



# Memorandum

**TO:** NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND **FROM:** Councilmember Raul Peralez  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** October 11, 2018

Approved by:

Date: 10/11/18

**SUBJECT:** ANNUAL REPORT ON HOMELESS PROGRAMS AND NEW  
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## RECOMMENDATION

Accept staff recommendation to defer items (a) Audit of Homeless Assistance Programs and (b) Annual Report on Homeless Programs and New Funding Opportunities to the November 8, 2018 NSE committee meeting and

1. Direct City Staff to report on the City's current partnership with the Santa Clara County's Behavioral Health Services when answering calls for service involving mental health needs at the upcoming October Joint City and County Meeting,
1. Agendize at a future Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Services (PSFSS) meeting to explore opportunities to expand the level of service of the current partnership.

## BACKGROUND

I recently learned that a partnership is being piloted between our San José Police Department (SJPD) and the County, pairing up officers and counselors when answering calls for service that may include a mental health crisis. This has the potential to be a powerful model that provides our officers a resource when responding to our mentally ill population, such as some of our chronically homeless residents. With a clinical response rather than just enforcement alone, this creates an opportunity for direct professional intervention for one of our most vulnerable populations as well as considering alternative solutions outside of immediate hospitalization or incarceration.

However, the current partnership is limited to weekdays from 9am to 5pm. I have heard interest to expand the level of service to weekends as well as throughout all shifts, which may prove to be beneficial for our community's safety. The City should better understand what the needs are to make this program successful and what role we can play to help achieve that.