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>> Councilmember Nguyen: Good evening. At this time I'd like to call the special public safety finance and strategic support committee meeting to order. Good evening, and welcome to the second special meeting of the Public Safety, finance, and strategic support committee. My name is Madison Nguyen. I'm the chair of the committee. I'm joined by my fellow councilmembers, Pete Constant who is on my right and Councilmmember Pierluigi Oliverio, on my left. And also here tonight is City Manager Debra Figone who is also right next to me on my left here, police assistant chief Dan Katz, acting independent police auditor Shivaun Nurre and member sof their staff. I also would like to welcome members of the neighborhood commission who are here with us tonight. I think that it's very important that we have councilmembers and key city administrators here tonight to listen to you, the community. That is the purpose of this meeting, to hear your views and to elicit your feedback on the city's efforts to improve police services and policing in San José. In October 2009 we held the first special meeting of the Public Safety, finance and strategic support committee. Over 60 residents were present, many of you guys are here again tonight, so we want to thank you for coming back, to provide feedback on the city's efforts to address different public safety issues that were raised in their respective communities. Many of those that were in attendance applauded the City of San José and the San José police department for their efforts in maintaining a safe and secure community. Members of the public were interested in working more cohesively with the San José police department towards active community policing. They wanted to be involved in the process of protecting our city, since this belongs to all of us, and we all benefit from a safe and secure community. In the past 18 months the city has initiated a number of efforts in response to concerns we have heard from the community. These efforts are divided into two categories. Community engagement efforts and city administration efforts. In a few moments the City Manager will review some those efforts. After that we would like to hear from you. To help structure your public comments we have developed some questions that will help inform city council's policy decisions. We have also set aside time for an open forum. For you to tell us whatever it is on your mind. Please fill out the blue speaker cards and choose which of the following questions you would like to speak on. These questions include what reactions do you have to those efforts, are we, the city council, doing the right things? What else if anything should we be doing? It is very clear to those of us on the city council that many community members have strong feelings about public safety and policing in San José. I want to assure you that the public safety, finance and strategic support committee and the rest of the city council take these concerns very seriously. As elected officials it is critical that we understand the nature of the community's concerns so that we can develop effective responses and policies. It is also important for you to know that the city council has been listening and that we have taken steps to begin addressing some of your concerns. Your comments tonight will provide us with valuable feedback so that we can continue to set a good policy direction for the city. Your comments will also help us to understand whether the efforts we have initiated address your questions or whether additional efforts are needed. I am going to now turn it over to Deanna Santana, deputy City Manager, to help us get us get organized for the meeting.

>> Deanna Santana: Good evening, Deanna Santana. I just want to make sure that packets are available to everyone in the audience, are located upstairs, up at the top of the stairs or down here. And I'll just get us through a couple of logistics for the meeting. If you wish to turn in the speaker's cards, there's two boxes located down on the bottom of the stairs or staff -- just hold your card up and staff can run to retrieve the card. As well as if you need parking validation, we have the parking validator located over on this end, and we are happy to help you with getting your parking tags validated. So tonight's meeting is divided into three segments. If you have tonight's agenda, you will see that we are soliciting input on the City's ongoing community engagement efforts as well as the administration efforts that we have put in place. You will hear about those from the City Manager. We have structured the speakers card to solicit input. This is the way the card looks like on many different ways. There are opportunities to speak on many items. So for agenda item 1 we would like to hear or you have an opportunity to speak on what reactions do you have to the City's community engagement efforts, who else needs to be involved in community dialogues about policing in San José, and how shall those dialogues be conducted. And then for agenda item B, which is the administration efforts, we want to hear your reactions to the city's efforts to date. There is an open forum so that's an opportunity for to you speak on any related public safety issues that come to your mind during the course of this discussion. We do have staff here to provide responses to questions should the committee request immediate response. Thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: At this time I'd like to turn to Deb Figone who is representing -- who is actually our City Manager.

