



Dear «Preferred_Name»,

The City Council will face a very difficult budget decisions once again this comming June. Current projections point to a General Operating fund deficit of \$96 million out of an approximate one billion dollar total operating budget. Your input and priorities are very important, so Mayor Reed and I would like to invite you to attend the District 10 budget forum on April 8th.

District 10 Budget Forum
Thursday, April 8th
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Almaden Winery Community Center
5730 Chambertin Drive, San Jose, CA 95118

In addition to community meetings in each district, the City surveyed 900 randomly selected adults in San Jose by telephone between January 13th and January 21st, 2010.

When presented with five different potential ballot measures to raise additional revenue for the City, only one of the measures was initially supported by a sizable majority of likely voters. Sixty-four percent of likely voters indicated they would support increasing the tax on card room revenues in San Jose from 13 percent to 15 percent and increasing the number of tables allowed.

When presented with three different strategies for addressing the City's budget deficit, a solid plurality of survey respondents (41%) recommended the City first pursue reducing employee compensation, rather than reducing City services (21%) or raising additional revenue (25%).

The top three things that respondents felt were most acceptable to cut were:

- Reducing support for special events such as Christmas in the park
- Deferring the opening of the South San Jose Police Substation under construction near the highway 101 and 85 interchange
- Reducing public information desk hours at the police station

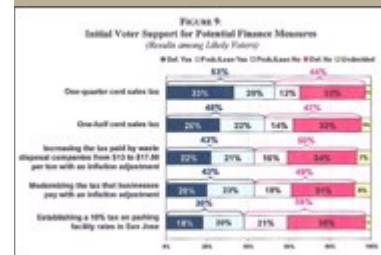
The top three things that respondents were most opposed to cutting were:

- Reducing investigation of violent crimes and assaults
- Lengthening 911 emergency response times



Mid- February 2010
 Newsletter
 print version is
[available here](#)

[Click here](#) for a full list of
 potential revenue generation
 proposals



[Click here](#) for a list of
 Neighborhood Services

- Reducing investigation of sexual assault crimes

I look forward to hearing your input at the upcoming District 10 budget meeting.

All the best,



Nancy Pyle, Councilmember

Crime and Gang Prevention Summit —

Mayor Reed hosted his annual Crime Prevention Summit and resource fair on Saturday, January 23rd. The event featured a resource fair and four workshops for San Jose residents who are concerned about crime and gangs in the community. Topics covered included parent strategies for dealing with out of control teens and the City's strategy for responding to violent gang attacks.

Neighborhood Housing Funding

The Housing Trust of Santa Clara County has been awarded \$25 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to stabilize neighborhoods hardest hit by foreclosures. The City of San Jose Housing Department and Neighborhood Housing Services Silicon Valley have joined the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County to form NSP2 San Jose Consortium to administer these funds. This \$25 million award will assist San Jose neighborhoods most impacted by the current foreclosure crisis. This money will facilitate the acquisition and rehabilitation of foreclosed homes and properties, and will additionally help up to 200 low- and moderate-income individuals and families buy or rent these homes once they have been rehabilitated. Please visit www.housingtrustscc.org/ to learn more about this program and to see which neighborhoods and census tracts are covered by the program.

Renewed Public Awareness Campaign on Tree Maintenance Responsibilities

The City's tree maintenance policies have generated significant community attention following the tragic death of two-year old Mateo Ortiz due to a tree that fell on his family's vehicle on South Seventh Street. In response to this tragic event, the Department of Transportation (DOT) is renewing its public awareness campaign, originally conducted in 2008, to remind property owners of their responsibility for street trees adjacent to their property. Information on the city's tree policy is now available on the City's homepage. Other public awareness efforts include the City wide distribution of notices with utility bills and coordination with the City's Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) as well as other neighborhood organizations. The City will not bill the property owners on South Seventh Street for the two trees that were removed given the circumstances of the tragic event. The City's Municipal Code allows the Director of Transportation (COT) to not seek property owner reimbursement for the emergency removal of trees due to extreme circumstances.

