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>> Mayor Reed: Good evening. I'd like to call the San José city council meeting to order. This is a special meeting June 13th, 2011, for the purpose of taking public testimony on matters relating to the budget, and my June budget message. Tonight is not end, but we're getting very close to the end of the process for the new scholarly which starts July 1st and tonight we're not taking action on the budget, the budget message. We're here to take public testimony because we know that not everybody can get to the city council in the daytime. And after we've heard from people who wish to speak tonight we'll continue the hearing until tomorrow afternoon when the council will deliberate and vote on my budget message and other matters relating to the budget. If you wish to speak please submit a card so that I don't miss anybody. And of course there are a lot of people to speak. As can you see from the crowd, not everybody wants to speak, but most of you do apparently so we'll be allowing one minute for comments tonight so that everybody gets a chance to speak. Before we take public testimony I want to describe just briefly how we got here and then to summarize my budget message. We began this work back in November last year, when the council gave direction to our city staff to seek concessions from our employees to help close the \$115 million gap in our budget. To seek those concessions so we could avoid laying people off and so we could continue providing services. And since November we followed a community based budget process and includes a scientific survey of the entire community. Study sessions, workshops, community meetings and public hearings. In March, the City Council approved my March budget message which gave direction to the City Manager to seek fiscal reforms to restore services to January 1, 2011 levels. We know we're going to have to reduce sets of this next fiscal year, we want to bring those services back and we need to save money to bring those services back. In may following direction from the city council the City Manager proposed a budget and a fiscal reform plan. She delivered those to us on May 2nd. We had a series of study sessions and then councilmembers issued over 50 budget requests and recommendations that totaled over \$30 million in requests. After looking at all that and considering all that and hearing from thousands of people in the community I issued my June budget message on June 3rd and this is what we're going to look at tonight. Here is summary of what's in the June budget message. We're making some changes, I'm approaching that we make some changes to the proposed budget and moving some money and creating some opportunities to keep our branch libraries open, four days a week, to restore 49 firefighter positions through a SAFR grant that we hope to get from the federal government, rehire as many police officers as we can from any increase in sales tax receipts or a COPS grant from the federal government and to maximize the number of officers on patrol. I'm recommending that we

preserve the safe school campus initiative at the middle schools and there funding we have found to restore park rangers, crossing guards, code enforcement officers, and funding for senior wellness programs. That is sort of the summary of the issues. I have a summary of the entire budget on one slide that I want to get up. Here is what's happening as a result of all this work. You can see that revenues are down. Our what we call general revenues which is basically the taxes that you pay and fees and licenses and franchise things like that are down about 3%. We have other revenue sources like beginning fund balance and transfers, that's down 7%. But at the same time as revenues are down, as a result of what we're able to do with the budget message and the rebudgets and the adjustments that are in front of us, the public safety budget will go up by about 1%. But that means all the other budgets combined are going down about 10%. But it is balanced. We're required to have a balanced budget, unlike the state government that can borrow money and use gimmicks, and the federal government that can print money, as well as borrow money, we can't do those things. So this is a balanced budget. It's not easy to balance this budget because the differential is about \$115 million, that's about 15% of our general fund, and that's resulted in some substantial reductions in services. Over 500 jobs are going to be eliminated, and somewhere around a couple hundred people will get laid off, including some very important police officers. But that is how we balanced the budget. And the reason we are able to increase the police budget 1% but nevertheless, are still laying off police officers, and shrinking the fire department, is explained on the next slide, which folks have seen before. The state of the city speech and our budget study sessions. The cost of retirements are skyrocketing. We are draining money out of services and pouring it into retirement cost. Ten years ago we spent \$63 million on retirement cost. This year we're about to finish was \$180 million, next fiscal year starting July 1st is \$250 million and it's going up from there. The real question is how much will it go up? But nevertheless it appears it's going up for the next 10 or 15 years. And that is driving us to have to shrink our workforce because as you saw from the earlier slide, revenues are not going up. In fact they're going down. So the departments are having to absorb significant reductions in their staffing in order to balance their budgets at lower levels for most departments and at a slightly higher level for Public Safety. So that's the summary of the story for this year. But as you see in the budget message I'm trying to get us to start preparing for next year. Because next year is not much better than this year. We're looking at having to close somewhere around \$100 million shortfall in 2012. So one year from today we'll be signature here discussing how we've closed that gap. And hopefully, we'll do some things that won't require us to reduce our workforce by another 500 people. I've outlined that in my budget message and some of

the things that we can do to avoid having to cut another 500 people out of our workforce and reduce services. Our retirement reforms, acceleration of selling real estate assets in order to generate some one-time funding, contracting out additional services. We'll poll to explore the feasibility of getting potential revenue matters to the voters and other elements of the City Manager's fiscal reform plan which the council has approved, that could be accelerated. So hopefully, we'll implement some of those so we can avoid what we're having to do this year which is to greatly reduce the workforce. I want to acknowledge the enormous amount of help that I received from my colleagues and their advice and suggestions in putting together my budget message. Obviously my staff has been instrumental, Armando Gomez, Antonio Guerra and others in the budget office have done a huge amount of work, and I thank Vice Mayor Nguyen, Councilmembers Liccardo, Constant, Herrera for their advice, comments and suggestions as I drafted the message. And I want to thank our employees, because included in this message are the savings from a 10% reduction in total compensation for every employee in the city. That's allowing us to save hundreds of jobs and services that are provided by the people filling those jobs. Things would have been much worse without the concessions from our employees. And they've made a big sacrifice in order to save jobs and services, and I wanted to acknowledge that and appreciate that. And finally I want to challenge my council colleagues and each of you to think about 2012 and a year from now and how we will close a \$100 million gap. I've outlined in my budget message some ways that that can be done. But it will not be easy and it is time to think about it now. So everybody should, in their own way, figure out how we're going to close this because we're going to have that conversation starting pretty soon and carry it on for months but ultimately the next fiscal year will roll around and we'll have to do it, like it or not we'll be balancing our budget a year from now and with this that it's now time I'd like to open this up for public testimony. When I call your name please come on down to the front so you're close to the microphone. Beth Sheffron Mukai. Leslye Reynolds, Sasha O. Stewart. And if you want to speak, again, put in a yellow card so I don't miss you.

