CITY OF SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

# Memorandum

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Mayor Chuck Reed

**SUBJECT:** **SEE BELOW**

**DATE:** March 24, 2008

Approved Chuck Reed Date 3/24/08

**INFORMATION**

**SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR BEST AND UPDATING THE MGPTF STRATEGIC WORK PLAN FOR 2008-2011**

## PURPOSE

Recently, we have seen an uptick in gang activity in San José. This is a situation we must monitor closely and move quickly to address. The Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF) has been working diligently to ensure we are addressing the needs of the community, where the community need is. Since the inception of the MGPTF in 1991 we have relied on the wisdom of our technical experts to guide our service and funding decisions from a city-wide perspective. As Mayor, I have expanded this process to allow for us to also hear from our residents. This memorandum is intended to outline the upcoming process for updating our Strategic Work Plan to effectively utilize our services and resources.

## BACKGROUND

The current Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF) Strategic Work Plan "Reclaiming Our Youth" covered the period from January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2007. Staff is in the process of updating the MGPTF Strategic Work Plan (SWP) for the period of 2008-2011.

The primary focus of the new SWP is to craft a bold vision for gang prevention, suppression, and intervention and to provide direction for future spending proposals including the $1 million ongoing increase in BEST funding which the Council unanimously approved on March 18 with acceptance of my March Budget Message. This vision will be developed through the effective engagement of all stakeholders through a deliberative process.

## ANALYSIS

To be successful, the 2008-2011 SWP must set ambitious goals and be responsive to changing and emerging trends. It also requires input from all stakeholders to help us spend our resources most effectively.

Last year, I secured an increase of $1 million in one-time funding for the MGPTF. To date, $800,000 has been dedicated to addressing urgent problems that have emerged over the course of the year, while the remaining $200,000 is dedicated for critical needs through August, when the new fiscal year funding will begin. With the uptick in gang activity, the MGPTF has spent $500,000 on crucial intervention services that are offered by our local community-based organizations. Of highest priority is intervention to prevent retaliatory violence when a homicide or other act of gang violence occurs. Additionally, $300,000 that was originally set aside as an emergency reserve has been used to provide late-night and weekend programming at a community center in each Police Division. These community centers provide a safe and healthy alternative to gang activity for our young people and are invaluable in helping prevent gang involvement and violence. The $200,000 that remains in 2007-2008 one-time funding has been allocated for increased gang intervention services and capacity building to take place in the upcoming summer months. Location of these services is dependent upon results from the March 12 MGPTF Hot Spot exercise. Should we end the year with any unspent funds, these funds will be re-budgeted to fund the costs of direct intervention services, such as the Clean Slate Tattoo Removal Program, which the City Manager is proposing to eliminate from the City's General Fund in Fiscal Year 2008-09.

Each year, the MGPTF works to respond to changing community needs and determine where best to locate our services, and what services are needed. This process relies on guidance from the technical experts who serve on and advise the MGPTF Technical Team. On March 12, more than 100 members of the MGPTF Technical Team began the annual process of identifying Hot Spots in each Police Division and prioritizing the services that are funded through BEST. This is an annual process the MGPTF engages in by soliciting guidance from our technical experts on where best to locate our services, and what services are needed. At our Technical Team meeting on April 9 and our Policy Team meeting on April 25, the MGPTF will review and finalize this process.

The broader community will be engaged in this process through four Town Hall meetings (one in each of the Police Divisions). Participation of the City Council Offices, Strong Neighborhoods Initiative leaders, and other community groups is essential to the success of this process. Coordination of the public Town Hall meetings is dependent on facilities and the availability of Councilmembers. In addition, focus groups will be conducted with the MGPTF Policy Team sub-committees, Juvenile Probation, and faith-based groups.

Attachment A outlines the proposed dates for each of the four Town Hall meetings for consideration by each Councilmember. All Town Hall meetings are projected to be completed from April 21- May 19, 2008. Coordination of the public Town Hall meetings is dependent upon facilities and availability of Councilmembers. Therefore, I have proposed two potential dates for each meeting. Please respond to Melanie Jimenez in my office by April 1 with your availability.

In addition, my office will coordinate, together with the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department and the Police Department, our first bi-annual Gang Climate Briefings with each Councilmember between April 1- 18, 2008.

The results of the Town Hall meetings will guide the update of our new SWP and future funding decisions for BEST. Drafts of the SWP will be presented to the Technical Team on June 11 and the Policy Team on June 27. The SWP will be presented to the Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Support Committee on August 21 for recommendation to the full Council. Priority will continue to be given to funding late night programming at community centers located in Hot Spots.

For more information please contact Melanie Jimenez at 408.535.4828

c: Deb Figone, City Manager
Albert Balagso, Director of PRNS
Robert Davis, Chief of Police

ATTACHMENT A

# Potential Town Hall Meeting Dates

| Division | Site | Council Office | Potential Date<br>All meetings 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Central | Northside Community Center | | Mon. 5/12 | Mon. 5/19 |
| | | D3 – Liccardo | | |
| | | D4 – Chu | | |
| | | | | |
| Foothill | Alum Rock Youth Center | | Wed. 4/23 | Thu. 4/24 |
| | | D4 – Chu | | |
| | | D5 – Campos | | |
| | | D8 – Cortese | | |
| | | | | |
| Southern | Southside Community Center | | Thu. 5/1 | Thu. 5/15 |
| | | D2 – Williams | | |
| | | D8 – Cortese | | |
| | | D9 – Chirco | | |
| | | D10 – Pyle | | |
| | | | | |
| Western | Franklin-McKinley School District Administrative Offices | | Mon. 4/28 | Wed. 5/7 |
| | | D1 – Constant | | |
| | | D6 – Oliverio | | |
| | | D7 – Nguyen | | |