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**San José Mayor Reaffirms City Will Negotiate with POA during Summer**

**SAN JOSE** – San José Mayor Sam Liccardo today reaffirmed that the City Council will continue talks with the San José Police Officers’ Association (POA) throughout the rest of June and July until regular City Council meetings resume August 4.

Earlier today, the City publicly posted a four-hour closed session Council meeting agenda centered on issues relating Measure B for June 26. That supplements already-existing closed sessions routinely scheduled each Tuesday to discuss labor contracts with the police and other unions. The Mayor had previously informed councilmembers that there would be additional closed session meetings throughout July.

“On multiple occasions over the last two weeks, I conveyed to my Council colleagues that we will continue negotiations with the POA in July, and we’ll need them to be prepared to give direction with each offer and counteroffer.” Mayor Liccardo said. “We will not miss a beat over the summer. My colleagues appreciate the importance of resolving these issues, and we’ll keep hustling until we do.”

In addition, earlier today, the City concluded its 10th agreement with its 10 bargaining units that had contracts expiring on June 30. The POA is the only bargaining unit that has a contract in place through December 31, 2015, and for that reason, their negotiations trailed the ten other unions.

Immediately upon being elected in November, Mayor Liccardo personally reached out to leaders of the POA and urged them to return to the bargaining table so the City and union could attempt to work out their differences. He obtained Council authorization for a negotiating framework for pension reform in January, and encouraged the POA to sit down as soon as possible. He continued this outreach until the POA agreed to do so in March.