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed and council. My name is Beth Sheffron Mukai, I'm a resident of district 3 as well as the current chair of the San José neighborhoods commission. I hope all of you had the opportunity to receive the letter the commission had sent, it was dated May 27th. I have additional copies if this may be helpful, they are available. I admit it's a short time to speak but I just wanted to first thank you for the opportunities provided to our commission to learn about our city budget and the challenges this presents to our neighborhoods. As with last

year, we have reviewed and studied the budget issues, been out in all of our neighborhoods throughout all of our council districts and heard the concerns and priorities of the community. And that is what our budget recommendations letter is based on. We know this is a very difficult year, there are no easy choices. Only painful ones. Bad choices and worse choices. But we support the efforts of the mayor, the council and the City Manager's office to find the best solution and the solution --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Leslie Reynolds, Sasha Stewart, Ruth Cole.

>> Good evening, Leslie Reynolds, board of education trustee for San José Unified School District. I'm no stranger to having to make dramatic cuts in budgets, large scale budgets. I have a constituency that equates to half a million people in San José and 33,000 of them are children so we do understand how difficult it is to make some of the decisions you have to make. I'm asking this council to be courageous, bold and show your leadership and support the mayor's budget, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sasha O. Stewart, Ruth Cole, Isobel Manini.

>> Hello, my name is Sasha Stewart. I want to tell you now that our neighborhood have a bad impact with the absence of police. We need police. Please don't fire police and firemen. We have a solution. So I'm going to be in touch with my colleague, Nancy Pyle, so we can make an appointment, and I'm going to leave right now, this campaign to her so she can show it to you. We have solution and we are going to make a lot of money because God want it that way. Thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Ruth Cole, Isobel Manini, Laurie Predholm.

>> Good evening, mayor and city council people, I'm Ruth Cole, I'm with alternatives for pest spraying. However, I've solved your cash problem and our spraying problem. So we have -- vector has found 5,000 green pools that are infected with mosquito breeding in this valley. The mortgage companies are holding these in foreclosure, but they're not moving them, they're not selling them, and they're just breeding mosquitos. Instead of going down and getting rid of the root problem of these diseased pools we're going around spraying our homes and children and yards and what have you. My solution for you people is to tell these mortgage companies you're going to fine them \$100 a day until they clean them up. In one day you'd make \$500,000. In a week you'll make \$3,500,000. It would also put an end to spraying our homes and our families and our children. So that's my concern. And it is a way to go.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Isabel Nanini, Laurie Predholm.

>> My name is Isobel Manini. I belong to the St. Resure PACT. In District 7. According to our census that we took, families that we surveyed, we had over 300 survey papers and then we have more that we had talked to personally on the phone about crime, about retaining neighborhood safety programs, not just suppressing but intervention and preventing as well. Take the money from your salary cuts and increase the downtown parking and set aside for -- from set aside from the stadium. My concern is that gang task force, strong neighborhoods, at one time gang task force --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Next speaker is Laurie Prudhomme, followed by Tony and Dakota Nguyen.

>> Your Honor, mayor, and members of the city council, I'm Laurie Prudhomme, president of the cypress senior center. This month June our center ran out of nutrition funds and without the advisory council stepping up to buy the food this center would have been going without meals. Unless we all brought food from home to fill in the gap. So you can see we do our part to help with the nutrition program. In all of the talk from the unions there are 5,901 employees in the city and if each of them is paying \$21 a month union dues, that is \$1,771,000 in income. Why don't they pay the retirement income, instead of hiring lobbyists and make political donations and cheap mailers when they don't get their way? Think about that. Also when we talk about negotiations from 2012 --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Marilyn Inton, Tony and Dakota Nguyen.

>> Good evening, I'm Marilyn Inton, president of the Almaden senior association and we've been working very hard this week to get signatures and the following letter you should have says the current budget proposal for 2011-2012 involves relocating several current staff members of the Almaden Community Center and the Almaden library. In order to balance the budget the Almaden library may be open for three days a week maybe four. And the Alma community center would have to reduce its class and course offerings to function with reduced staff. We the undersigned are opposed to the relocating of any of the current Almaden staff and any reduction of library opening time. The Almaden library and community center is a vital hub to all in the Almaden valley and as such warrants funding necessary to continue serving its residents. We have given you 2190 signatures for this past week, we've had volunteers outside sitting in front getting signatures from anybody using the community center including people from San José and the rest of the county who use the center. Please consider this, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Tony and Dakota Nguyen, Dennis Martin, Pat Saucedo.

