble to get competent employees, but that bubble has burst and it is time to adjust those pay packages just like what has happened in the real world. The unions have broken the bank and it is very hard to see any relief in sight without cuts by the city council. I urge you to support the mayor's budget, the total of 10% cut. And by the way my Kaiser co-pay is \$100 a month which is more than I'm hearing city employees pay. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sujasa Vankaraman, Brock Hill and Mary Curtiss.

>> Thank you, mayor and city council members. I'm here from Best Valley Community Services and I'm representing the 43% of San José clients who are accessing services. These clients are on fixed income. They are seniors, families and they are all under the -- below the 200% of the federal poverty guideline. These families use our services, which helps them to pay rent on time, to pay their utility on time, and this helps them to be housed. This also -- the pantry services helps client to save money for any family emergency such as you know if there is a medical emergency this money helps them. To avoid duplication of services each agency has a zip code. We are the only agency for the West San José region. If we don't provide these food services nobody else can in the county of Santa Clara so thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Brock Hill, Christine Curtis, Linda Kennedy.

>> Good evening. My name is Brock Hill, I'm representing premier recycle company, located in District 7, speaking in regard to the solid waste enforcement fee increase. We're a company of 38 and in 2003 we paid \$47,000 of the current \$1.02 per incoming ton of material. If this was been paid at the proposed fee, it would have been \$60,000, a difference of \$13,000. Total incoming tonnage adjustments from the City of San José dropped from 3.70 million tons to 2.7 million tons. If solid waste business is going down, why are our fees going up? I challenge the council to take a close look at how a 25% tax increase is going to benefit the very few companies that contribute to this revenue. It would be common understanding that when business goes down, the tax burden would go down, not up. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Christine Curtis, Linda Kennedy, Rameen Naderi.

>> Christine Curtis on behalf of the friends of the library. I appreciate the fact that you have been able to, identify libraries services as core services and are projecting a 4.5 instead of the three-day in hope that you can even get up further. Libraries are critical both on a micro and macro basis to the community. They are core city services and important to our democracy. For informed citizenry and informed individuals for increasing the information base for the economic community, and indeed our community centers, in our modern life. So I urge you to try to keep them open as much as feasible and recognize that every great city in America has a great library system and that certainly San José wants to continue that tradition.

>> Mayor Reed: Linda Kennedy, Ramin Nadiri, Mack Johansen.

>> City council, Mayor Reed, I'm speaking as a private citizen in San José. I live in the Blossom Hill area. I own a home there. Every time something has come up on voting for libraries, I've said yes, and I have no children. I have paid more taxes to get more libraries, and now these services are being cut. They're vital. I also disagree with the cuts that are being made with the police department and the fire department. We're not talking about maybe, or maybe an earthquake is going to happen or severe things that are happening in the world, they are happening right now. This is part of the world. When we need them they're not going to be there. We need them now. We're not going to be able to hire somebody later. They won't be around. They're going to have to move someplace elsewhere they can work. We need senior services kept open for those most in need and youth services kept open for those in need. As I say, I have no children, but I'm part of this community, and I know this stuff has to continue being served.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up. Ramon Nadiri, and Mack Johansen.

>> Honorable mayor and councilmembers, my name is Ramon Nadiri, Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley, and I have two programs in the HNVF funding, San José Native Youth Group and also Diabetes Lifestyle and Balance Program. Two years ago, the HNVF put out an objective for us to build these programs, intergenerational, resilience building. We have gone and done that. Ten blocks from

here we have a wellness center where American Indians can access health care, the teenage that was diabetic. The parents go in the diabetes program. The teenager comes in the youth group and can access diabetes prevention and health care. These things are essential to the American Indians because the rates are so high. My friend Jolina wants to say a couple of words.

>> Hi, mayor and councilmembers, I'm Jolina, on District 3, I'm a councilmember, and please don't cut the Indian native American, because I am, too, and I go there. Please don't. Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Mack Johansen, Matt Lesh, Kay Denise McKenzie, Cameron Cleland.

>> Good evening, I'm Matt Lesh, a civil engineer in the Department of Public Works, and I am a member of AEA. Proposed cuts are going to have a drastic effect on my family. We have been saving and scrimping so that my oldest daughter can be the first in her wife's family to go to college. That savings we have to use to get her the next year and fuff go through the cuts as proposed by the mayor. The employees know that we are challenging times, refer back to a little more than a year ago when we stepped up in retiree health care and website paying close to 7% of our salary for that benefit. That agreement reduced the liability by hundreds of millions of dollars. That is a model that should be followed in these times. I used to teach at East Oakland, and it seems only here does seven and a half plus five plus a bunch more is not greater than 10. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Mack Johansen, Kay Denise McKenzie, Cameron Cleland, and Carla Stores.

>> Good evening, honorable mayor and city council, my name is Kay Denise McKenzie, and I'm president of CAMP IFPTE Local 21. As president I represent a bargaining unit of nearly 400 midmanagers across the city that will be impacted if the city votes to impose working conditions on CAMP tomorrow. Each of CAMP's members have families, whether nuclear or extended, that will be affected uniquely, and they have told and will continue to tell you about the range of those impacts tonight. As you know some CAMP is part of a coalition of bargaining units who have stepped up to the plate to offer concessions to the city because we've heard the community. In fact, we are part of the community and we are your neighbors. We pay taxes, patronize local businesses and utilize city services too. This is why we've proposed to reduce our pay by 7.5%, pay for increased health care, through co-pays, and agreed to partner with the city to save money on retirement benefits.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you and we ask you not to impose. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Followed by Carla stores and Roger stores.

>> Good evening, mayor and councilmembers. My name is Cameron Cleland. I've been an employee of the City of San José for 29 years. I'm vice president of CAMP IFPTE local 21. In all of my 29 years, I have never seen morale so low. It is rock bottom. Employees have offered the city 7.5% of their hard-earned pay plus health care concessions plus retirement negotiations. Still we are told it's not enough. I have had members ask me how they can afford health care for their children, some with serious illnesses. You have heard some of them here tonight. I have nothing to offer them except I will fight to keep the concessions to a reasonable level. Please accept the coalition offer, do not impose. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, mayor, city council members. My name is Carla Stores. My husband stands behind me. He is a civil engineer representing AEA local 21. We are residents of district 4 and I want to express my thanks to Councilmember Chu for his open mindedness and fairness in dealing with this issue. Thank you, I'm proud to be in your district. I just want to say that a lot of people seem to be presuming how city workers live and the benefits we enjoy. Before you rush to judgment really you have no idea until you walk in our shoes. The other day my young son, he's six years old, we try to shield him from some of the fear and worry we're feeling in our conversations but he asked me, is Mayor Reed trying to take money from our family? Frankly, I didn't know what to say to him. Please, vote against imposition, vote for the concessions made by the unions. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Roger stores, and then Henry Servine and John Merkar.

