

Dear Honorable Councilmember,

Our commission continues to be excited and passionate about our work for our fellow residents. As a reminder, these monthly one-page letters will serve as executive summaries of our official minutes and your appointed commissioner may of course happily share additional insights.

Highlights from the December Commission Meeting

Note, five of our 11 commissioners had births/deaths/major illness/major travel in their families in October, so we did not have quorum for our October or November meetings. As of writing, Council has not filled the D6 position that has been vacant since June, nor the positions that opened-up in December for D4 and D1. Having 25% of our Commission's seats unfilled will make attaining quorum a challenge, but we are doing our best to assure the continued functioning of this commission.

1. **Women's Bill of Rights:** Zulma Maciel of the City Manager's office requested that the Womens' Bill of Rights Ad Hoc provide guidance to her office on what an RFI would entail. She shared that the City Manager's office could not send out an RFP without sending out an RFI first; the ad hoc provided a full draft RFI on 1/2/19. The whole commission looks forward to seeing how the ad hoc's proposals are incorporated in the City Manager's proposed RFI at the January meeting.
2. **Ending Domestic Violence:** Commissioner Demers shared updates on his evaluation of whether and how the city is applying the recommendations of the county's blue ribbon domestic violence report.
3. **Protecting Environmental Sustainability Rights:** Commissioner Lopez shared photos of roads, sidewalks, and open spaces filled with commercial garbage and industrial damage in South and East San José. She is leading her ad hoc in preparing a report on the disparate impact of misuse of city-owned, commercially-rented land for the council.
4. **Protecting Justice-Impacted Children's Rights:** Commissioner Maciel shared how difficult it has been to get a response from SJPD, working through City Manager's office staff, on basic questions pertaining to their treatment of children with disabilities. Difficulty getting city departments to respond to staff-facilitated commission requests was a theme in 2018 which we hope does not carry over to the new year.
5. **Protecting Immigrants' Rights:** The commission discussed current reports on ICE activity in the city, including Commissioners' volunteer work with the Rapid Responder network, and confirmed there remains a pervasive sense of fear in the face the threat of arbitrary immigration detention.

Respectfully and in-service,



Jessica Dickinson Goodman
Chair,
The San José Human Services Commission