>> City Manager Figone: Thank you, Madam Chair, members of the committee. Good evening. As the chair indicated, the goal of this evening's presentation is to provide you with a verbal status report on efforts that are being taken to improve police services in San José. We will report on community engagement efforts and the administrative efforts that we have undertaken to date. These will serve as a backdrop to get everyone up to speed on the initiatives that we've undertaken and the work that's still under way and hopefully will help to inform the engagement of and your thoughts on the questions that are posed on our agenda. We'll also identify the next steps that will be taken to move these efforts forward. So I'd like to have the slides, please, on my monitor. I'm not seeing them. Are they up there for the public? If they are that's fine. I'll just follow my notes and then the slides will move accordingly. I'm on slide 3 at this point. This slide shows the range of groups and stakeholders that are needed to drive change. So that we can be successful in creating a safe city. We all know that collaboration and communication are critical for bringing these different segments of the community together so that we can work on common problems and strengthen our service delivery systems. I am very proud of the efforts that we've taken over the last 18 months. We have shown, I believe, that San José is a good city, that listens and responds to its residents and its workforce. We have every reason to be proud of the work we have undertaken so far and continue to do based on the input of many, these include the community, our police department, our city council and many, many stakeholders in the community. At the same time, we do have to acknowledge that it has not always been easy. This has not always been a smooth process, but I think that's okay. There are some very strong views and very strong emotions and the issues that we are confronting are very deep and complex and there is still a lot of work to be done. But this really shouldn't detract us from recognizing the changes that have already been made and the changes that are in the process of being played. The efforts that we have taken to address community input and concerns are very significant, and I hope that you will agree with me. Part of collaboration and dialogue is having commitment and the courage to stay in the conversation, even when it's not easy. So let me just say that I and the administration are truly committed to reaching out, listening and responding, to all the segments of our community, and that is how we are going to create the solutions together that will drive change and achieve success. As noted, many recent efforts have been taken to improve community engagement. Let me just mention a few. Last October this committee held a special evening meeting similar to this one to collect community input on police services. This slide shows that three themes emerged. Those were city efforts, are producing positive changes so far. That there's real interest in expanding community policing services, and there's real interest in expanding community engagement. And so we'll just talk a minute about each of these themes. First of all the theme of the City's efforts and the progress that we're making and producing positive changes. In general, what we heard is that the speakers felt that the City's efforts to date to improve police services and community relations are produce positive changes. Some speakers noted a night and day difference in how the police department currently provides police services in the downtown area, for example, compared to a year ago. Specifically speakers said that the city should be commended for the reduced number of public intoxication arrests under penal code 647F. And highlighted the public intoxication task force as an example of improved communication and problem solving between the city and the community. The second theme of a desire to expand community policing services was identified by several speakers as an effective way to build relationships between the police department and its residents and to enhance trust and contribute, at the same time, to public safety. Some residents suggested that the police department should do more to involve our residents, including the youth, in community policing programs like neighborhood watch and crime prevention. And then the third theme of expanding civic engagement, several speakers identified groups and organizations that could help with community police relations, but really, aren't currently being utilized. The thought was that we really have more assets to draw upon in the community. The two groups we heard from were the human rights commission and our Police Officers Association. Both made themselves available to engage in community outreach and community building activities. Representatives from both groups attended the April 1st community dialogue that you'll be hearing about in a few minutes. And so we do need to continue to reach out to these groups and others in order to really draw upon all of our community assets, in order to help us with community building in terms of our public safety services. So I am now going to turn the presentation over to Chris Block of the American leadership forum to report on our April 1st community dialogue and then Chris will return it to me to finish the administration's presentation.

>> Great, thank you very much. Good evening committee members and people in the audience. First of all I want to preface my comments with making a very clear statement that this is not about either/or. This isn't about the police care, or they don't. This isn't about community activists are either for the police or against the police and it isn't certainly about the city either listens or it doesn't. Rather, this is about constantly challenging ourselves to build more and better relationships between and among all of us. And it is in this spirit that we held the April 1st