Street Trees and Community Forest

The intense winter storms have caused a number of trees and branches to fall throughout the valley. Unhealthy trees can pose a safety concern. In San Jose, property owners are responsible for the maintenance of the trees on their property and the street trees adjacent to their property. There are approximately one million trees in San Jose's community forest with the majority of them on private property. [Click here](#) for information about caring for your street tree and the community forest, and identifying problems with a tree. [Click here](#) for a list of frequently asked questions and other

FIGURE 6
Accountability of City to Specific Neighborhood Services
(Based on Total Acceptance)

Service	TOTAL ACCEPTANCE (%)	COMPLIANCE AVERAGE (%)	S.W. AVERAGE (%)	NEW AVERAGE (%)	IMPROVEMENT (%)
Reducing response for special events such as Christmas in the Park	77	61	36	23	1
Reducing the number of potholes for the City's highest priority	61	27	44	33	4
Reducing response to graffiti	61	28	27	41	2
Reducing response to graffiti removal services	58	27	38	42	2
Reducing maintenance of building public	52	28	27	42	2
Reducing maintenance and safety of parks	52	27	42	36	1
Reducing safety and family literacy and learning programs	52	26	27	42	2
Reducing the number of days the libraries are open	38	24	36	49	1
Reducing youth and recreation programs	48	22	42	21	1
Reducing crime community programs	48	22	42	21	1
Reducing recreational and therapeutic services for residents with mental illness and physical disabilities	38	7	21	42	1
Reducing maintenance of parks	34	9	24	34	1
Reducing maintenance of park youth programs	28	9	24	34	1

[Click here](#) for a list of Public Safety Services

FIGURE 7
Accountability of City to Specific Public Safety Services
(Based on Total Acceptance)

Service	TOTAL ACCEPTANCE (%)	COMPLIANCE AVERAGE (%)	S.W. AVERAGE (%)	NEW AVERAGE (%)	IMPROVEMENT (%)
Reducing the opening of the South San Jose Police Detachment under construction near the Highway 285 and El Estero	67	38	37	27	4
Reducing public information desk hours at the police station	56	22	40	31	3
Reducing the number of police officers performing duties on bicycles	51	24	27	34	3
Reducing hours dedicated to non-emergency responses on bicycles	50	22	40	42	2
Reducing police hours for other related activities for crime programs	45	22	30	23	2
Reducing the number of officers to support related activities and other police activities	40	12	30	22	2
Reducing officers of the City's 100 stations	38	12	24	24	1
Reducing training grants to protect students	38	12	26	41	1
Reducing maintenance of traffic laws that protect the safety of drivers, bikers, and pedestrians	38	11	27	49	2
Reducing investigation of property-related crimes (theft and burglary)	27	5	22	42	0
Reducing the number of officers with training programs and facilities	26	9	27	42	2
Reducing the number of officers with training programs	26	7	28	41	4
Reducing a portion of the cost of training programs, such as drugs, registry and certification	24	9	25	46	0
Reducing the number of officers and the training equipment assigned to certain activities	24	9	26	43	1
Reducing the number of officers with training skills and equipment to address critical incidents	22	6	22	49	0
Reducing officers in the field	22	6	24	32	1
Reducing training related to maintaining street safety	22	6	24	32	1
Reducing the number of officers dedicated to investigating and processing gang-related crimes	22	6	21	34	1
Reducing the number of City 100 stations	22	6	12	21	0
Reducing investigation of crimes	22	6	14	36	1
Reducing investigation of crimes and child abuse	22	7	14	36	1
Reducing investigation of hazardous materials	22	7	12	34	0
Reducing investigation of crimes	22	7	12	34	0
Reducing investigation of sexual assault crimes	14	7	11	30	1
Reducing investigation of violent crimes and assaults	8	2	9	40	2



Street Trees



information about street trees.

Free income tax assistance centers

Income tax season will soon be upon us. Free volunteer Income Tax Assistance will be available at various locations throughout the City. Volunteers are trained to prepare basic 2009 Forms 1040EZ, 1040A, or 1040 with Schedule A, B, and California State Income Tax returns only. Please bring all pertinent income tax information including: photo ID, forms W2, 1099, Social Security cards for you and your dependents. Also bring your 2009 booklet received in the mail plus your prior year tax return if possible.