>> Hi I'm Tony, this is Dakota, we work we play we go to school in district 2. I like to talk about -- I want to fully fund libraries parks and youth programs like the youth commission. Libraries make us smart, parks and rec makes us healthy and the youth commission builds public pride. The plan to open libraries only three days a

week, is not fully funding. Losing family programs, losing Saturdays means losing Christmas and the Thanksgiving programs. It creates a deeply unfair situation. Please fully fund the libraries, thanks bye-bye.

>> Dennis Martin, Pat Saucedo, Luis Sacaresi.

>> I'm Dennis Martin with Naop Silicon Valley, the real estate association. I want to thank all the employee unions who have agreed to accept concessions and cuts. It's difficult to make these decisions but I want to let you know that NAOP supports the mayor's budget, it's the right thing to do to save as many jobs as possible and as many services as possible. Number one, I want to talk to you about the arts. Support and protect the funding for the arts. It doesn't do any good if we have a safe and secure downtown if nobody comes to the downtown to enjoy it. The arts add a lot to the cultural value of the city so we ask you continue that. Number three, stop funding wasteful projects, for example, the habitat conservation plan, a billion dollar solution in search of a problem. We appreciate what you're doing here and we support the mayor's position on the budget, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up. Pat Saucedo, Luis Arcaressi and then Diana Leese.

>> Pat Saucedo: Pat Saucedo, speaking on behalf of the San José Silicon Valley chamber of commerce. Comprehensive budgetary reform as contained in the mayor's proposed 2011-2012 budget is needed for neighborhood service employees, which will result in reducing San José's quality of life to unacceptable levels. Only through long term reforms including restructuring of payroll, pension and benefit reform and focusing on essential city services will we be able to keep our city out of the clutches of bankruptcy and economic foreclosure. The chamber thanks, really we thank all the bargaining units and the employees that have agreed to concessions, and agreed to commit to finding long term solutions. We know it's not easy. And we appreciate that commitment, very much. Supporting the mayor's 2011-2012 budget proposal is the right thing to do for all of San José. We appreciate your hard work. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Lou Sacaresi, Diana Lee, Laya Ferungi.

>> Mayor councilmembers, my name is Louis Sacarese, I'm the director of services for pathway society. Pathway provides services to reduce risk behaviors, gang behavior. Substance abuse treatment services are designed to assist targeted youth to lead lifestyles free of delinquency, gang involvement and substance abuse. Cutting the mayor's gang prevention task force B.E.S.T. budget would seriously put at risk or end programs that assist youth in clean and sober activities. Given the current climate of San José this seems to be not a good path to take, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Diana Lee, Lia Ferigne, Peter Tang. Okay. Come on down, Lia then and Peter Tang and Kathy Lee.

>> I'm Lia Ferigne, I represent the youth commission. We all know someone in our lifetime that helps us get through things that we otherwise never imagine we would be able to accomplish. Now imagine yourself councilmembers as a 17 or even 15-year-old and you have been named a San José youth commissioner one of about only ten across the entire city of San José youth that are 100,000 in number. You have that support group of adults that train you as a commission, act to see that you can one day become just like those grownups on the councilmember position one day, like you sitting in front of me. But now that support is being taken away from the youth commission for this year. As a commission myself for this fiscal year and the next I'd ask the councilmembers to find room in their budgets for the amazing staff support to continue their role in the vital services that are provided to the youth commission nationally recognized for its efforts. Our rate of growth will surely diminish without that. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: (saying names).

>> My name is Peter Tang and I am a departing youth commissioner. I had a very great time serving on the youth commission, and I owe thanks to each and every one of you councilmembers and the mayor. You have supported the youth commission and you have taken time out of your schedules to give us what we need. However we are slowly losing our support. Even so I would like to say the youth of our city are not only willing to give our voices but our hands to each councilmember and their council office in support and help. We could volunteer our own

time and give what we feel is necessary to make the city a better place. However we'll be losing the current capacity to do so if our youth commission staffing is lowered. We are one of the only commissions in the city with one full time and one half. That is not allot. We can give back to the city as youth and make a better way for the future, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Kathy Lee, Amanda Aldama.

>> Good evening, my name is Kathy Lee. In the past year I've gained many invaluable services as part of district 1 advisory council. The district 1 staff have done a great deal coordinating for us, where we have received leadership training and learn about the base issues facing our city, to the achievement gap. These issues remain unaddressed in the San José schools. That enables students to gain a greater awareness of our community. Being on the youth advisory council has afforded me many other great opportunities including a round table discussion with councilmember Pete constant and where we've talked about other ways that youth can make a positive difference in the city like going to neighborhood events such as the great neighborhood litter pickup. It is our great staff who make all these events possible and because they and the city provide these opportunities for young people we are mostly prepared to make a positive impact on our communities.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Amanda Aldama is our next speaker, Tanya Freudenberger and then Diana Wilkerson.

>> Hello, mayor and council. In my experience as a youth commissioner I would say that a majority of us would agree it was for an individual to thrive it takes support. So youth tend to be out of trouble and be more productive when there's an adult supporting them and guiding them and the youth commission is no different. With seven new members on our board it is a necessity to have at least one full time staff member supporting them and guiding them for the progression of the youth commission as a whole. You've all received a copy of the budget recommendations that the youth commission have put forth. You've seen how we've grown and you see that we're capable in the coming years. Provided we have at least one full time staff member to pursue these efforts. Please take into considering what we will need to benefit the youth and the city as a whole. The youth

commission represents the voice of youth in San José but we need the help of our staff to keep the youth often unheard voice alive. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Tanya Freudenberger,.