>> Good evening, mayor and council. My name is Roger Stores. I'm a civil engineer in the Department of Public Works and a member of AEA IFPTE 21. I've been a civil engineer and a city employee here for -- since 1992, also, a constituent of Kansen Chu in District 4. I'd like to start off by saying a quote that I learned at a class that I took here at the city. When you're blaming, you're not leading. And I feel there's been a lot of -- [applause]

>> I feel that there's been a lot of blaming. There's been a lot of vilification of city employees. We are human beings, like my wife said, you know, we're members of this community. Just because we're city

employees doesn't mean that some magic pixie dust has been sprinkled over our lives and made us immune to the economic effect. You'll hear many stories. You heard the story from my wife.

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

>> Mayor Reed: Henry servene, John McCarr, Victor Chen.

>> Honorable mayor, and members of the city council, my name is Henry Servene. I'm a member of AEA, local 21. I've lived in San José since 1961 and I can tell you I love this town. I'm a member of the Cambrian District 9, I'm very proud to be there, very proud to instill in my children that public service is a very necessary component of living in this great nation. They are volunteers in their schools and their communities and at the city. I ask to you please take this proposal that we've offered to you and consider it in your reflections tonight before you come back tomorrow and think through this, I would ask you, what is it that we're not giving you? We are giving you our blood, sweat and definitely our tears. Please, I ask you, consider once again, we're doing the best we can. We give more than we can, and we value the time that we're with you. Thank you so very much. [applause]

>> Honorable mayor and councilmembers, my name is John Makar. I'm the president of AEA IFPTE Local 21 representing 230 engineers and architects in the City of San José. I've been an employee with the city for 19 years and a resident of district 9. AEA together with seven other unions for the first time in a long long time came together and put a make-sense proposal that would serve employees and city services. I urge you to consider that and not the not common sense imposition that the city does. This imposition will negatively impact all of our members including myself, 10% of our members are getting laid off and 10% more are getting demoted. That will cost them over 25% of their salaries with this imposition. I strongly encourage you, a lot of them will not be able to afford mortgages and basic necessities including myself. I will lose my home with this. I encourage you to accept the proposition that was put in by the coalition and mark that position, thank you.

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

>> Mayor Reed: Mr. Chen, give me just a second here. After Mr. Chen, Brandy Hoffman, Marlon De Leon, Cora Amentuan.

>> Honorable mayor, city councilmembers, my name is Victor Chen, a member of AEA IFPTE local 21. I'm a resident of District 3 San José. In the mayor's March budget message the mayor asked each employee to concede 10%. However now the best final offer from the City Manager's office demands a total more than 15% cuts and concession paid by AEA CAMP and other union employees. It is already hard to deal with the 10% pay cut. How -- it is already hard to deal with the 10% pay cut. How can cuts of 15% or more be imposed on employees? As a city employee, I feel I am being robbed by the city. Therefore, I urge you to scrutinize the last best final offer and remove them from tomorrow's council meeting agenda. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening, my name is Marlon Deleon, currently a city employee and member of the AFPTE local 21. My wife and kids who are here with me tonight urge you not to impose terms on the city employees. Imposition of these terms will need a great deal of adjustment to what our family have recently made. We have recently lost our house due to these challenging economic times and living in an apartment with just enough space where we could live decently. Imposition of these terms would be asking our family to make sacrifices more than we could afford to give. The city's last best and final offer to the union cuts and salaries and benefits what the council had directed to bargain for. This is one of the reasons the bargaining units could not agree and come into contract. I urge you to review all of the proposals that were laid out on the bargaining table before you make any further decisions. I commend you as elected officials that you look after the best interest of the residents and constituents in your respective districts.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Brandy Hoffman -- [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Cora Pementuan, Mary Morris and Tui Nguyen.

>> Honorable mayor and council, my name is Cora Pementuan, and I'm a member of AEA IFPTE local 21. I am a engineer with Public Works and I have been a city employee for over 20 years and I'm also a resident of San José District 8. I strongly urge you to reject composition on the City of San José workers. The focus of this discussion should be on solving the budget. We want to be part of the solution, but cannot accept these Draconian cuts being imposed. We have a plan. Why do you continue fighting us? Please, work with us. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Mary Morris, followed by Thui Nguyen, Yolanda Nguyen, and Al Gonzales.

>> Good evening, honorable mayor and councilmembers. My name is Mary Morse, I'm a senior environmental inspector, and I've been very proud to work for the City of San José for over 11 years. The

city has asked the unions for creative cost saving options and eight unions stepped up to the plate, eight unions together offered real savings and the city rejected them, moving towards an imposition that by some estimates won't save as much as the coalition proposal. Continuing on that path will hurt the city in the form of lost savings, lost morale, and by losing the respect of hundreds of hard-working, high-performing, and dedicated civil servants who are willing to sacrifice. I strongly urge you all to direct your staff to consider the coalition's proposal, and I thank you very much for your time.

>> Mayor Reed: Thui Nguyen, [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Thui Nguyen, Yolanda Nguyen, Al Gonzales.

>> Good evening, mayor and city council. My name is Thui Nguyen. I am a city employee. I've been with the city for over 20 years. I also -- I'm also a resident of District 8. I'm here to urge you to reconsider imposition on us. The imposition would impact us greatly, especially for me. My husband, he lost his job due to job being shipped overseas. So I'm now the only family member supporting the family five. And I am here, with my daughter is here. But I'm willing, recognizing that the economy is downturn I'm willing to make sacrifice. That is why my union has joined force with other unions to put together a great proposal. So it is my hope that you will reconsider imposition on us and work with us, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Yolanda Nguyen, followed by Al Gonzales and Brandy Hoffman.

>> Hello, my name is Yolanda Nguyen. It is hard to reach this thing. Than you for having me. My dad has been laid off, and my mom is the only one who's been working, and it's very hard. So I'm here to ask you please don't cut her budget and her payment, thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Al Gonzales, Brandy Hoffman, Mary Damy or mark Damy, I can't read the handwriting.

>> Good evening, Mr. Mayor. My name is Al Gonzales. I'm a member of CAMP IFPTE Local 21. I've been a city employee for the past 24 years. My position will be cut, and I'm being demoted. A demotion all in itself means a 10% cut in salary. The additional terms that you are seeking to impose brings the reduction in pay to well over 20% for myself. These terms that you are seeking to impose, seek -- pose a tremendous burden to my family. I have three young children, they are ages seven, three and two years old. How am I going to explain to my children that we will have to move out of the only home that they've known since birth? That is the reality that I am facing right now. Each of my children have a medical condition, and existing ongoing medical condition. Last year alone I paid well over \$2,000 in out of pocket medical expenses.

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

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Brandy Hoffman, Mark Damy and then LaVerne Washington.

>> Good evening, mayor, council, thank you for the time and allowing me to speak here tonight. I am a member of CAMP IFPTE local 21. I wanted to let you know that these -- this proposed budget, I want you to know of the effect it will have on me and my family. I have three small children. And I figure that if this budget proposal is passed, we will lose our house in approximately eight months. That is the effect of this budget. I urge you to please consider the concessions from the unions so we can collaborate and cooperate and jointly solve this deficit. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Mark Damy, followed by LaVerne Washington and Judy Pi.