Locations are:

Mid–Peninsula Housing Services; 1524 Almaden Expressway, San Jose
February 3rd–April 15th; Monday–Friday 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 6pm
Appointments Only (408) 293–5310

San Jose Library–Cambrian Branch; 1780 Hillsdale Ave, San Jose
February 6th–April 10th; Saturdays from 10am – 1pm
Walk–In site

If you have questions, please call 1–800–829–1040 or 1–800–906–9887 or for more listings go to www.211scc.org.

Census 2010 Notice

A successful census is in your hands – In March 2010, every household in the county will receive a Census questionnaire. We need you or someone in your household to fill it out and mail it back by April 1, 2010, to ensure an accurate people–count in San Jose and Santa Clara County over the next 10 years.

It's Important – The federal government uses census numbers to allocate more than \$435 billion annually for community programs and services, such as education, housing, public health, senior services, transportation, neighborhood improvements and more. The information you provide makes sure that San Jose and Santa Clara County get their fair share of these funds.

It's Easy – Every residence will receive a short form with 10 questions that is simple and fast to complete. Forms are available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Chinese and Russian. Language assistance is available in over 50 languages by calling (866) 872–6868. Lines will be open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week from February 25, 2010 through July 30, 2010.

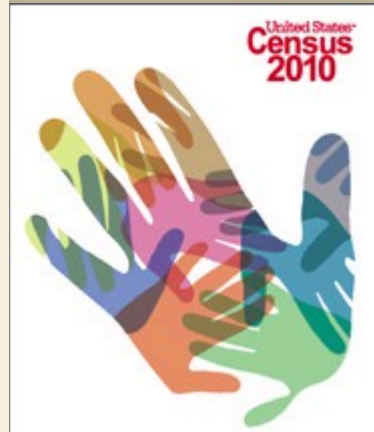
It's Confidential – By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's answers with anyone, including welfare and immigration agencies. Every Census worker has taken an oath for life to protect confidentiality of census responses. Violation would result in a jail term of up to 5 years and/or a fine up to \$250,000.

For more information about 2010 Census, visit www.sanjoseca.gov

Make a difference by serving on an a Board or Commission that advises the City Council

Applications are being accepted for City of San Jose Boards and Commissions for upcoming and future vacancies. You must live in the City of San Jose and have a commitment to being active in the community. Application Process: To take advantage of this unique opportunity, please

Almaden Community Center
has a wonderful fitness
Studio!



The 2010 Census will be taking place in March–watch for the materials that are being mailed to your home.



Figure Holding the Sun
by Italo Scanga



Wildlife of Guadalupe River
by Nobu Nagasawa

call the Office of the City Clerk at (408) 535-1272. Applications will be accepted through 5:00 p.m., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010.

Log onto www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/Vacancy.asp for more details.

Appointment Process: Each Commission's members are nominated by the Commission's designated Council Member Liaison. If you are interested in applying, please contact Stephanie Holm at (408) 535-4982 or stephanie.holm@sanjoseca.gov.

Special Planning Commission Appointment Process: The Mayor and Council will review each application and determine whom they would like to interview. Applicants who receive indications of interest from four or more Councilmembers will be invited to interview before the entire Council in a special study session. The Mayor and Council will select one applicant for appointment by a vote and applicants must receive at least 7 votes to be appointed.

Exploring Public Art in Downtown San Jose

There is a good deal of public art in Downtown San Jose but much of it is often overlooked. Here are two ways you can easily enjoy the public art here in Downtown San Jose.

1) You can create your own walking tour with the help of the [Downtown Public Art Map](#) and pick your own other features in the area to include like museums, galleries and restaurants.

2) You can go on a scavenger hunt throughout the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library to view more than 34 site-specific public artworks in locations throughout the library. Finding them is a process of exploration, discovery and is filled with surprises! A free detailed brochure is available from the San Jose Public Art Problem that will help you appreciate this extraordinary collection. Email patricia.walsh@sanjoseca.gov to request the Recolecciones-Library Art Collection brochure for the Martin Luther King, Jr. library and include your mailing address.

Upcoming Events:

You are invited to attend the State of the City Breakfast on Thursday, February 18th!