>> My name is Tanya Freudenberger. I'm a member one at Alma and one at Gardner. One FTE outreach specialist at the Alum Rock youth center. Apparently the youth boys and Girls Club through reuse. We ask you to approve the youth center position for two reasons. One the increasing violent crime against and amongst young people on the East side. The youth center, City's youth outreach specialists who work with our at risk youth. A perception two of the youth center will no longer be available to the community since the Boys and Girls Club will be providing staffing for the Esquela popular. Along we councilmember Campos's budget document 20, Gardner and Alma are in such close proximity to one another perhaps they can share one FTE and the other FTE can go to the Alma center.

>> Mayor Reed: (saying names).

>> Mayor chuck Reed and city council members. My name is Diana Wilkerson, representing St. John Vianne PACT. Eight years later put out to reuse. I am here highly to recommend that you allocate funding for our Alum Rock youth center by providing one FTE for the youth outreach specialist to serve as a youth sports program coordinator. Given the increase in gang crime, in gang crime in district 5 it's imperative to maintain good relations with our youth at risk and to keep them off the streets. The specialist position will serve as a liaison between the community and the reuse operator. There has been more than 424 crime reports in our area in just the last three days. And as you recall, there was a killing just last week. You know the statistics.

>> Mayor Reed: I'm sorry your time is up.

>> Okay.

>> Mayor Reed: Diana Wilkerson George Castro, Fred villa and Kevin fish.

>> I'm George Castro, I live in Berryessa. I spend most of the time helping the youth in the Alum Rock area because that's the group that needs the most help in this city. I do this mainly by being a director of a city owned facility, the Joseph George recreation center which was scheduled to be closed in 2004. I took it over on a volunteer basis. I raised the money. I hire students, college students to help me. I get help from the Alum Rock youth center. Under the present plan, it's going to make it very difficult. I need that youth center to cover me when I can't be there. And also, the knowledge that I need to work with the city to keep the place alive. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: .

>> Mayor Reed: Fredville La Kevin fish Will Vick. .

>> Seven or eight years ago and there are some elements of those agreements that must be reduced significantly. You must think out of the box. By that I mean suppose I were to say to one of you I will drive you wherever you want to go during your work week for one week and maybe there's enough of us that would be able to do that and we could rotate and save money. That's it. Thank you very much.

>> Kevin fish, will Vick, Andy Evans.

>> Some you talk about caring about constituents. Yet there's a cut back, down beating of workers wages so on that cuts down on their morale they don't feel like working so much. I see hypocrisy, you're indirectly hurting the constituents. I suggest you restore the plan restoring these funds, like community centers park rangers and so on.

>> Mayor Reed: Will Vick.

>> Good evening, Will Vick, again, hello. I want to urge you again to fully fund the park ranger program in perpetuity so we don't have to come back to this over and over and over again. I challenge you to think holistically, so not thinking in council district or a fiefdom. We want to think holistically. And you guys were elected to make these tough decisions, okay, but you have decisions to make. You don't have to do a certain thing. You have choices. Can you choose to add things that we don't have right now, or you can fund these core services that we're barely holding together right now. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Andy Evans, Maritza Orbina and Andy Watson.

>> What I'm talking about is the park rangers, the police officers and the firefighters that are being cut. I believe that we need more park rangers for the parks that provide protection for everyone who's in the parks, direct them on direct trails, and for police officers, increase that, to help the community out from people committing crimes, and putting them in different facilities, and the firefighters we need more of those because those are the ones that take out the fires from houses and the communities, and save people's lives. And park rangers also save lives as well when people are lost on trails that the police officers and firefighters cannot be found, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Maritza Orbina followed by Paul Lawson and Mary Hardy.

>> I believe that all our park rangers deserve to keep their jobs because of all the services they provide for me as a youth. Creek cleanups and giving people a sense of community while they're enjoying their city parks. For these reasons I ask to you please save all of our park rangers. Thank you for all of your time and that's all.

>> Mayor Reed: (saying names).

>> Being the son of a park ranger I've gone to a lot of parks from Alum Rock to (inaudible) I've heard what they do for and within their parks. Hear stories about how park rangers put out fires before they start both literally and figuratively. They tell me how they know the trail so well they actually lead the rescue parties to lost victims. There are less park rangers at the park. They'll be too busy maintaining the parks, they will be too busy to help find lost

boys in the woods. There will be so many fires to put out in the parks that the parks themselves will be forced to close. That's when we all suffer, when you can't see the beauty of the park that was given us.

>> Mayor Reed: (saying names).

>> Mayor Reed, councilmembers, I appreciate your help balancing this budget. When the cities were originally incorporated, it was for the reason to provide police and fire protection, basic services to provide for the well-being of the people. I ask you to retain the fire and police and park ranger systems fully fund them as the other ranger said in perpetuity so we don't do this again next year. I know you have hard decisions to make but please keep the park rangers police and fire fully staffed. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Jean Samelski, Roger Abe and Jean Cantori.

>> Good evening, I'm Gene Samelski. I am a retired firefighter. Please provide the necessary security that this community needs. They're talking about park rangers I agree with that but I want to see more police on the street and more patrols on my street specifically, and I think that is one of the highest priorities we can give in a city budget here. I would also challenge each of you to go during the next fiscal year and talk to about five different CEOs about companies that hire more than 250 people. Ask those CEOs what San José can do to make in city business friendly. I'm not talking about green friendly. I'm talking about business friendly. Because there is an absence of money coming into the coffers of this community. And in the you can get the community behind you you can't solve the issue in the long run.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Jim cantori, (saying names).