>> Thank you, mayor and council. My name is Mark Damy, I'm a city employee for 20 plus years. I represent CAMP local 21. I'm a taxpayer, a resident of District 8, and I've been a resident in San José for over 30 years. If you vote to impose it's going to have a severe impact on my family. Maintaining housing stability is going to be difficult. Daycare that we have to use, we have two work parents that make it only possible in this area, is going to have a significant impact on us. The coalition of seven bargaining groups has put forth a proposal that gives you an alternative to sustain employees and services for what everyone here wants. I'd also like to thank the five councilpeople that are supporting this proposed budget.

>> Good evening, mayor and city council. I'm a City of San José District 9 resident and an employee, one of 70% of AFSCME employees who live and work in San José. I own my residence and pay property and sales taxes. AFSCME families vote, attend events in the city, check books out of libraries, shop in local stores, dine in local eateries, walk on city sidewalks and drive on city streets. We attend sporting events, concerts and theater in San José. We are proud to be San José residents. We are also proud to be city of San José employees providing necessary services to main our community. We work for the city to contribute and to be of service to our community. We are not rich nor are we poor. We are like most City of San José residents but if our salaries are drastically reduced we may no longer be able to afford to live and spend money in the community where we work. We are not overpaid government employees. Our

salaries are based upon market research for our field, and cities and communities similar to San José. The San José city council voted --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up. Judy Fee, followed by -- just give me a minute here -- Suzanne Ragool, Amanda Aldama, and Loren Macias.

>> Good evening, Mr. Mayor and Councilmembers. I am here because the mayor's budget strategy of relying on 10% budget cuts from all city employees is not workable. Mr. Mayor, your proposed budget is screwed up. The budget ignores tens of millions of dollars of worker concessions and proposes cuts to police and firefighters. I lived here, born and raised here in San José, my children have been raised here and I've never seen anything like this in my lifetime. This is really bad. You're not looking at the whole picture. These families are hard work families. My husband holds now two full time jobs. I hold down a full time job and we are still barely making it. Don't pick on the little guy. Look at yourself to see where you can make other cuts. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Suzanne Ragul, Amanda Aldama, Lauren Macias, Don Staub.

>> Good evening, mayor and councilmembers, my name is Dr. Suzanne Regal, I've been retired for ten years now. I was a pioneer OB-GYN in San José back in the 1960s and I spent approximately 75% of my time caring for the poor. I am now president of the Moreland West neighborhood association and we support the mayor and our councilmember in trying to find ways to balance the budget. I would urge you, though, not to just do across the board cuts, if we are affecting the poor we need to look out for them. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Suzanne Ragul, Amanda Aldama, Lauren Macias, Don Staub.

>> Hi, I'm Loren Macias. The Starbird youth center is a very positive influence in the lives of the teens in the neighborhood. The staff are very supportive and offer guidance and help to those who need it. The center gives teens a place to go to, to get away from the drugs and violence and a place to be safe. For me Starbird helped me get into a wonderful program with the city, San José job corps. I have accomplished my GED and I'm working on my high school diploma. Without the Starbird Youth Center teens will just find themselves getting into trouble instead of being in a positive and safe environment. The teens West San José need the Starbird youth center. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Amanda Aldama, Don Staub, Keith turner, Greg job.

>> Thank you, my name is Amanda Aldama, I'm the youth commissioner for District 7 and I'd like to talk about the reduction for boards and commission meetings and staff, particularly for the Youth Commission.

The Youth Commission, as you know, serves as a teenage version of city council and since most of us are still in school, our staff is our sole connection to city government. With the guidance and support of our staff, Betty Montoya and Veronica Ruiz, I've seen the Youth Commission grow from a body of youths that not only informs but also connect the youths with our city government to work together as was the vision in the state of the city address. Projects like the annual youth conference which many of you attended and as well as the youth bill of rights would not have been possible without the support and dedication and resources provided by our staff. And also, having our meetings reduced by the suggested 66% would not only be limiting what the youth commission can do but would also be limiting the potential of youth as a whole. So please I'm asking you to consider amending the memorandum, review the youth commission's proposal that was sent to you, maintain staff for the Youth Commission, and only allow us a 20% meeting reduction. Thank you so much.

>> Mayor Reed: Don Staub, Keith turner, Greg job, Ray turner.

>> Mayor Reed, city council, staff. I'm here on behalf -- my name is Don Staub. I'm here on behalf of West Valley community services. We serve as you've heard, 2600 people in the West valley area, and without funding we're going to have to discontinue our services to them. It looks to be inevitable that we'll lose that funding. Now the problem is what will we do with the city to help take care of these people? We'll need some guidance to go through the system to be able to tell these people where they can go to get service. This includes their case management, this includes possible food, money, et cetera. So we're prepared, but we need some help to go through the system, again, as I said. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Keith turner, Greg job, Ray turner.

>> Mr. Mayor and city council, as my colleague Don Staub just told you this next San José budget is going to dramatically affect the organization of West valley community services and its ability to serve clients in the west valley region. It means we'll no longer be able to serve population in West San José, a population that makes up 43% of our clientele. The total amount we would expect to receive from San José would serve just 450 clients. We know difficult choices must be made, but we've begun notifying residents of District 1 that we cannot any new applications and that we may be cutting our services to

those West San José clients we now serve. Please do your best to maintain a reasonable level of basic needs funding for the citizens of District 1 and other affected districts in San José, thank you very much. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Greg job, Ray turner, Matt Farrell and Skip La cause.

>> Good evening, mayor and city council, I'm Greg job, member of AEA IFPTE local 21. Like yourselves I'm facing tough choices. I'm an electrical engineer and I chose to stay with the city during the dot-com boom. Civil service was my career and I chose it early. While a lot of my friends were able to have some incredible gains by staying in the public sector. I don't have enough money to put my son through college, my house payment takes most of my paycheck and my mom has lost her house. I can't support her with the housing she needs. And I ask that you take a hard look at using more ingenuity and perseverance and dedication look at the budget again and look at every idea and work hard at finding creative solutions and keep negotiating to save the city services used by the residents of San José. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Ray turner followed by Matt Farrell and skip La cause.

>> Ray turner speaking in favor of the youth centers, keeping the youth centers open especially Alum Rock youth center in our neighborhood which serves 300 kids a day, keeping them involved in good activities, homework and stuff like that. If they are put out on the street they are only going to find the gangs too willing to welcome them in. So I think you have the power to make the choice for San José, you have strong youth centers or strong gangs. [applause]

>> Honorable mayor and council, my name is Matt Farrell and I'm a member of CAMP IFPTE local 21. I strongly urge you to reject imposition on the City of San José workers. City workers are willing to make a sacrifice. And that is why our local, along with seven other unions, have put real money on the table that will save city services. This proposal also offers savings which will not be realized through imposition. It is my hope that you will instead direct staff to return to the bargaining table and work towards the resolution acceptable to both sides. Pursuing this path offers a structural budget solution which is not available through imposition. Thank you very much. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: After Mr. Lacause, Ben carluci, Mike Del bendo, and Armando Breceno.