meeting, that I share you with the results of that meeting, and it is in this spirit that we look forward to our May dialogue, and other conversation into the future. The second thing I want to do before getting into the actual content of the meeting is set a little context for the meeting. I think we were particularly enthused about the attendance at the meeting because there were a lot of people in the room who, while they had been in this room before, in some ways talking past each other, for some of the folks it was the first time they had been in the same room talking about each other in a real way about who would make a safer San José and we felt that was a sign of real progress for future conversations we want to have. I want to take a little more time rather than a little less to share these ideas to make sure we have that all out. There are a number of themes and I'll talk about it theme by theme. The first theme that came up in the dialogue that we had was that trust, transparency, and mutual understanding are critical. That diversity and cultural training for officers was mentioned, as was the idea that community members need to appreciate and be educated about the difficulties that officers face. Community members also need to be educated about their own rights. Some thought San José needs a use of force policy put into effect that is transparent to the community and others thought that in the case of use of force, the city usually claims privacy issues when it comes to being transparent about officer behavior and suggested that other cities have found better ways to deal with this. The second community policing model is a good approach. There was support for community policing model currently in place. However, there was also sentiment that though there is a community policing policy, it is not sufficiently put into practice. Concerns were raised about the authority given to individual beat officers under the motel and the difficulty holding officers accountable to upholding the collective values set when they are on the streets. There was also concern that the six-month rotation policy doesn't support the community policing philosophy, as officers are moved around too much to form relationships with the community. The third point that was raised was that the way that officers and community members interact is critical. Community wants police officers to be courteous and respectful and police officers should expect the same. Several people spoke of interactions that were unnecessarily adversarial or confrontational and others talked about the need to build relationships between officers, community members, neighborhood associations and young people. And as an aside we will do particular outreach to those groups in preparation for our next dialogue in May. There were views expressed that the list of department improvements that were presented at the meeting do not address the underlying issue of profiling and until that issue is addressed interactions men police officers and some segments of the community will not be improved. The next recurring theme was that current communication levels and channels are insufficient, many participants spoke of the necessity of better communication with the public on the part of the city and police department, some community members were frustrated by what they saw as a lack of information about police policies and procedures, and there was a suggestion that as we have these ongoing dialogues we make sure to have a content piece to each of the dialogue to help in this process and we're certainly looking forward to doing that. And there was also suggestions to use more effective ways to communicate these things such as bus advertising. One of the last recurring themes was that a reminder I think to all of us, particularly all of us in the public sphere, that words and language matter. And the way that city and police department and activists communicate to the public is important. And that we need to make sure that when we do that, we're creating the kind of dialogue and conversation throughout the city that will be helpful in making forward progress and movement. And then lastly we're more maybe process related concerns about future dialogues that we want to have. At ALF one of the last questions we ask the group is who else needs to be in the room, who else needs to be part of the dialogue. And as I mentioned earlier we were very happy with the people that were in the room, and the real sense, what was clear, I was not able to identify anybody in the room that was not absolutely committed to a safer San José. And I you know looked each person in the -- you know looked at each person as they were making their comments. There clearly were some good disagreement or some good conversation about the best ways to achieve that. But clearly, there was no sense in the room that people were not committed to a safer San José. And so when we asked who else should be in the dialogue, and I have to say that I think this was probably, to my way of thinking, the one deficit for a lack of a better term to the conversation that we had, there was a strong desire to have beat officers attend as well as police leadership. People also suggested the City Attorney and Chief of Police and representatives from the youth commission. It was also mentioned that many members of the community fear coming to a dialogue and sharing their experiences because they fear retribution. This is especially true among people who feel particularly vulnerable, such as immigrants and people with mental health issues. And so I would say from that comment and I will close with this, I do think that, you know, from our perspective of how you have as diverse a conversation as possible, the one group that would really help the conversation that we continue to have is those officers that are most impacted by the kind of policy changes that we're having. And so we look forward to doing more of that into the future. Let me talk very briefly about next steps. The second question we always ask when we're having a dialogue or a conversation like this is should we

have another one? That's always the scary part for us right? In this case, people were very clear that they wanted to have another discussion in May. We asked what were the topics that people were interested in, and the two topics that came up were use of force and the independent police auditor position and office. So we'll be having a May conversation and we'll make sure to have those two discussions and I'll also let you know that we are working with Sam Liccardo's office and we'll have a conversation this Sunday at sacred heart parish with the Chief of Police and Sam and particularly people from the sacred heart community. And with that I'll take any questions that you have and thank you very much for this opportunity and turn it back over to the City Manager. Thank you, Chris. I have about three more slides to take you through again content-specific but all designed to give you an idea of the context that we're now operating within. So some you might be familiar with the police department, and the city administration's efforts to improve police services. Like to touch on what is going on in these four categories, training, police accountability, community relations and innovation. The City Manager's office has worked very closely with the police department in shaping these initiatives and together we've spent an incredible amount of time and resources, and I believe again, made very significant progress in a number of key areas. So given our time constraints I'm just going to touch on a few. First of all, in the area of training, I'll highlight the public intoxication efforts, and in fact tomorrow, staff will be presenting a six-month status report to the Public Safety, finance, strategic support committee. This committee in front of you this evening. On the implementation of the city's public intoxication pilot project. This period which covered July of 2009 to December 31st, 2009, a total of 1191 individuals were arrested for 647F violations including he other charges and on a stabbed-alone base there were 851 arrests. We have a pilot program in place as you may be aware that requires that individuals be offered a preliminary alcohol screening or PAS test. Of those individuals who completed the PAS test the average blood alcohol level was .203. The legal limit for a DUI driving under the influence is .08. Approximately 5% of all of the 647F arrests occurred in the City's entertainment zone. The other area to highlight is our use of force efforts. The police department is still in the process of creating a new protocol for supervisor investigations, of use of force. The department has modified its duty manual regarding use of force cases. The modification requires a supervisor to personally respond to evaluate and actively participate in the investigation of a subordinate officer's use of reportable force. The department has reminded its members that this is a phased approach and to anticipate additional changes. Additionally, the City Manager's use of force advisory group has formed. Last month, I provided the committee with a status update on the work completed so far by the advisory group. In addition, a copy of the February 2010 informational memo is included in your packet that provides additional background. As reported to the committee, in the course of the group's review of stand-alone cases we did discover that the police department's records management system is designed in such a way that it is currently not able to provide all of the data that we needed to completely answer the question that was referred to us by the mayor and council. As a result we are currently looking at the county Department of Corrections booking information which we think can provide us with a better snapshot of 2009 arrests in which resisting arrests or interfering with a police officer was a stand-alone charge and we will be returning to the committee with the results of our work this fall. Another area to note is our Vietnamese speak citizens police academy. The department is conducting a citizens police academy for Vietnamese speak citizens which actually is launching this evening and that is why chief Rob Davis isn't here yet this evening. As you know, last year the department launched its first ever Spanish speaking police academy for citizens and so we are very proud of tonight's launch of the Vietnamese speaking citizens police academy. CPLE or the consortium for police leadership in equity is continuing its work and reports regularly to the public safety, finance, strategic support committee. These reports are posted and are available on our Website for viewing by the public. Kimberly Khan I believe of Cple and our project manager is in the audience tonight. CPLE has recently completed an officer survey in which they interviewed approximately 100 officers as part of its bispase policing research. We also would like to report on a course for professional policing. The -- recently the police department has implemented its course on professional policing for all sworn members of the police department. This is a mandatory four-hour training course and focuses on professional interactions with the public and is courtesy based in its emphasis. We also have a pilot mobile camera system in effect. Last November, the city entered into a partnership with taser international to test a mobile camera called Axon. We now have a total of 17 officers, three downtown service officers, three motorcycle officers and the rest are patrol officers and a sergeant outfitted with cameras to allow for audio and visual recording of arrests made in the field and we will continue to participate in this pilot program. And so in closing, the next steps, for the efforts underway are as Chris mentioned. To have a community dialogue on a safer San José which will be sponsored and facilitated by the American leadership forum. And again, this dialogue will be held in May. It will be widely publicized and I do encourage you to attend. And in the fall, we will be back to the council to report on our progress of departmental efforts and to respond to the referrals associated with the City Manager's use of force task force. And with that, Madam Chair, I turn it back to you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you, City Manager. At this time, we would like to hear from members of the public. So if you would like to address us, please fill out one of these blue cards and if you could drop it off at one of the boxes, we would really appreciate it. At this time I will call on individuals who actually want to speak on any of the four questions. Just to expedite the meeting if you could line up in the middle of the aisle when I call your name, the first name is Beth and I apologize if I mispronounce your first or last name, Shoffran Mukai. Each speaker is encouraged to speak for two minutes so we can facilitate the meeting in a much more effective way. Welcome.