>> I'm Jim cantori, district 9 commissioner speaking only for myself. I ask to put our city ahead of ourselves and ask our selves what we can do to preserve our city and our quality of life. In our county, 90,000, close to combined populations of Milpitas and Los Gatos are officially jobless and have celebrated 100% pay cuts not 10% job cuts. Many of the positions they had will not come back and are now being filled across the Pacific. Can't we

look to the betterment of our city, can't we put critical services of the city first? It is difficult and painful but we have a choice. We can watch our fair city crumble or we can give a little more to save it. Ask not what San José can do financially to help you, ask what we can do for all of San José and all of its residents. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Lee Ellick, Rob Ballmer and Kimy Martinez.

>> Good evening, my name is Roger Abe, 20-year park ranger. Before the establishment of the park ranger program there was a problem of safety in parks. Do we want them to enjoy and recreate, or fall back into the hands of the abusers? Any lessening will mean decreased safety and issue in the parks. Restoring a degraded park system would be very expensive compared to any alternatives retaining the strong park ranger program is the best and most economical solution. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Rob Ballmer (saying names).

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed and city council members. My name is Rob Ballmer. I'm general manager of the doubletree by Hilton. We appreciate you crafting the budget during these difficult economic times. As you know the CVB and in the form of hotel taxes, sales taxes and parking taxes, that support vital city services like fire and police. Cutting the budgets for tourism and convention operations will limit growth and have negative long term consequences for the city, local restaurateurs arts groups museums retailers and hotels that we will never recover from. On behalf of the local hotel community we urge to you reconsider the budget cuts to the CVB, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Lee Ellick, Kimy Martinez, Jeff Christina.

>> I'm Lee Ellick, I'm here for the 9% garbage increase. I'm against it. Especially for the seniors. 9% is not much but cost of living increases for Social Security recipients have been zero for two years in a row. I ask you to please mitigate the cost to seniors. I live in a mobile home park, 150 of them. They're not savvy enough to download a PDF. They don't know PDF from PDU. I'm also a commissioner on the housing and community

development commission and this affects affordable housing. If expenses are up that doesn't mean we're providing affordable housing to the community. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Kimy Martinez. Jeff Christina, Neil lions.

>> Reply name is Kimy Martinez. I'm here asking to please keep funding alive for nonprofits, art, arts organizations and libraries. If funding stops for these organizations and all that survive are for profit organizations imagine what you will get. You will get artists solely painting for profit. They are to become mini manufacturers that only think about how they are going to sell their art. It restricts them from taking chances. Taking away their freedom of speech, excuse me I'm a legal nervous. They think only about pleasing the general public or the idea of a general public instead of concentrating on philosophical ideas, that really creates change and feeds the San José community on a deeper level.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Jeff Christina, Neil lions, Domingo Jon.

>> Thank you, mayor and council. I'm here representing Zanker road resource management as well as green waste recovery. Simply, I know the decision you're going to make is going to be difficult no matter what way it goes. But Mayor Reed's decision is a necessity for the city I would definitely like to see this comment forward next Tuesday, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Neil lions, Domingo Jon and Michael.

>> I'm a resident ever San José, California, a long time residents of the Berryessa neighborhood. I came here to express my strong support for Councilmember Campos's memo, outlining strategies to save important services in

the city. We need parks, police and fire melon. He impose fines on banks, they reduce property values in whole neighborhoods and that affects constituencies, I implore you to listen to my recommendations and approve Councilmember Campos' strategy. Thank you very much.

>> Good evening, esteemed members of the council, my name is Mitchell Colbert, I'm not a resident but a former student, I used the MLK library, valley transit buses and also light rail. If it wasn't for public transit and MLK library I would not have made it through San José State, I would not have my BA and I would not now be working in San José still. As someone who works in San José I continue to use city services. I drive on your roads, I rely on police safety need more police safeties, not less. Now there's no doubt that the city has budget problems but we need to maintained our community priorities. I'd like to express my enthusiastic support for Councilmember Campos' proposal as well as the proposal by Ash Kalra now other ways we could save money --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Please keep medical marijuana dispensaries open.

>> Mayor Reed: Aurelia Sanchez, John Southwell and Juanetta Anderson followed by John casino.

>> Hello. I'm going to start by asking the mayor, there's a saying that says, tell me who your friends are and I'll tell you what you are. I'm going to tell you right now. I don't think that everything was brought to the table when we were doing the budget and the reason I say that is because businesses were not touched. And by that I mean is that I'm hearing that people want to go ahead with the stadium with lyse Wolff. You're sitting on 27 million that can help businesses. I'm not against businesses but I'm a firm believer ever public money for supporting public services. I believe you should support the governor's no enterprise zone. Where cities are giving companies bailouts. That might have been fine at one time but not now. I want to thank councilmember Ash Kalra and Chu, I think you need it in order to have a good work environment --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. John Southwell followed by John casino and Yuaneta Anderson.