>> Honorable mayor and council, my name is Skip Lacause, I have been an employee of the city and a member of CAMP for a little over 20 years. I urge you to reject imposition on city workers. Many of the people offering opinions in the news and online suggest that city workers should suffer along with everybody else from the economic impact that we've all faced. Many of us are already facing that. Without any reduction in salary. Those of you who have 457s have seen them drop 20, 30, 40% with only a slight come back. Those of us who have savings have seen our income drop to next to nothing already. It's not as if we're not already sharing the load. It's my hope that you will direct staff to return to negotiations. To look closely at what's been presented to you by the union coalition. And to move away from imposition. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Ben Carluci, Mike Del Bando, Armando Breseno, Rosa Torres.

>> Hello, my name is Armando Breseno. I'd like for Mayor Chuck Reed's proposed on the budget. As you've heard in the past weeks, all the teenagers have come up and talked to you guys. We do need these community centers. The community centers save lives. The staff at these community centers change people's lives, they make a big difference. As you guys see I'm holding my high school diploma here. I'm the first in three generations of my family to graduate from high school, I don't think I could have done it without the support of the Gardner community staff. They are there to help me, they were there for me since I was a little kid, before I was even allowed to go into a game room. They were there in my ups and downs. They helped, they save lives. My friends look up to me, say wow, I want to do what he's doing. They are choosing to take the right road because of me. Please keep these community centers open. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Mike Del Bando, Armando Breseno, Rosa Torrez.

>> Good evening, I'm here to appeal to anybody that thinks they're not directly affected by station closures. We're spread so thin, that we are roughly 60% of what we need. We have to constantly move up companies to cover other areas on a daily basis. Councilmember Oliverio, Liccardo, Herrera, everybody here, every day on a constant basis you are reducing your emergency services because we have to. Well, last year a family lost their home on Los Penos because that company was moved up to cover another area. We have a population of 1 million people, and our resources were depleted with just three fires. That is not acceptable. We are -- I'm not here to tell you that we're going to lose lives and property because of these closures. I'm here to tell you we are losing lives and property today. We are

protecting 1 million people with resources designed for less than 600,000 and now with these cuts we will be reduced to 1983 levels. People are paying the price everyday for this.

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

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed and city council members. My name is Rosa Torrez. I'm here to support the mayor's budget proposal on keeping the six additional community centers, especially Washington youth center. In Washington youth center you find a lot of people, a diversity. It is a place where you can feel at home, and just stay, a place you can learn, a place you will always have a friend. You will never feel lonely there, and it's a place can you go after school, it keeps you off the streets and it's just a place where -- a family place, you just feel at home there. From the bottom of my heart keep it open. It helps a lot of people and families. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Ken casteneda, Jeanette Mercado, Paul Alvarado, Steve Kline.

>> Hi, my name is Kevin casteneda. I'm here to support the mayor's budget proposal keeping open the six additional community, especially Washington United Youth Centers. The centers are vital in keeping youth off the streets and in a healthy environment. We want San José to remain one of the safest big cities in the country, and by having centers like Washington remain open we have the hub from which good things flow out of our neighborhoods. Washington United youth center helps our residents feel safe in their neighborhoods. With its positive influences on youth and successful gang intervention and youth empowerment programs, Washington saves lives. Thank you for working so hard to find a solution to our budget issues. We appreciate your determination to keep our community centers open. Please fully fund the centers, it's a great investment for the future of our city. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good afternoon, Mayor Reed, council members and staff. My name is Jeanette representing Washington United Youth Center operated by Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. Over the past several weeks you have heard from Washington's youth, Washington's community and Washington's past. You have witnessed more than 300 Washington community members marching on City Hall. We have received hundreds of letters and thousands of names on the petition to save Washington United youth center. It is critical for the safety of our youth and our community that the center remains open and funded. We need programs like the support groups for programs of cultural programs like the Brenda Lopez folklorico group. We appreciate the city's determination in continuing to fund streams for community centers. Washington United youth center saves lives and together we can continue doing so. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Paul Alvarado, Steve Kline, Ed Brooks and Patty Brooks.

>> Thank you. My name is Paul, thank you mayor and city council. I'm president of the junior math association, I'm a member of the youth and seniors for Alma. I did surveys for the City of San José and for the Santa Clara County. I'm part of the Cert program and I do all that as a volunteer. I think volunteering is what we have to get back to. I think I want you to remember the 18th of last month when you had all of the people, the youth, we all stayed here until 11:00 and even later. The whole point is, we need to take care of the kids, we need to help the seniors. The seniors have given their lives to the valley and the youth is the future and if we don't stay with that idea, we're not going to go forward in a good way. You've heard everything from everyone, I feel sorry for everybody. But we're all suffering in this situation. Not just one group or another.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Steve Kline.

>> Good evening, Mr. Mayor and city council members. My name is Steve Kline and I'm the president of the Burbank Del Monte NAC and a member of the friends of the Bascom library. Pretty dark day today but I would like you to imagine just for a moment that you have paid for almost ten years for your dream house, you fought to get it built and now you see it being built but you will not be able to occupy it. You have no clear understanding as to when you will be able to use it. Imagine the frustration. That dream house to the Bascom Seven Trees communities is their new library. Your library commission supports the opening on January 1, 2011. These communities are underserved. Please put both of these libraries on the list for excess budget funds that comes in October. You can open them on the first of the year. It merely takes one small step. Respectfully we ask to you take that step. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Ed Brooks, Patty Brooks, Jay wendling, Jay Sakani.

>> Hello, my name is Ed Brooks. I represent District 1 on the neighborhoods commission. I'd like to thank mayor for his leadership over the budget, particularly over the last six weeks for bringing in neighborhood leaders to help craft the new budget message and I'd simply like to say that I think the new budget

message definitely represents what the neighborhood leaders have in the meetings that I attended. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Patty Brooks, followed by Jay Wendling, Randy Sakani and Jay Patrick Connolly.

>> I'm in support of saving our libraries and community centers. They're both essential to maintaining healthy neighborhoods. But I'd also like to see the fire stations stay open to prioritize saving lives and safety first. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Jay Wendling, Randy Sakani, Shane Patrick Connolly, Doris Frank Lu.

>> Mr. Mayor and city council members, I'm Jay Wendling, and I'm here representing the retired police and fire department of the City of San José. While we know it's popular to bash the police and fire pensions, we respectfully ask you to remember that most retirees are living on pensions negotiated long before the three, add 50, formula. Based on the retirement plan's own annual report I can tell you that over half of the current police and fire retirees meet the city's definition of qualifying for affordable housing. So a dramatic increase in health care really affects those retirees are older and need medical attention more frequently. On behalf of those retirees, I sincerely hope that you consider the impacts of your decisions. Thank you very much. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Randy Sakani.