>> Thank you very much and thank you for this opportunity. My name is Beth Shaffran Mukai. I'm a resident of the District 3. I serve my immediate community and larger city in a variety of volunteer functions. Tonight I'm speaking as an individual. As a resident of District 3 and a neighborhood advocate and activist I know that it is essential for neighborhood quality of life that we make all efforts to have the safest city that we can have. So we can live and thrive, work and play, in our communities, and that our residents will continue to invest themselves in our larger community. To do that it's essential that we continue this process of community and civic engagement. So that our neighborhoods are involved in working with law enforcement, and the city, to create neighborhoods that we want and deserve to have. And I applaud the council for having this dialogue and reviewing these issues. One of the issues I think it's important to keep in mind is that public safety takes a variety of forms. One is certainly badge personnel. Another is nonbadge personnel and the services that neighborhoods work with to strengthen them and make them better partners at working with the city on these types of issues, programs such as neighborhood watch. Additionally one of the concerns I've heard from many of the neighborhoods in my district is a concern about being able to develop a strong relationship with the police officers. And the concern that the current six-month rotation doesn't provide them enough time to develop those relationships effectively and leverage that resource. Thank you very, very much.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you. Our next speaker is Tilly Alaya and then Rick beat and then Vince Pham.

>> Thank you for letting me speak. My name is Tilly Alaya. Lieutenant sis, that is my code name from the guardian angels, I came from Philadelphia. I'm now a resident here in San José. My concern is park avenue there is an apartment building called park Gaylord apartments. At 15th avenue. Almost every night there is disturbances, someone getting beat up, drug deals, and it is very devastating for my sister to live there. I stopped going there because of the -- just so much crime, and the police seem to not come as quickly. They come after someone gets beat up or after the windows are bust. And I just wish that in Philadelphia, we have something called police roll call. I don't know if they have it here where the citizens could call the police and make a complaint. And the police would come and check on that vicinity. I wish that San José could step up, and just do more, do more to protect the citizens. And as a guardian angel I will do my best to protect my neighborhood. But I am limited in what I could do as a public citizen and as a guardian angel. I only have the vigor and the you know the strength and the anger to protect my neighbors. But I don't have the badge. I wish that those in power would just be stronger and hold their position and do more. Please do more, police department. Please do more. Thank you.

>> Can I ask the speaker a question? Is that the correct address because I'm looking at the maps and it's only a single family home. You gave 1559.

>> No, I gave -- I'm sorry, 1259 park avenue.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Rick beat, Vin Pham and then Bob Sippel.

