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City Leaders Propose Matching Funds for Memorial to Honor Fallen Public Safety Officers

SAN JOSÉ — Today, Mayor Sam Liccardo and Councilmember Raul Peralez announced plans to reignite efforts to erect a memorial at City Hall for fallen public safety officers. Such a memorial was approved by the Council in 2008, but has not progressed due to lack of funding.

The cost for the proposed memorial is estimated at \$180,000. Mayor Liccardo and Councilmember Peralez plan to commit half the cost, or \$90,000, from Mayor and Council offices to match private donations. The Mayor has pledged \$75,000 from his office budget.

“Twenty-two public safety personnel have given their lives during active duty to the City of San José. These lives had great meaning and this memorial will ensure they are never forgotten,” said Mayor Liccardo.

“As a former police officer and now a Council representative, I am proud to help champion a monument that honors the police and firefighters who have lost their lives while serving and protecting our residents,” said Councilmember Raul Peralez.

The Community & Economic Development Committee originally approved the memorial in 2008. The proposal was put on hold when the recession hit and the City had to eliminate staff and services to balance the budget. City staff originally recommended locating the memorial in the recessed seating area on the City Hall ramp that is adjacent to the Rotunda along the exterior of the Wing and design was to be commissioned through the City’s Public Art Process.

The memorial will be commissioned through the Office of Cultural Affairs and the Public Art Program. Community input and involvement from key stakeholders are important components of this process.

Private donations for the memorial can be made here:

<https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/publicsafetyofficersmemorial>

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