>> Randy Sakani, San José firefighters. First I want to draw your attention to the memo you circulate have received from us. Recognize that any firefighter who speaks tonight is speaking as a representative of local 230, thereby insulating them against any issues of discipline that they may otherwise be exposed to. That said, please note San José firefighters know every second counts when it comes to saving lives and property. That's why firefighters have joined other employees and searched their budgets to do all they can to keep firefighters on the job to save the lives and property of the citizens of San José. San José firefighters have done what's right to give you the ability to keep all fire engines and trucks in service as well as most other services in the city up and running. Now it's your turn to do the right thing. I urge you to do that. [applause]

>> Mr. Mayor, city council, I'm a resident of District 6. I speak on behalf of taxpayers like myself who are unemployed from the private sector. Private sector being the economic engine that pays for all of this. Many of us are paying for our own insurance our mortgages and such out of our savings or our retirement. I thank you, Mayor Reed and those on the city council with the fortitude to support his plan. I assure you that most residents do support you. Our county civil grand jury clearly describe the reality that many in our bargaining units would deny. My message to them you could have ended the greed saved your brothers and sisters jobs community centers and more and given up the 10%. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Doris Frank Lou, Jacqueline Martarosian, John Max Reger.

>> My name is Doris Frank Lou, and I'm a retired school librarian in 1994, chair of the San José library commission in 1993. And then 1994, I was president of the San José library foundation. Now I tell you all this because I understand libraries. And I'm going to share with you, a personal experience. Recently, I was between computers, my -- at two different times, my old computers conked out, and then I had no computer to check my e-mail and et cetera. So I had to go to the library. Every time, the library was jam-packed with people. We cannot afford to reduce the hours of our libraries. And that's why I just wanted to talk about that. Anyway, I'm 100% in favor of Mayor Reed's budget proposal. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry, your time is up. Jacqueline Martarosian, John Max Reger, Rita Lopez.

>> Citizens, I say my life was not saved once, but twice, by the fire department. Thank you. [applause]

>> And because of that, I am working with autistic students and I'm an MFT trainee working with alcoholics and addicts at Salvation Army. My point is that if we have any funds that are still active or semi active pointed towards the baseball stadium, that these funds should be pulled immediately and redirected for funding, the things we need rather than the things we want, and to keep the fire stations open. Because if they were not there, I would not be here now. And the people that I'm helping now, I think would be at a disadvantage from not having the help I'm providing. So please, fund the things we need, and not the things we want. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Don Max Reger.

>> Good evening, honorable mayor, honorable members of the council, my name is John Max Reger, I'm a City of San José employee for 18 years, environmental inspector, OE3 member, steward and member of the negotiations team. It's been a very frustrating process that's brought us here today and I request that respectfully that you do not impose. We have eight of our unions who have given you a sound seven and a half% reallocation for the retirement, since that's the big bugaboo on city budget. And we've also offered to increase our cost on the medical payments. I sincerely hope you consider those. Also want to

express my support for the Police Officers Association, fire department, CAMP, AEA and our other members. We have had a desperate need for open, honest and effective communication. Please be honest with your communications. The unions have to come to the table and discuss these issues.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Maria Lopez. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Just one minute. After Maria Lopez we'll have Laura Lay, Robert Enriquez, and Rich Barbaccio.

>> Good evening, honorable mayor and city councilmembers. I'm Maria Lopez. I live in District 7. I'm an active member of the West Evergreen Neighborhood Association, and I've lived in San José my entire life, 30 years. I'd like to commend councilmember Madison Nguyen for your great leadership in our district and tonight you've heard from the staff. You've heard from our senior citizens. You've heard from our youth. You've heard how the proposed budget will negatively impact not only their lives but the City of San José. This is why I encourage you to support the community alternative budget and to work with us the community not against us. Thank you for your time and your consideration. [applause]

>> Laura Lay, Robert Enriquez, Rich Arbaccia, Paul Hok -- I'll come back to that one. Don Staub, we've already heard from, Brett Gerversoni. Come on down if I've called your name, please. Give me your name, sit anywhere. I'm going to card-count.

>> My name is Rob Enriquez. I'm one of two multimedia producers being laid off. I am here to ask the council to deny the RFQ to hire contractors to replace us. We feel by laying us off and completely doing away with creative programming would be a disservice for the city of San José. Greater programming could be used to market San José to businesses and people wanting to do business here in San José. Our creative services have proven valuable in the past. For example, the state of the city videos, and the why we love San José marketing video, and many more. In addition we were nominated for 2010 Emmys in three different categories for our work here in the city of San José. By choosing to contract out our services and services of others it sends a message to the rest of the city employees here at the city that we can settle for people to perform just enough for government, and why not? That's not the message the City of San José should be sending. In following through with these layoffs, you undermine what San José stands for. You take away drive, and you take away innovation. Thank you for your time. [applause]

>> Brett Jervasoni, City of San José fire department. City of San José born and raised, career fire captain. These cuts that you're proposing or threatening on us are going to prove to be disastrous. Not just lives, but property within the city. It's really scary to think of the operations that we have now and the staffing levels that we have now that you're proposing these kind of cuts or threatening these kinds of cuts to us. The only thing that's going to rise in these times are the deaths of people and the loss of property. The budget won't matter at this point. These aren't just numbers. These are people's lives that every one of you are representing up here. Look in the mirror and ask yourself what is important. Playing the number game, playing this political game with people's lives, or protecting them? I think that's why all of you have a job today is to protect people's lives. Thank you. [applause]

>> My name is Paul Hokanga. I'm alive because fire station 30 is so close to the shark tank that the paramedics got there in time last year to shock my heart. 7% of the people that have a cardiac arrest live, everybody else dies. If fire station 30 had been closed last year, I'd be dead. I'm not asking you to keep the fire stations open to save the life of one old man. With the hundreds of thousands of people that go to the HP pavilion, and other downtown venues, I wasn't the first and won't be the last that they save. From a human perspective, it makes all the difference in the world. Instead of having my terrified grandson who was screaming Baba get up, watch me die, I get to play with that incredible boy and he gets to spend time with me. I'm just one example of the heroic, selfless actions of the firemen of this city. Thank you, guys. Stand up! [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Rich Barbacia, Lyndon Shay, Tony Endari and Brad Imamura.

>> Hi, I'm Rich Barbacia. My family has been in this valley since the late 1890s. Been here a long time. I love San Jose. Going through college, I made my career with the City of San José. I retired in 19 -- excuse me, 2004 as one of your real estate division managers. I love San José. The impact that's going to happen for my family, in particular, since I live and am married to a city employee, I'm going to get a 15% pay cut because I'm a retiree also. So it's a 15% impact to my family. So what does that mean, 15% to rich barbacio? All the restaurants I go to that are in the City of San José aren't going to get hardly any of my business. I'm not going to be able to replace my aging car, City of San José is going to lose

revenue. I'm not going to do a lot of things I do, spending money in San José. It's not going to happen, it's a trickle down effect.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up. Lyndon Shay, Tony Andari, and then Brad Imamura.