>> Thank you, madam chairman. Responding by some of the things that are brought up by Chris Block in the meeting April 1st I was privileged to be at the table with Chris and we did have a very open and helpful dialogue with different members of the community that represented different segments and had different complaints. And the thing that I would -- I have not heard any outcome about moving forward from that particular meeting and really hasn't been much time since then but the City Manager was at our table also. And it seemed like it was an

extremely helpful dialogue. As a biker organization, we come into contact with the police a great deal. When they see 40 of us doing something they want to know why, and as they should. Until they find out we're a Christian group they should have some concern. But I emphasized at that table as I would emphasize to you some and what the community has to be a part of organize and developing a communication with other members of the community, as part of some cooperative with the police department, and with the city, in that stressing there's a way to talk to the policemen. And if you do that in a proper manner, probably the policeman is going to talk to you in a proper manner. And I think perhaps some educational video done by a police officer or some of the staff from the PD or the mayor's office or whoever, would be very helpful in that. I think many members of the community believe they're being profiled, we hear that. I haven't seen a lot of that personally, we get stopped, but we get stopped for a reason and when you conduct yourself in a respectful manner with the officer in question I haven't heard a problem from any of my club members and we represent about 200 riders just in my club in Silicon Valley. So I think continuing to follow whatever path that the city and what Chris had talked about putting together in an open format of communication between members of the community and the city would be the best avenue to see to have other members of the community communicating to each other.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Your time is up. Thank you very much.

>> Thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Vin Pham, Bob Sipple.

>> Good evening. My name is Bob Sipple. I am a neighborhood leader and also just finished my eighth and last year as a human rights commissioner. I'm here not to toss any boulders, throw any rocks, I'm here to commend the city once again for opening the door and allowing communication to come about. Having been in the emergency medical world for over two decades and being a human rights commissioner I've had the opportunity to ride along with PD and to see this city in action for almost 40 years that I've lived here and I honestly do not see all the things happening that people claim happen. Doesn't mean it doesn't occur but I'm very pleased to know that this is a work in progress as it is to walk, you fall, you get up, you make changes. And I hope that when people bring things to the table, they come to it with an open mind, when I saw changes in the intoxication policies for the city, instead of hugging each other and knowing that there was a positive change I continue to see people throwing rocks and pointing fingers. And I think that type thing needs to stop. That will never, never solve any issues. So applying common sense to our lives, the gentleman that just spoke a moment ago I've had the same experience. I've been downtown more times than I know what to do with. I haven't been stopped and if I had been stopped I'm sure I would have been treated respectfully. Hopefully as you go with this project you go with an open mind and listen to the most sensible people. In addition, I would like to see more of the neighborhood associations involved, because we don't necessarily have any allegiance or agenda to follow so we can in fact bring to this community what our neighborhoods think about PD and how the city is reacting instead of perhaps advocates in other groups. Thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you Bob and thank you thank you for your service with the City of San José. Vin Pham.

>> Good evening, everybody. I'm Vin Pham, Daniel Pham father. My family and I are very, very sad to find out that my son was shot in the back there, in the hand of two police officers, not one. Not two. Bus 12 times. They knew my son was mentally ill. Why my son was standing calmly in the back their lawn, smoke cigarettes, when no one was around him. They jump over the fence, shot my son. Now, I realize that we are not the only victims of San José police officers. We met to ensure that incidents like this never happen again. I would like to thank everyone for your continued support. And this is my son Daniel Pham, coming only one more month. Please, help my family, just to my family, Daniel Pham, thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you. At this time, we'd like to open the floor for open forum. I have three cards of individuals who actually want to speak during the open forum. Again, if I call your name, if you can just line up in the middle, and then speak after the speaker finishes. Ken Kelly, Roger Haffen and Alofa Talivaa.

>> Ladies and gentlemen thank you very much, appreciate coming to this meeting tonight. I have not heard about this committee before. So part of the issue I think is getting communication out to a general group of people, so

that we can have more information on what's happening with this project. I wanted to preface what I'm going to say, not to brag about the things that I do, but I am part of the Blackford neighborhood action coalition which is part of the strong neighborhoods initiative in the City of San José. I'm president of the United neighborhoods of Santa Clara County. We have 172 neighborhood association members. I'm a member of the community leadership institute here in this area. I'm part of the District 1 leadership group amongst other organizations that deal with community relations. The number one issue that has been brought up amongst all of these groups without exception regarding policing is the police rotation system. It's number 1 on the list of things that the neighborhood associations and community leaders would like to see changed. It's been spoken to before. I will just mention that just when police officers get to understand the neighborhood, and when they get to meet the people and understand what the neighborhood is all about, they are gone. And someone else is replaced -- they're replacing someone else and they have to go through the same process. It's very disruptive within the neighborhoods without exception. The second thing is, has -- it doesn't relate directly to the shift -- to the police rotation system but it deals directly with the shift change. All too often when we have our neighborhood association meetings we ask a police officer to come and talk with us about neighborhood issues. Invariably we either get one of two stories. One is that we get the story that the police have a budget problem. Well, we understand that. We've been told that now for the last two years and that's about the only message that we get.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Sorry, Ken but your time's up.

>> All right. I'll send you a note on what the second issue is.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Please do.

