



# Memorandum

**TO:** MAYOR LICCARDO

**FROM:** Councilmember Maya Esparza

**SUBJECT:** BUDGET DOCUMENT

**DATE:** 5/22/19

Approved

*Maya Esparza*

Date

*5/22/2019*

## RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

### Proposal

Program/Project Title: Paralegal for Santee Neighborhood

Amount of City Funding Required: \$145,000

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

This change is:

One-time       Ongoing

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

### Funding Request

This proposal seeks to restore the services that were once offered to the residents of the Santee Neighborhood by restoring the Paralegal position that was assigned to that neighborhood. Said position was lost when Barbara Wright with the City Attorney's Office retired.

The densely populated, working class character of the Santee Neighborhood poses some challenges. Santee is the location of an active gang injunction that directly correlates to housing issues. The previous coupled with the current housing crisis compound the issues faced by the tenants in the Santee Neighborhood. It is more important than ever to ensure that our residents are aware of all the protections that are afforded to them by law and injunctions that the City has secured for that area of the city. Unfortunately, not all of our residents enjoy the same level of academic achievement and many in our city have difficulty navigating the complex laws that apply to all our residents.

Santee is host to variety of landlords including many that fall within the tier 3 category. Due to the previously mentioned, and as past performance has demonstrated, in-house staff within the City Attorney's Office is most effective when dealing with gang injunction enforcement.

It would behoove us to ensure that some of our most vulnerable residents have access to the support that our laws provide them as tenants, especially during this housing crisis.

**Funding Source**

Essential Services Reserve (\$4 million):

Other (Program/Project/Fund):

**Department or Organization:** City Attorney's Office

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

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