>> Hi, my name is Lyndon Shay. I've been in ESD for 11 years. I'm a CAMP member. My husband was laid off from the city in November. That was a little earlier than we thought he'd be leaving employment.

Obviously, that's been a hardship for us, and I'd just like to point out that the cuts that you're proposing should not be looked at in isolation, because since I arrived here in 1999 we have given concessions during the dot-com bust, we've given concessions in the downturn after 9/11. We're constantly losing ground. At this point my home is at stake, my ability to put the one child I thought I could afford to have through college, and I think what we're trying to tell you is, there is not a lot of elasticity left here. Additionally, I think these cuts through the city because in ESD we have already lost a manager to Los Gatos because she couldn't afford the salary cuts. So I would ask you not to impose your imposition. And to stand with us, we put together a viable alternative, and we would appreciate your consideration. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Tony andari,.

>> Good evening, Mr. Mayor, esteemed city council, my name is Tony andari. I have been an associate engineer with the City of San José for the past 20 years. I'm a member of AEA local 21. I'm the Seoul provider of a family of six who are here with me tonight. I urge you not to impose. We have a family, we have a mortgage to pay and three college tuitions also to pay. I urge you to accept the proposal submitted by a coalition of city workers. It is fair, it is equitable, it is a win win proposal. It preserves services for our residents. It solves the budget problem. It saves jobs. Please do not impose. There are no good reasons to impose. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Brad imamura. After Brad, Vince Lurma, Dale Depp, Sergio Jiminez.

>> Thank you, Mayor Reed, members of the council, Councilmember Constant is that an oversized chair you're sitting in? I can't believe what I'm seeing. But anyway, Mayor Reed, I want to thank you for your proposal and I urge the majority of the city council to support Mayor Reed. I believe it is a prudent and fiscally responsible budget. I believe in the long run it's actually going to save more jobs. The only thing that I could add is that, after you do pass a budget, that the council seriously considers doing a comprehensive performance audit, so you can tell for yourselves if those jobs that you did save were actually good and value-added jobs. And I just want to quickly add that public service can be a very honorable profession. But we have to remember that public service is a privilege. It is not a right. And it's a very, very important --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> And very responsible. Thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Vince Lerma, followed by Dale Depp, Sergio Jiminez, Andrew Dire, Robert Sandoval.

>> Good evening, my name is Dale Depp, I'm a city employee, I'm a District 8 resident. I'm the president of the Association of Maintenance and Supervisory Personnel. The unions and bargain units also wish to save all the services that everybody discussed today. Please carefully consider the eight proposals before you to save these services without the extreme and short sighted last best and final offer impositions that not only hurt these services but place an undue burden on the employees alone. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Sergio Jiminez, Andrew Dyre, Stan Taylor, please come on down when I call your name. Patty Cortese.

>> Good evening, Mr. Mayor, City Manager and City Council. My name is Andrew Dyre, I work in San José fire prevention represented by CAMP 21. I am the supervising manager of the hazardous materials division for both development services and compliance. This letter in reference to brocade campus planning and building permit process represents some of the work that we do. The position the mayor and the City Manager is taking in relation to the negotiation process is not in the best interest of everyone involved. From the very beginning you are considering imposing your will on us. We will take a hit we will be in pain, services will be cut, costs will go up and people with real lives will get laid off. There are alternatives. We have presented ours and made real effort to make the best decisions. Please consider the details. Consider the support our alternatives provide. Consider the people who will be able to provide the services. Consider the details of sacrifices we are offering. Also consider the consequences of impositions that will based on numbers that are over six months old the economy is turning around if you impose the consequences please do not impose.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Robert Sandoval. Robert Taylor. Followed by Patty Cortese, Sandy Baragas.

>> Hi, I'm Stan Taylor. I'm talking from my faith perspective. The opinion piece in the Mercury News written by the mayor and echoed in other e-mails that I received, it is suggested that public employee unions have packed the chambers and drowned out the voices of those needing services. I have been at the public hearing budget meetings and this is simply not the case. Community members faith leaders and many people who need services were here, asking together for a budget solution based on community input and the God given right of our workers to participate as equals to finding solutions to the budget crisis. They worked hard to do so but appeared to have been virtually ignored in the Mayor's Budget Message. The opinion piece in the Mercury News sadly appears to be an attempt to create division and demonize our city employees and our unions. Joint venture Silicon Valley network's most recent economic index says that per capita income in the private sector fell only just under 3% in 2009. The insistence that a 10% cut in wages and benefits is required by city workers --

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

>> Mayor, council, my friends. First I want to say I'm here by myself as a community member, no one sent me. I know that a lot of you have already stated your position on the budget. And I hope that you will sincerely remain open to give some credibility to this public process. The concessions offered by the employees, I think are huge, and they lay an important foundation for where we need to go in the future in terms of pension and health care benefits. I think in trying to force your hand I believe it will be winning the battle and losing the war. And I really don't think it's right to hold the community hostage over a political dispute. I know that some of you are saying that these offers can't be trusted come bargaining time but it makes me think of a Chinese proverb that says, he who cannot trust cannot be trusted. You know that respect and trust are the primary capital of good negotiations and, come bargaining time, I want to know how much are you going to have in your bank. So please work it out. Thank you. [applause]

>> First of all, I'd like to thank you all to please keep our community centers and our staff open. My name is Sandy Brahas and I've just graduated high school. I've lived in the Gardner community my whole life. The community center has only helped me it has saved my life, it has helped others and kept them out of danger. The center has not only given us a great place to go to but it's also helped us build a better future. So I ask you please to accept the budget cut and help our youth save and keep our future alive. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: José Guerrero, Charles Jones, Victor Jang, Heather Sutton.

>> Good evening, my name is José Guerrero. And I wear many hats, and my adult life, I am the father of five children. I have grown up here in San José in the Alum Rock area. My children have attend Linda Vista, Joseph George. I volunteered at various sports activities. I use the community centers. My children attend the Alum Rock community center. I learned to swim at the Mayfair. I attended Cesar Chavez. Bayfair elementary. I'm here to tell you and acknowledge that you have some tough decisions in front of you. I also am a 22-year veteran of the fire department. And I can tell you, the wheels are coming off! It is difficult to keep it together. We cannot afford to close fire stations because lives and property are at risk. I am one of those firefighters that have responded to everything from shooting, stabbings, suicides, hanging.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Please do not impose the cut.

>> Mayor Reed: Charles Sanger.