>> Thanks.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Roger Lassen.

>> My name is Roger Lassen and I'd like to talk about the budget issue. Like all the states and municipality, governments, counties, whatnot, almost all of them are in a nonsustainable mode with employee salaries and pensions. Now, the can has been kicked down the road, including San José, and the problem has been put off, and it gets bigger and bigger. So all of what we're talking about tonight won't have much meaning if we don't address the fundamental problem. And I appeal to those members of the council to really seriously, in a sober fashion, look at our fiscal, long term situation, and do the right thing. Thank you very much.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you. Alofa Talivaa and then Joveest young.

>> Good evening, my name is Alofa Talivaa, and I'm here representing Sierra neighborhood association, also a community leader and activist. I'm here to speak in Public Safety that I think the City of San José, we ought to have you know, Public Safety and more. Also in each neighborhood. You know, such as community policing, we've neighborhood watch, that I know from my experience, that it's work in the neighborhood to create that relationship between the police, and the neighborhood. You know, I'm always emphasizing this to the chief, you know, when the police officers are out in the street, please if they're not busy, come out of the vehicle and talk with the people, especially the young ones in the community. Try to create that relationship, you know, because I believe in working together with the police. I'm really much sure that everything is going to be you know falling to place and then we can, you know, more, you know, getting along. And another thing too, I know that you know, public safety, you know, is our number one priority. But if we're talking about laying off 100 and over some police officers, I think that's going to be sending a wrong message to the people, you know. We need the police officers. I know there's some of them that are there, they're bad apples but they need to have some training there. But don't get me wrong. You know, not all officers are bad but there are some of them that need to have some sort of training. But that's what I'm here to talk about, you know, is public safety. Maybe they can talk about in some kind of ways, you know, maybe to lower their salaries or whatever. But don't lay them off. You know, we need them here in our neighborhood, you know, for the public safety because you know what's going to happen in the neighborhood, if we don't see, you know, the police officer when you call to report or, you know, and then you complain.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you, Alofa. Thank you.

>> But thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Joseph Young and then Bertha Ward.

>> Thank you. Hello, Madison. I'm Joseph Young. I'll be 69 on the 16th of April. I've lived on the East Coast and the West Coast. Washington, D.C, San José. I've been in San José 33 years. If I go back to the 60s I can tell that you just my hairstyle was talked about, I was a militant. Okay? I've been stopped I don't know how many times. Black and white policemen. East Coast and West Coast. Okay? We heard one gentleman speak of his adventures downtown, numerous times, never been stopped. We have our motorcycle cohorts stopped all the time, okay? The actions in the methods it's not just us who should have a mindset. It's the police out there too, all right? If you look at something that's happened in what is that Santee neighborhood where you had a police station at one time because of the bodies and whatnot you'd find over there and you find out that the police station was basically ineffective and it is now changed to a community station and there's been some improvement you can look at these things and maybe get something from it. There are too many stories in the newspapers about police and killings and things that just don't go right. I will say there's been some change, I've even had some police stop me now, no reason to stop me but they -- they just stopping you sir, et cetera, et cetera, right? It turns out to be I'm going to call it a win win situation. They still have no reason to stop me but nothing transpires after that. But I'd like to say that the police need to do more of that. Not just the community, the police need to do more of that. The police really are in charge and we all understand that in the community. But yet things get out of hand. Okay. That's all I have to say, thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you. Bertha Ward and then hip long.

>> Good evening. I've heard a lot of -- my name is Bertha Ward and I've lived in San José for 30 years in fact on the east side. Right by Tully and 101. And I'm a frequent -- I'm frequently downtown. I go to plays and musicals and concerts and symphonies and stuff. And I always felt -- I go with a lot of old ladies. I'm an old lady, we go together, there's about six of us. And we can't wait to get out of town in the evening afterward because we don't feel relatively safe on the streets. We're grateful for police presence down there. One time I was walking back to my car parked in the rep, San José rep parking lot and a guy was urinating on my car tire, right in front of us. So I never felt like that the police were any bit strong armed or over-aggressive downtown. I felt they were providing safety for us people that go down there. Second of all, in my neighborhood, we feel like the response time is really very good. In fact, last year, my husband reported in November, he saw a guy out on the sidewalk with a gun, and the police were there within five minutes. He was apprehended. This later went, he pled before he went to court. And that was a real good success story. They've helped us, the police have helped us with dumping issues. We have a lot of those on the east side. We've had drug houses that come and go occasionally and they've helped us with that. We just removed one yesterday. And so I wanted to say that okay, maybe there's some areas where the police need improvement. But I think they are doing a really fine job. Thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you. And our last speaker is hip long.

