



# Memorandum

**TO:** MAYOR LICCARDO

**FROM:** Councilmember Johnny Khamis

**SUBJECT:** BUDGET DOCUMENT

**DATE:** May 24, 2016

Approved

Date

5/25/16

## RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

### Proposal

**Program/Project Title:** Cameras for the Hoffman Via-Monte Neighborhood

**Amount of City Funding Required:** \$125,500 one-time costs FY 2016-2017  
\$110,000 ongoing costs for FY 2017-2018 forward

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

This change is:

One-time       Ongoing

### **Proposal Description, including anticipated outcomes (describe how change would affect services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc.):**

The Hoffman Via-Monte (HVM) neighborhood has been a designated SNI neighborhood for years and has drawn more than its share of City services. The neighborhood is situated at the entrance of Almaden Valley and near many amenities: transportation, parks, shopping, and schools. It has major potential to become a healthy safe neighborhood for San Jose families. Installing surveillance cameras into and out of HVM will go far to increase resident safety, deter criminal activity, help the SJPD solve crimes, and combat blight. Cameras have the potential to reduce the overall use of City services that have historically been required by HVM.

Over the years, the City has spent significant amounts funds of the former RDA to improve HVM. Two years ago, the City invested over \$350,000 in park capital funds to improve and upgrade Chris Hotts Park. Residents of the neighborhood continue to fear for their safety and refuse to use the park because of the gang presence in the park. Instead, residents spend their time in their apartments or near their homes, where they feel the safest.

Three months ago, several women in the neighborhood started a Zumba group exercise class that they have been holding in carports near their units. We have requested that they move their classes to the park, but they cite a lack of safety as the motivating factor for staying away from the park.

Another problem that plagues the neighborhood is illegal dumping and an overabundance of garbage. We have asked property owners to utilize cameras as a way to identify the individuals dumping garbage in the neighborhood, although few have done so. After all of the efforts by the City to improve the safety of HVM, a safe neighborhood continues to elude us.

Installing cameras at the entrance and exit of this small neighborhood will go far in establishing it as a high priority for the City, help the SJPD solve crimes, and help deter future crimes. Since there are only two main points of access, this is an ideal location to experiment with the impact of surveillance cameras. The cameras will send a message to criminals in the neighborhood that intimidation will not be tolerated. Assuming that the Safe Communities pilot program is established in July, as proposed by the SJPD, cameras will support the work of the SJPD and help them to identify the individuals who are undermining our efforts to make the neighborhood as safe and blight-free as those neighborhoods in more affluent areas of the City.

**Funding Source**

Essential Services Reserve (\$2 million)

Other (Program/Project/Fund): **Public Safety CSA/Police Department/Police Overtime Reserve**

Department or Organization: **San Jose Police Department**

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

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