>> Now, I know you're in a tough decision, I'm representing the hotel community, I'm also representing my family who have been in the family for close to 16 years, lived in three districts, worked in a fourth. I'm here I think representing the broader community. We implore you not to make additional cuts to the Convention and Visitors Bureau, we invest in that, we bring people to our destination, they spend their money through direct spending and taxes that fuel and help contribute and support police fire services community centers and libraries and maybe one day we'll fix the pothole in my street. I really do ask you not to make any more cuts that cut to the core of our ability to sell our industry convention center now is the time to invest and I don't have -- not to view it as a cost but as an investment in our future so I ask to you thoughtfully consider that invest in our future growth and broader help for the community.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: John Casano, Juanetta Anderson, Robert Sandoval.

>> Hi, Pyle John Casano, I take Coit cooking classes at the Almaden community center. The staff there are pretty good. I've learned a lot there the past year. Why are you taking it away? Who will help me when I'm an adult and I have autism. I want to become a park ranger when I'm older. Please do not take this program away. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Juanetta Anderson, Robert Sandoval, Julie Lam.

>> Good evening and thank you for allowing me to have a voice. I am a special needs advocate and a legal guardian of special needs grandchildren. I realize that you have a difficult task before you, and I would like to ask you to be considerate of those that are the most vulnerable when you are making your decisions. And it is my hope that we do not end up in a situation where we are damaging what we have now, so make things better for

the short term. I'm more concerned about the long term and each and every one of the visible people within our society and within our city. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Robert Sandoval, Julie Lam and then Tina Wong.

>> Mayor Chuck Reed, Vice Mayor Madison Nguyen, councilmembers, my name is Robert Sandoval, president of West Evergreen neighborhood association. I'm in support of the fiscal reform for -- proposed by our mayor and Vice Mayor and all councilmembers. Let's not have a fix-it year of two or four years on budgets. But for the next decade. On November 2010, we approved the initiative of measures V and W. Let's get this budget fixed. For the future of San José.

>> Mayor Reed: Julie Lam, Tina Wong, Connie Ha.

>> Good evening, city council, I'm Julie Lam, a recent graduate from.

>> Scott Johnson: High school. Along with my peers I've planned the Chinese moon festival, an event that provides leadership. Without the support of the rangers to watch over and care for our team leaders and park visitors future generations will be deprived of the opportunity that teens like myself received. I urge you not to cut hours off the park rangers. That is not the solution. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Tina Wong, Connie Ha and Fong Hong.

>> Good evening, city council people, I'm a recent graduate from independence high school. Because of the rangers we have worked with acknowledge have had their hours cut or were getting off -- laid off each year we began to experience more conflicts setting up for the festival and faced constraints. Thousands of our community have flocked to annually. In addition to it being a family event is a leadership opportunity. Cutting off rangers means a loss of family tradition and loss of fostering our youth. These are not the only problems that diminish with the rangers, graffiti and violence have risen quickly with the loss of the rangers. The peaceful park is

disappearing, in short the rangers are critical to those who use the park students and family alike and the park itself. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Connie Ha Fong Hong Joyce Huang.

>> Good evening, City Council, my name is Connie Wong, I attend independence high school. I'm here to speak for the park rangers of San José. Please do not cut our park rangers. They have dedicated their hard work to dedicate the parks, the Chinese moon festival, great event that occurs at Overfelt park and gardens. Without it, all the children just like -- pardon me, excuse me. When I was a kid, Chinese moon festival was one of the events that I like most at parks. At a student at independence high school I am also the vice president of key club. I hope to see all the children just like I was have a fun time and a great time at Chinese moon festival. Please do not cut our park rangers. Without them they cannot regulate the parks. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Fong Hong followed by Joyce Huang and Robert Thomas.

>> Good evening, my name is Fong Hong from independence high school key club. I'm here to ask you guys to please not cut all of our rangers. Park rangers are one of our main role model and leaders of such events such as the Chinese moon festival. Chinese moon festivals also reminds us of who we are and our culture. Not only that it also teaches our generation kids from our generation to realize and accept who we are, I mean their surrounding. So please do not cut our park rangers. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Joys Wang, Robert Thomas Janice White.

>> First off money will not be saved, increased vandalism, influx of park users exhibiting criminal behavior will just increase maintenance cost. We need the park rangers. They bring the community closer together and they protect the wildlife and the natural resources of the park. Firstly rangers help prevent graffiti vandalism and criminal activity in the park. We need these parks, and only the rangers can maintain them. Enjoy public events such as the moon festival in Overfelt gardens. Thus resulting in the lost of our city's cultural heritage. Lastly the

rangers not the policemen are the only people qualified to take care of the park's wildlife and natural resources. We need our rangers thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Robert Thomas, James White and Cosa Peridia.

>> Good evening city council, I'm Robert Thomas, I'm the general manager of the San José Marriott. Directly affect local sales efforts. The vast majorities of our customers are from out of our city, county and state. And bringing money into our economy from out of town is key to rebuilding our economy. Last year the convention center generated \$89 million in economic impact to San José and attracted nearly 1 million out of town visitors to our community, spending money in our hotels, restaurants, retail outlets and so on. This is not the time to cut our CVB staff, required to pay \$120 million in bonds funding the convention center expansion. The hotel owners urge you to reconsider these budget cuts. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: James White, Rosa Perida, Nancy Garrison.

>> I'm James White, representing the pathway center drugs and alcohol. One is Mrs. Tonez who is actually pleading with the council not to cut youth services programs for drugs and alcohol. She is a parent whose child was on drugs, alcohol and flunking out of school. She also was having a lot of problems with discipline at the high school. When the teachers didn't have the answers, she couldn't go to them she had the resource on campus from drugs and alcohols, what she's asking for today from each and every one of you. When we can't afford youth services the main question, can we afford not to, thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Rosa Perida, Nancy Garrison, Steve Kline.