>> I have a problem in my neighborhood. Recently, I just lost my job, and then I -- and then I come to kind of express the one by Lawrence and Stevens Creek and I come down to beg and I do it sometimes and there is another man who comes there, too. And the problem is, every time he comes there first I leave him alone. And whenever I even come there first he want to kick me out. Few time he try to run me over with his bike. He talk to the police and they said they couldn't do anything about that because -- because he didn't have -- he didn't harm me yet, he didn't hurt me yet. So I think it's unfair. The manager at the panda express doesn't care. He says as long as the customers don't complain, it's okay. For whoever, whoever begs in front of her shop it is not a problem with her. So that man is, he's white and he's bigger than I and I come around in my neighborhood a lot and I'm afraid that one of these days, I never know that he will try to run me over with his -- with his bike. On purpose, and the cops say that it is an accident, not an attack. So I like to -- the San José police to do something about that.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: I wanted to thank all the speakers who came, and spoke tonight. It's very important that we continue to have this type of dialogue. And so I'm actually looking forward to the May meeting which will be facilitated by the American leadership forum. At this time, I'd like to ask if my council colleagues, my committee members, have any questions or comments in regards to any of the things that we heard tonight. Councilmember Oliverio.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you, chair Nguyen. I as well want to thank all the speakers that came out tonight. I want to give strong accolades to our City Manager and all the staff that assisted with this. We have a lot of challenging times in the city and a lot of places where we could put our resources. And the city manager, with council guidance, has decided to assist in this because we want to make sure that what we know is true is that we have a good police force but sometimes we just have to go that extra step and prove it, because I think there are some circumstances where people are skeptical. Now, I will say this. That in one of the persons' comments, the gentleman from the -- who had been in Washington, D.C. and is now in San José, and then also the folks that did speak in the Christian biker group if sometimes you're stopped, it's not so necessarily the mindset of the police but it's the mindset of the people that call the police, the San José residents. So I think we have to be fair in that people's prejudgments of people is also the ones that call our police and ask them to act. I think in a perfect world we would have the ability to ascertain the individual based on their actions and not their appearance. But that's sometimes tough when people feel threatened in a particular manner because of where they have been in life, so I want to acknowledge that point. I'm respectful of the police. I grew up in San José, I was always taught to speak appropriately to a police officer and not be belligerent. I understand there are different circumstances in society, and other folks may have seen a different light, but I represent my entire district. I represent a district where majority of the people don't come to meetings. And I speak to them at their door. I talk to them on the phone. I e-mail with them and so I know what the majority of the people feel, is that they want a strong, safe city, and I think we have that in San José, even with the challenges we have, with our unsustainable pension system that the speaker brought up but we are doing our best to be there. And I just wanted to make those comments. I just did want to mention that we are continuing our work with the CPLE. I see one of the CPLEs in the audience and I think that also has to do with the scientific study of people's perception of race, not just of the police but of citizens. And I think that will be an important study when it comes out because that is being done in a statistical scholarly manner. I would ask one question of Chief Katz. On the shift changes, I guess there's two things. One is the shift change, how what time we move people in and out of the shifts in the San José PD and there's also the question of the rotation. Anyone might want something to be different. But imagine there's different levels of pain and difficulty in make those changes. Could you kind of clarify and describe what some of those might be?

>> Okay. Well, one on the rotation or, you know, the assignment to a beat, that's a meet-and-confer item. Where currently the administration is in negotiations with the Police Officers Association and the administration and the police department have heard clearly from many residents and neighborhood groups that that's an item that they've wanted. When the department went to a community policing model back in about 1994, and we went to geographic responsibility, that was one of the things Chief Covarubias wanted, and the police administration has wanted over those years, and we see the value of a one-year shift change to build those relationships with the community. But it is a meet-and-confer item, it is a labor issue. So that's you know under consideration with the police officers association right now.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: If I can hold you there right chief Katz. So even at that point, even if the entire council and City Management wanted that to happen, because of binding arbitration we can't really force that to happen?

>> Well, like I said, exactly, it is a matter of labor negotiations and we'll see how that comes out of that.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: And there was the other point.

>> The other thing I was going to say is our shift times right now are based on peak deployments. And what we try to do is match the call for service load in the city in various areas, so we have three -- actually have four shifts right now, an early morning shift at 6 a.m., a day shift from 6:30 to 4:30 in the afternoon, a swing shift at 3:00 to 1:00 in the morning, and a graveyard or midnight shift from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 in the morning. You can see there's some built-in overlaps, and we try to put those overlaps so they match the call demand in the city. So we have an overlap, a slight overlap with day shift and swing shift. So one shift's coming out, and we saw coverage before the

other comes in. And in the evening, from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 in the morning, we have the swing shift overlapping with the midnight shift. And you can see for most folks know that that's a peak call for service time. We try to have the right amount of officers out on the street at the right time to handle our peak call load. We also need to make sure that we try to keep to a bare the time when someone calls for a priority call, that there's not going to be a police unit available, so we also try to staff for that as well.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: So needless to say there is more complexity in scheduling shift changes in a police department than there are in other types of businesses?

>> It is tremendously complex.

>> Councilmember Oliverio: Thank you, chief. Thank you, chair and City Manager.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Councilmember Constant.

