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Contact:

Ragan Henninger, (408) 535-4830

Ragan.henninger@sanjoseca.gov

Interim PIO, Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo

Mayor Announces Expansion of Gateways Program to Clean San José Streets

Adobe, Kaiser Permanente South Bay, Pinger, Sunpower, Comcast, and Samsung join founding partners in helping homeless and beautifying San José

San José, Calif. – Mayor Sam Liccardo today announced an expansion of the San José Gateways program, including six new corporate sponsors. Adobe, Kaiser Permanente South Bay, Pinger, Sunpower, Comcast, and Samsung are the latest corporations to commit to cleaning up a San José gateway, a freeway exit near the downtown core, using a program that helps members of San José’s homeless community get back on their feet.

“Once again local businesses show their commitment to being positive stewards of our community by sponsoring gateway projects across San José,” said Mayor Sam Liccardo. “Not only will their contribution clean-up our streets, but they will also help many homeless individuals put their lives back together.”

The six new corporate sponsors will join Ernst & Young, Wells Fargo, and TiVo as sponsors of San José Gateways. A unique public/private/nonprofit collaboration, San José Gateways connects San José’s corporate residents with Downtown Streets Team to clean-up entryways into the city. Downtown Streets Team hires members of San José’s homeless community to clean-up the gateway. Upon completion of the clean-up a sign is erected to display the company’s commitment to keeping San José clean.

The homeless volunteers in San José Gateways also benefit from the corporate sponsorship through a series of services offered by Downtown Streets Team. The volunteers are enrolled into a year-long program in which they receive services designed to help them get back on their feet. While in the program, the volunteers receive a stipend to cover basic needs. Upon graduation from the program the volunteers are given a job, a place to live, and a chance to rebuild their lives.

The original three gateways are located at the following freeways exits:

- Highway 87 and Park Ave.
- Highway 87 and Julian St.

- Interstate 280 and Almaden Blvd.

Four* of the new gateways will be located at the following freeway exits:

- Highway 237 and 1st St.
- Highway 87 and Skyport Dr.
- Highway 87 and Santa Clara St.
- Highway 87 and San Fernando St.

*The Comcast and Samsung gateways have not been identified yet.

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