>> I'm Rosa Perida, on behalf of the Alma community center, we want to thank you Mayor Reed, Vice Mayor Nguyen, other city staff for showing our concerns and including them in your budget memorandum, we hope that you will continue to vote responsibly. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Nancy Garrison, Steve Kline, Caroline Martin, perhaps.

>> Thank you for your hard work on our difficult budget, mayor and all the councilpeople. I represent park users. I've been a resident of San José, district 6, for 30 years. And have been an avid volunteer at the Prusch farm park for 29 of those 30 years. And I brought the master gardener program and the California rare fruit growers to the park and we have taken over large acreages of the park land to provide the farm experience, the Vegolution has been welcomed into the park. We are providing thousands of hours every single year to make that park something very, very positive, germ repository for fruits that can be grown in San José so people can see what's possible --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Steve Martin (saying names).

>> Honorable mayor and councilmembers my name is Steve Kline. When this budget season opened earlier, this year, we had faint hopes that this season would be different and your attitude would change, that you would work collaboratively for the city's future. These hopes were dashed early and often. You had turned a deaf ear to our problems. The change coming to San José on July 1 and beyond with less police officers, less park ranges, newly built community centers and libraries staying closed as monuments to mismanagement, less code enforcement officers, destruction of city workers morale and the tarnishing of San José's image will not go unnoticed in the neighborhood. This skirmish may not have the outcome we want because of politics as usual, scapegoating and the failures of political leaders to take responsibility for their actions. We will begin anew, we will not stop until the stewed on your dais changes for the better but changes --

>> Mayor Reed: Your next speaker is Caroline Martin, followed by Emily Ray and -- [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: And he then Huett joiner.

>> I'm Carolyn Morton, I want to thank you we were for three days opening for libraries and mayor you took some money and got us back to four. You know me, I want seven days like the old way. I want to advocate today not just for libraries but for those who use it. Those are the people who are unemployed, who need a place. The kid I saw two Sundays ago, using the Internet, library's closed, he can't go in. For those who need help, for diagnosing disease, that is a safe place to go, keep programs going. We need story time for children, we have them in many languages and for children with special needs. We need a safe place for our kids and our teens to go. I was recently at the Santa Teresa library reception deal. They've had 1300 volunteers in the last 18 months.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> They really care about their library. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: 'Em Liz Ray, followed by Huett journeyer and.

>> Budget arts organizations around I'm also the conductor of the mission chamber orchestra of San José. I'm here to implore you to retain the 1.5% of the T.O.T. for the arts. Because we've already taken hits, as many people have, and if we have to take any more, it will be really disastrous for most of our groups who are now expected to fill in the arts education component that is missing from a lot of our schools. So I would just like to ask you again to retain at least 1.5% of the T.O.T. for the arts organizations and thank you tremendously for all your support that you've given us in the past.

>> Mayor Reed: Huett joiner, Jim Mellon, Gary Jansen.

>> Mr. Mayor, Vice Mayor, city council members and staff, my name is Huett joiner, I represent an organization called the joiner pay youth service agency some which is part of the mayor's gang prevention task force. And remind you that you made an investment some years ago, in the youth of this city. And is paid off dividends

because we sit today, still as one of the safest cities in the United States. So I applaud you on your foresight and I want you to keep that investment. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Jim Mellon, Brad Johnson, Brad Imamura.

>> City council members, I'm Jim Mellon, I'm here on behalf of my family and all San José families to say two things. One I thank you for the great job you have all done during these difficult times of a great recession that you did not create in having the pain to reduce and balance our city budget and secondly to save our city parks and our wonderful city rangers and in particular, one, the crown jewel, Alum Rock park that my wife and I have wonderful long walks every weekend, Saturday and Sunday. New York City has a central park, Chicago has grant park, San Francisco has golden park and none come close to the most spectacular city park in this country, it is the oldest city municipal park in the state. I believe it's the largest and I think it may even be the largest city park municipal park in the entire country and I challenge all of you not to forget Alum Rock park and to do all you can to restore it. It desperately needs your help. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Gary Jansen, after Gary we will have Brad Imamura and Brad Overfelt.

>> I'll give you some money, close down the Redevelopment Agency entirely, it's kind of like Mr. Gorbachof, tear down this wall. Kinds of like that. We have zoning laws to take care of the blight. Just enforce those laws, we don't need that agency. There's a big hunk of money there. Next close down the housing department. We don't have a restaurant department. We don't have a grocery store department. So that's -- the government circulate not be in the housing business, okay? Now here's what not to do. Garbage fees, sewage fees, we don't have those fees saying please don't tax me more. we got to many pay almost double what a town house apartment a condo pays?

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Brad Imamura is our next speaker, followed by Jeff bornfelt and.

>> Retirement dream is now becoming an unbelievable nightmare. As you finish and pass the budget which I know you will next week and you're going to be tackling retirement reform, please please don't pick on the most vulnerable of the ex-city employees and remember as ex city employees you revered them as valuable assets to the city but as retirees they seem to be liabilities that you're willing to throw out. Remember, you all passed an increase to the medication portion of their co-payment which has more than doubled. It has since January 1st more than tripled. Not only are they having to deal with that, they are also dealing with the specter of having no cola, as we all know inflation is just around the corner. Thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up. Jeff Bornefeld, Forrest Williams, James Lee.