>> Good evening, honorable mayor and councilmembers. I'm Charles Jones and I'm the District 1 representative on the neighborhoods commission. And I urge you to support the mayor's proposal. I know the mayor has gone through a long and difficult process, but he's done a great job in terms of getting input from neighborhood leaderships and representatives, and those representatives and leadership has put their input into his proposal and is represented in terms of preserving and maintaining a lot of the critical city services like the community centers and libraries. The neighborhoods and members of the neighborhoods are not the most vocal, or loud. People that you hear but they're listening and Thayer engaged and watching what to do. And we want to make sure that the City of San José maintains the quality of life that we have and we're counting on you to do that, that represent the neighborhoods. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Victor Yang Heather Sutton, Susan Price, Patricia Marquez.

>> My name is Victor Yang and I'm a member of the Sherman oaks neighborhood in District sic 6. I'd like to make a plea for all libraries and the news Seven Trees and Bascom library in particular. My plea is that

they not be allowed to stay vacant and they be opened to the community that so desperately needs them as soon as the funds are available, January 1st, 2011. For too long the school kids in my area have had to do without library facilities like kids in the better-off areas, and for as long as I can remember, the residents of this area have fought very long and hard to get the city to finally recognize that this area on Bascom should be a district hub, and, you know, it's a shame that it will not be open as soon as they're scheduled to be opened.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up, I'm sorry. Heather Sutton, Susan Price, Patricia Marquez, Aurelia Sanchez.

>> Good evening, honorable mayor and councilmembers, I'm Heather Sutton and I'm the chair of the District 1 leadership group, but I'm here tonight as a concerned resident and community member. My fear is for the unintended consequences that are surely to be realized if the city is forced to reduce the resources and services it provides that keeps our community healthy, safe and engaged. I know it's hard times but closures, eliminations of programs and services and most notably massive layoffs will cause great harm. Further cutting the ties between City Hall and the neighbors can only result in a greater need and increased expenses in the long term. I hope that all of you will support the mayor's message as I do, continue to work with your unions, continue to work to ensure that the city budget is prioritized by necessity, and make sure that the votes you cast in the coming days truly represent your priorities for our city long term. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Susan Price, Patricia Marquez, Aurelia Sanchez, Tim Gentile.

>> Mayor Reed and members of the City Council, I'm Susan Price and I live in the Sherman Oaks neighborhood. Ten years ago we successfully fought to have the District 6 hub community center located in library placed in our long-neglected neighborhood. This beautiful building will soon be completed this fall, but it's not currently scheduled to open. And the same is true of the soon to be completed Seven Trees library. Both Sherman oaks and Seven Trees neighborhoods have many children from low-income families and many who do not speak English at home. These children need these libraries. We urge you to open all 20 library equally so that no neighborhood carries an inequitable share of a lack of services due to budget cuts. Please place Bascom and Seven Trees on the restoration list as part of the 2010-11 budget instructions. Please direct the City Manager to open both libraries equal to the others on January 1st, 2011. Libraries are where children learn a love of reading, where adults use the computers to look for jobs --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Aurelia Sanchez, Tim Gentile, Sharon Barbacia, and Steve Pagan.

>> Hello, my name's Aurelia Sanchez, and I live in District 3, and I'm a retired city employee who is having to work part time to make ends meet. I do not support the mayor's budget and I'll tell you why. Why is the city council, some of the city council members and the mayor spending \$75 million to buy land for Lew Wolff. You tell him and his employees to take a 10% cut. Why does the city council have land over there in Alviso and having community meetings for soccer fields? Why don't they sell some of that land. Why doesn't the city council sell the old City Hall? To me there's a lot of money here that you know, there's a lot of people here like the mayor and another councilmember who have friends in high places. And you just -- you know you're making it difficult for another lot of people. You are creating a lot of hate. I worked hard as a city worker. I got an award as a city worker. I was in my job for less than six months and the company nominated me for employee of month. There's a lot of deception here --

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up. Tim gentile or gentile. Sharon Barbacia, Steve Pagan, Cong Sung.

>> Mr. Mayor, city council, madam City Manager, I was hired by the City of San José as a firefighter on November 1st, 1970. I went through the dark days of '71, '72, when this city didn't hire any firefighters. We ran three people on rigs and I mean two-piece companies with three people. I tell you, if you start closing stations you'll go back to that again and you will have more fires, more deaths, more injured firefighters, and there's no winning. You're going to lose. In fact you should have more firefighters than you do now. You do not have enough, and you're looking backwards. And I'm ashamed of you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sharon Robacia, Steve Pagan, Tom sun.

>> Honorable mayor and city council, my name is Sharon Barbacia, I'm a member of CAMP. I was born and raised in San José and I've worked for the city for 14 years. Everybody keeps talking about a 10% pay cut but that's really not what it is. It represents to me over 15% pay cut plus reduction in benefits that I can't even figure out how much that adds up to. This imposition is unfair. It's not equitable. And I really hope you consider the coalition's proposal. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Steve Pagan.

>> Honorable mayor and city council, my name is Steven Pagan. And I've been a city employee for 14 years and a civil engineer in the Public Works department. There is a lot of misinformation and incomplete information that's being circulated to the public that is being passed off as fact. Mayor Reed's state of the city address on February 18th stated that employee costs have shot up over 64% over the last nine years. I do not believe that anyone in this chamber has seen their salary increase by anywhere close to that amount, myself included. The citizens are owed an explanation as to what is behind this number. Employee groups have submitted an alternative plan that would have saved the city tens of millions of dollars but it was rejected with only a sound byte that the offer was conditioned with a poison pill. No one explained what this poison pill is or was but the city's only position has been to demand a 10% cut of all employees creative solutions notwithstanding.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Cong Sun. Followed by Lourdes Nuno, Alex Mord Winnow, and Michelle Luke.

>> Good evening, Mayor and City Council, my name is Cong Sun and I'm a firefighter paramedic for the City of San José for the past ten years. And I know that along with my brothers and sisters, we've ran more than 80,000 calls last year. And when our community calls for help we've always there to help, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. And I'm standing here in front of you and along with all my brothers and sisters, asking for your help to keep us on the line so that we can continue to serve our community. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mr. Mayor, honorable councilmembers, my name is Alex Mordwino and I'm a member of CAMP. I have lived in San José for over 50 years and over the past 20 years I've resided in council District 2. I support a wife and four children and a disabled mother-in-law. I've enjoyed over 22 years of service with the City of San José. I left private industry and incurred a 30% reduction to work for the City of San José. 30% reduction in pay. I came because of desirable working conditions, benefits, and a retirement plan. Eight years ago, I rejected offers from private industry which offered more money and possible stock options. I rejected those offers, and was made fun of by those who could not understand why I would settle for a job with 3% annual increases when private industry was offering so much more.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Lourdes Nunio and then after Lourdes, Michelle Lew, Alicia Coff Ginsberg, Greg Miller.

>> Good evening. On December 2007 council proposed a motion to preserve all the city employees in the convention center under Team San José contract. The result was 8 to 2 to preserve our jobs. Why are you letting Team San José make a proposal 90% of our employees in the convention center? We only 51 employees there and they want to cut 41. 29 facilities with superintendents and seniors. Give us the opportunity -- they not going to give us the opportunity to do the competition policies. Please do something about it. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Michelle Lew, Alicia Coff Ginsberg, Greg Miller, Larry Blunt and Derek Amerens.