>> Councilmember Constant: Thank you. I just wanted to comment on the tone of this meeting in contrast to what we saw the year-plus ago. We had meetings where virtually we thought it was going to kind of go out of control at any minute because there was so much blame being thrown around and you know it's your fault no it's your fault, name-calling, threatening comments, bang being on the windows, you name it. And over the past year or so, the conversation has become much more measured, much more collaborative, there has been, as you saw tonight, nobody yelling or he screaming and throwing things, because I think people are finally coming to the realization that the City of San José just doesn't sit back and watch things happen, and take no action. We have had a series of things which the chair and the City Manager have summarized this evening, that have occurred over the past year. And we know, we've acknowledged that the City of San José while we have a great city, we have a low crime rate and I believe we have one of the most if not the most professional police department in the nation. We know there's always ways that we can improve and I think the last year has been a good exercise in us finding those areas. And we know we're not done and we're going to continue to make progress, both on the policing policy and implementation side and on the community involvement and the community respect side. So I thank everyone for that because I tell you it's much more pleasant coming to these type of meetings than it was coming to meetings that we had a year ago, a little over a year ago. So I thank you all for that. I do have some serious reservations as we go into next fiscal year with the budget situation we have. There were a couple of passing references here to budget difficulties as we went through the meeting. But I hope that everyone who is here engages in the remainder of the talks as it relates to budget. Because the impacts to our city, in all the areas of service, are going to be significant, but in particular in our public safety area with our police department and our fire department. Some of the proposed cuts are serious and drastic and I fear we'll have some significant impacts in our community, not the least will be the impact in the progress we've made over the last year. So I urge everyone to, if you're engaged in the budget process remain engaged. If you are not engaged there are a multitude of opportunities for you to engage in the budget process both whether you're an employee of the city or you're a resident of the city or you're a business owner in the city. This is the year of all years for our budget that we're going through. And I encourage you and implore you to be actively involved because we need to find a solution to this deficit that is not going to compromise public safety and undo a lot of the work that we've spent the last year, year and a half working on. Thank you chair.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you, Councilmember Constant. Chris, if you can come up to the podium I just have a really quick question about the outreach efforts in regards to the meeting in May. If members of the public wants to know more about this meeting location and time we'll be available on our Website or how do you plan to do the outreach?

>> What we've done before and to pretty good effect is we've done -- we have a community based outreach list that is pretty extensive and the city has been pretty flexible in also helping us to publicize it. So the combination of those two efforts, my sense is those who want to know about the meeting have been informed. If there's any other way we can do that we're committed to the outreach. So -- and it's -- I mean it's notice, I mean we have our Website, American leadership forum, ALFSV.org. And oftentimes that information is there. But it's really best if there's a group in the community that we're not outreaching it's greatly if I know that so then we'll do some specific outreach.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: City Manager.

>> City Manager Figone: Yes, let me just add, Madam Chair, that we will collaborate with ALS and through the City Manager's weekly report get you out something that you can send out to your constituents. And we will also use our databases, neighborhood commission, community organizations. There may be some overlap, but I think it's better to have the overlap than not enough.

>> Absolutely.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you.

>> Councilmember Constant: If I can add, oftentimes the biggest source of outreach is missed and that's the council offices. Every single council offices has extensively e-mail lists and more importantly newsletters that go out with calendars. So I would just make -- I know you send the information out, but if you could send it out to each office with a specific request to go into the newsletters so that we get it out to tens of thousands of people through the district offices. Because we really know who the community leaders are in each of our districts.

>> Absolutely we'll do that.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Thank you Chris.

>> Thank you very much.

>> Councilmember Nguyen: Let me briefly conclude this meeting by offering a few comments. First of all I wanted to commend the City Manager's office as well as assistant chief Dan Katz from San José police department for being here. And especially to our city deputy, City Manager -- deputy City Manager Deanna Santana for all her hard work with this issue. And then I also wanted to thank members of the public who are here tonight. Without your engagement, without you raising concerns we would not be where we are today. I concur completely with Councilmember Constant, when he shared that more than a year ago, we have had numerous community meetings, and the tone of those meetings were not like it was tonight. And I think that has a lot to do with the fact that we put the City of San José put a lot of effort into trying to address some of these concerns. And as you look around you tonight, we have members of different council office, as well as the mayor's office, José Saucedo is also here, we have the Auditor who is here. Also the acting IPA who is also here with us tonight. So that just tells you that these individuals actually really care about what you are thinking, and we are doing everything we can to help address these issues. I also want to express my appreciation to Captain Kirby who has been instrumental in a lot of the efforts that have been carried forward. And so please stay engaged, please let us know your concerns, because without your input we would not be able to address those concerns. And we also have our monthly -- monthly meeting, the Public Safety, finance and strategic support meeting. So feel free to come and speak and express your concerns at those meetings. And so with that, I thank you again and good night.