



# Memorandum

**TO:** MAYOR REED

**FROM:** Councilmember Chu

**SUBJECT:** BUDGET DOCUMENT

**DATE:** May 23, 2012

Approved

Date

5/23/12

## RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

### Proposal

Program/Project Title: Neighborhood Watch Sign Installation

Amount of City Funding Required: \$25,000

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.) General Fund

Anticipated Outcomes: Requested funding changes would affect benefits or services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc., as described below: (Use as much space as required.)

Our effort to prevent crime is a key reason that San José remains one of the safest big cities in America. The feedback I continue to receive from my constituents of the Neighborhood Watch Program has remained very positive over the years. The Neighborhood Watch Program can help empower neighbors and equip them with the information on how to discourage, deter, and prevent crimes in their neighborhood. Being one of the safest cities in the nation is a result of years of cooperation, communication, and collaboration between the San José Police Department and our neighborhoods.

While all Neighborhood Watch participants receive printed materials covering crime prevention and neighborhood safety issues along with window placards to show participation, many residents have indicated the importance of installing metal Neighborhood Watch signs on public streets within their neighborhood. These signs are a reflection of the significant unification among neighbors on the street and the San José Police Department. Our ability to install Neighborhood Watch signs is critical to send the message to criminals that a particular neighborhood is not an easy target and that residents have taken the necessary steps to deter crime in their neighborhood.

As indicated in MBA#15, the San José Police Department and Department of Transportation can only provide resources for up to 100 installations per year, averaging two signs per installation. I respectfully request that we allocate additional funding so that more neighborhoods can benefit. In addition, I recommend previous unfulfilled neighborhoods that submitted requests for signs to the Crime Prevention Unit have priority for sign installation.

**Funding Source**

Program/Project Title: Essential Services Reserve

Amount of City Funding Change: \$25,000

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.) General Fund

Anticipated Outcomes: Requested funding changes would affect benefits or services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc., as described below: (Use as much space as required.)

The Essential Services Reserve was set aside to support services that are of essential importance to our residents. We have heard it loud and clear from our constituents that public safety, including crime prevention, remains a top priority. Crime prevention is a community investment and essential service to our residents.

Department or Organization: Police Department and Transportation Department

Department or Organization Contact (Please list contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation.)

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This change is:

One-time     Ongoing

The City Service Area to which the change best relates:

- Community and Economic Development Services
- Environmental and Utility Services
- Neighborhood Services
- Public Safety
- Strategic Support
- Transportation and Aviation Services