>> Good evening, mayor and city council members, I'm Jeff bornefelt, I don't envy any of your choices, I know I have to do my own, you're doing it with a lot more zeros behind it. We have to maintain a balance. For 20 years the mayor's gang prevention task force has contributed significantly in making this one of the safest cities. The impact of young people who diverted them from a legal system, having them have an opportunity to become productive citizens, we can't arrest our way out of this, we have to keep the balance on both sides of this so I do advocate for and support your support for the task force. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Forrest Williams. Jean Lee, Paul Alvarado.

>> Good evening, mayor, and councilmembers, my name is Forrest Williams. I'm here today to represent the livery theater, I'm on the livery theater board. We're concerned about the reduction of the 1% from T.O.T.. We need those resources for the arts. Also understand there's a memo by Councilmember Constant to even impact art more by increasing the amount of dollars that will go to providing services or providing positions. So the art community really needs the support of the city. As you know, art is one of our key strategies here in the city. Libraries is one of our key strategies for economic development for the future and we're impacting those things. So please I know it's difficult, I've been there where you are now, I understand, but I really want you to really take a hard look at what the impact of impacting the arts will do. We've offered some recommendations in terms of what you might do --

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> What you might do so we'd like you to consider those. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Paul Alvarado and Fred Hirsh.

>> My name is Jean Lee, and I'm the chairman of the San José library commission. I realize you have some very difficult decisions in front of you, I want to thank you, for your proposal of having branch libraries open for four days a week in contrast with the previous proposal where libraries are only open three days a week. Libraries are hubs of our communities and as such we'd like to make them available to our entire community so I ask you please if there's an opportunity in the budget, to please open the Seven Trees and Bascom libraries so we can make the library services available to all reaches of San José, a great city like San José deserves a great library and thanks for your support.

>> Mayor Reed: Paul Alvarado, Fred Hirsh and Joe Kenny.

>> Mayor, city council, I appreciate what you've done so far and I know you've got more decisions next week, you've done something, you've actually created what you had to do and it's sad the way things have gone and you can't save everything. I'm in support of the seniors and the libraries because those are the most important things to save the kids, the kids are the most important things to save, the kids and the mayor's gang task force excuse me. I'm glad people today are saying that today because you do need to be appreciated. There are so many things that you have to do whether you like it or not. So thank you very much.

>> Mayor Reed: Fred Hirsh, Joe Kenny, Jill Hersland.

>> Good evening, Mayor Reed, and councilmembers. For more reasons that I can enumerate in a minute, I believe the plan laid out is unwise immoral and dangerous to all San José families. I urge you all to think seriously

about and support the memo put out by Xavier Campos. I think immediately, you have to get the money from the banks that have blighted the communities by destroying homes, families, and producing foreclosures. The money is waiting to go and get it. Mayor, also, you asked us how to close a \$100 million gap next year, it's time to think of that now. Last year we spent \$3.5 billion from San José people, taxes, for the so-called defense program. That 100 million gap.

>> Mayor Reed: Sorry your time is up.

>> Would fit 35 times into that sum of money.

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up. Joe Kenny, Danielle Pursland.

>> Good evening, mayor and council. I support the plan for all programs to keep serving this community. I want the council to really look at place where you can cut or places where you can bring in some income so I want to make two points. The Redevelopment Agency was developed to help turn around blighted neighborhoods in San José. Now the Redevelopment Agency is looking at huge profit for 2011, and yet somehow, says it cannot pay the city back even a small portion of the many millions of dollars it has borrowed from the residents of this city. It's time for the Redevelopment Agency to start paying its debt at least start paying its debt to the residents. Second piece, the unmitigated greed of the bankers, every city, county and state is looking at that. These same banks are abdicating --

>> Mayor Reed: Your time is up.

>> That was two minutes?

>> Mayor Reed: Everybody else has one minute, you have one minute as well. Next speaker is Danielle and Robert and Clinton Lam.

>> First of all I want to thank you, for pronouncing my name properly. I'm a resident in San José as well and I have many businesses in your district within San José. My father was one of the founders of Silicon Valley along with Motorola and national semiconductors to name a few. There is no doubt, this city has a budget problem. Much like beautiful day with Westgate church. I support Mr. Campos and I'm against Nancy Pyle's 1% tax proposal to all service businesses. This will drive more businesses out of San José. And the purpose of measure U taxes was for Americans for safe access and put more people on the street to protect those and new changes that were for the good of the people of San José. Thank you.

>> Mayor Reed: Robert Beswella followed by Clinton Lam, that's the last card I have. If you put in a card come on down.

>> Good evening, this is my first time coming to the city council. I sometimes have watched you on television. I know a lot of people are presenting many ideas and budget solutions. I think we have very intelligent people up here. My concern is to remember what platform you ran on when you ran for office. You will be held accountable.

>> Mayor Reed: Clinton Lam is our last speaker.

>> Good evening, city council, my name is Clinton Lam, I'm a student at high school. Park rangers this is the last thing we need to cut. My friend Vincent tran Lee was assaulted and stands to death. Both these homicides were very close to my house. I'm sure city. I believe we need more police officers, more police officers and rangers, not less. Please reconsider. Thank you. [applause]

>> Mayor Reed: Thank you. That concludes the public testimony for the evening. We're going to continue this item until 1:30 tomorrow afternoon when the council will deliberate and make a decision. So that concludes our meeting, we're adjourned.