>> Good evening. My name is Michelle Lew, I'm president and CEO of Asian Americans for Community Involvement, AACI. I'm here tonight because I cannot go to sleep without asking you to provide some support, even if it's a short term bridge, for MACSA. In the early 1990s AACI was on the front page of the Mercury News facing allegations of financial mismanagement. But because of support from elected officials like yourselves, we learned from our mistakes, we stabilized and we're bigger and better serving the community. We need the youth services that MACSA provides. No one else is providing those services. MACSA has new leadership and I hope you'll stand with me in supporting those new leaders to ensure MACSA youth services continue to thrive. Thank you. [applause]

>> Good evening. I'm here to read a statement tonight from Father Edwardo Samaniego, Rabbis Melanie Aron and Dana McGott, Reverend Joseph Leon and lay leader Stan Taylor. In times of hardship fear and distress, it is all too easy to demonize those with whom we disagree. We depend on our civic leaders to help show the way. Sadly in his column of June 13th, San José's mayor Chuck Reed did not live up to that standard. We do not know whether the structural deficit is as the mayor insists truly public enemy number 1 in San José but we do know that councilmembers and others who disagree with the mayor in the budget are not public enemies as the tone of the Mayor's column implies. What of the numerous members of neighborhood organizations, churches, community groups who believe there are other and possibly better strategies, to balance the budget than the single plan designed by the mayor. Catholic bishop Don helder camera said if those who are with you --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up, pass the baton.

>> My name is Greg Miller, I'm resident of district 5. I'll continue with the statement. If those who are with you always agree with you before you open your mouth, they are not companions but shadows, when disagreement rises from a different vision it can only enrich us. We want Mayor Reed and San José's budget to be enriched by many viewpoints. During the last year, the mayor himself has held different opinions. He repeatedly changed his mind about the size of the concession that he believes the city unions should agree to. First it was 5%, then 15%, now it is 10%. Considering this history, why is a 7.5 concession a priori unreasonable? We do not understand how the figure 10% has suddenly garnered such significance that commitment to its imposition should be viewed as the sole basis on which to judge elected officials. What happened to a sense of balance and an appreciation of the complexity of the fiscal issues facing this city?

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

>> My name is Larry blunt. I'm a proud union member and also a very concerned citizen. The notion that the budget plan for one individual, even the mayor, should be considered so perfect that it cannot even be questioned, and disturbing that it is the unions only exist to taunt the common good. Our democratic form of government allows multiple points of view to be heard and debated and sees a role in civic society for many kinds of organizations. Neighborhoods, associations, and, yes, unions. Those who disagree with Mayor Reed are also playing a vital role in San José. They are bringing alternatives to the attention of the public. They may be in error, but their views also warrant respect. We believe there are serious flaws in the mayor's budget proposal. It seriously cuts funding for youth programs, it cuts libraries by eliminating units in the fire department it will also --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Derrick Amerons, and -- just a minute, and she'll be followed by Kevin conant, Melody Salvadore and Tina Morrill.

>> Thank you, mayor and council, I'm going to bat cleanup on this letter here. So we acknowledge that these are difficult times. Revenues are down, leaders can at least discuss these matters. Yet aren't we better served as a community if our leaders can at least discuss these matters from a perspective of mutual respect? We do not call for the mayor to be severely penalized because his budget contains these troubling elements. Rather we seek dialogue. We struggle for a better understanding. We hope to find solutions that bring the people of this city together. The men and women who are employees of the city are part of our community and our congregations. They are people with families that depend on them and have bills to pay. It is fair that they should be asked to sacrifice as so many others have had to sacrifice in these times. However it is also fair that they be treated respectfully as people who have provided us with years of dedicated service. None of us would react positively if someone else arbitrarily decided what we should sacrifice and refused to countenance any debate on the matter. Mayor Reed, it is time to change your metaphors. We have had too much talk of enemies --

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

>> -- and we should attempt to solve our problems by working together.

>> Mayor Reed: Kevin conant, Melanie Salvador and Tina Morrill.

>> Honorable council and mayor, my name is Melanie Salvador and I'm a member of AEA IFPTE Local 21. I've been a city employee for over nine years and a resident of the city for six years. Of those nine years I do distinctly remember not being -- not getting a raise for five of those years. I strongly urge you to approve our proposal for AEA. I've already last year I've already taken a 5% cut and I will take another more than 10% cut that you have proposed. This will take away the amount I have left to support me, my mother, my mother's medical expenses, and help feed my grandma who fell ill to a stroke last Christmas eve. I've been lucky to purchase my home several years ago but I don't think I'll be so lucky to keep it. If you approve this cut to our salaries it will drastically, drastically be a devastating impact to my life, and others, as well. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Okay, this is last call. If I called your name earlier and you haven't spoken, please come down. Tina is our last speaker.

>> I made it. Wow. Good evening, so I'm here to tell you that I support you in voting for the mayor's budget proposal. Back in March I heard the council talk about collaboration and how important it is for all entities, the cities, the unions, the neighborhoods to work together and make sacrifices. And I think it's still important. We're at a point where action and courage is needed to get the budget passed. I thank the city council who have taken the 10% salary cut and I hope others would follow your lead and I thank those who have. I'm a firefighter's daughter and I totally get that Public Safety is extremely important. I've seen firsthand how hard my dad and his colleagues worked. I know firsthand as a neighbor how hard we have worked to save our city services. So I believe that proactive and positive community services they help

public safety and I want those saved as well. I am willing to accept some service reductions but I do think we all need to work together so that the long term health and safety of the community is ensured for future generations. Please pass the mayor's budget.

>> Mayor Reed: Last call, Kevin Conant is going to get it.

>> Good evening, Ken conant, senior battalion chief with the fire department. First, to the people of San Jose, the residents and the businesses, we've heard you. And we've put forth proposals that close the gap in the fire department, so that we don't have to close fire companies. I want you to hear that from us directly. We feel your pain, we understand your pain that you are in this community experiencing with this economic downturn. That hasn't wavered our commitment to actually, still, consider laying down our very lives for your protection. Public enemy number 1 in the fire department is not the strategic or structural budget deficit. It's time. And as councilmember Oliverio's recent memo that he just distributed to several neighborhood groups written by you Mr. Mayor and the Vice Mayor and Councilmember Oliverio, you understand the strategic plan that was adopted by policy back in 2001. You know it's about response times. Every second counts. The longer you wait for us to get there --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> -- the more death, the more damage we endure.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: That concludes our work tonight. We'll continue this hearing tomorrow and the afternoon agenda which starts at 1:30 p.m. Thank you all for coming. Thank you for participation and we'll continue this hearing tomorrow. Thank you, we are adjourned. The meeting starts at 10:00 but the afternoon session starts at 1:30 and we'll take up this sometime after 1:30. [9:40 p.m. adjourn]