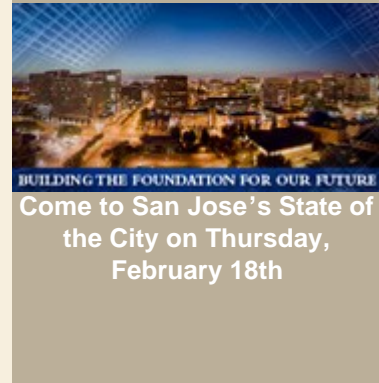
You are cordially invited to attend the 2010 Community Breakfast featuring the State of the City Address and recognition of this year's award recipients for community service. Tickets are available online for \$25

www.sanjoseca.gov/mayor/news/upcoming/upcomingevents.asp#SOTC.

The Mayor is also offering a limited number of free tickets that do not include breakfast. Please contact his office to reserve your seat (408) 535-4800.

Reminder! Third Annual WOWW is on Friday, February 19th!

Invitation to all seniors: Please come to the Third Annual Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk (WOWW) and Resource Fair for Seniors! The event is set for the morning of Friday, February 19th in the Macy's Courtyard of the Westfield Oakridge Mall located at 925 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose. Prior registration for seniors is not necessary and there is room for everyone! Arrive at 8:30am on February 19th to register and receive a free healthy breakfast. A resource fair with information for seniors, a health walk throughout the mall, plus a drawing for prizes with free entry for all registering seniors will take place before the event ends at 11:00am. This is a really fun event full of great information for seniors so I hope to see you there on Friday, February 19th!



Come to San Jose's State of the City on Thursday, February 18th



Arts Calendar –
fun things to do around town!

Russo-Alberts Trio
Hedley Club at Hotel de Anza
Now to February 25th
[Click here for details](#)



Ansel Adams—Early Works
San Jose Museum of Art
Now to February 28th
www.artsopolis.com



Rock 'n Roll
San Jose Stage Company
Now to March 7th
www.artsopolis.com

Happy Hallow Grand Re–Opening on March 20th, 2010

Happy Hallow Park and Zoo has been closed for renovation since July 9th, 2008. Since then a \$72 million green renovation has been underway that has included renovation of the 12 acres of existing ride areas and Zoo. This will add four additional acres to the facility which includes several new animal exhibits, Veterinary and commissary buildings, an Education Center, Guest Services and Gift Shop, Restaurant, a new parking lot, pedestrian bridge, and updates to the facility to meet all ADA requirements.

Happy Hallow Park and Zoo has been important to San Jose families since it first opened its' gates in 1961. The new Happy Hallow has combined innovative green architecture with whimsical fun and will open it's new gates on March 20th, 2010. For more information check www.happyhollowparkandzoo.org/.

Save the Date: Grand Re–Opening March 20th, 2010

1300 Senter Road, San Jose

9:00am–Official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

10:00am–Gates Open to the New Happy Hallow

Community Calendar

Presidents' Day Holiday

Monday, February 15th

District 10 Youth Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 17th: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Almaden Library and Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue

Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Association Meeting

Wednesday, February 17th: 7:00pm

Pearl Library, 4270 Pearl Avenue

Hoffman Via Monte Neighborhood Association Meeting

Wednesday, February 17th: 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Hoffman Via Monte Neighborhood Center, 1180 Blossom Hill Road.

State of the City Breakfast

Thursday, February 18th: 7:30 am – 9:00 am

San Jose Convention Center, 150 West San Carlos Street

Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, February 18th: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Location: TBD

www.stfna.org/

Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk and Resource Fair for Seniors

Friday, February 19th: 8:30 am - 11:00 am

Westfield Oakridge Mall, Macy's Courtyard

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 23rd: 1:30pm and 7:00 pm

San Jose City Hall, 200 East Santa Clara Street

www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/agenda.asp

VEP Community Association Meeting

Tuesday, February 23rd: 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Vista Park Community Room, 475 Hyde Park Drive

www.vepca.net/

Quote

“Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.”



20th Annual Cinequest Film Festival 2010

February 23rd to March 7th

www.artsopolis.com



Romeo and Juliet

Ballet San Jose

February 27th to March 7th

www.artsopolis.com



Ovo

Cirque du Soleil

Now to March 21st

www.artsopolis.com



-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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