

THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL, AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY	FROM: HARRY S. MAVROGENES DEBRA FIGONE
SUBJECT: SEE BELOW	DATE: DECEMBER 3, 2009

INFORMATION

SUBJECT: STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE WITH SNI NAC LEADERS

In 2000, the Redevelopment Agency and the City partnered with community stakeholders to create and implement the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI). The initiative became a national model on how cities and redevelopment agencies can work together to improve the quality of life in impacted neighborhoods through a unique combination of community empowerment, social capital, and investments in capital projects to remove blight.

The SNI Business Plan adopted by the Mayor and City Council in 2004 included three core program outcomes: Deliver Neighborhood Priorities On-Time and On-Budget; Effective delivery of Neighborhood Services; Effective Community Leadership and Partnership with Residents.

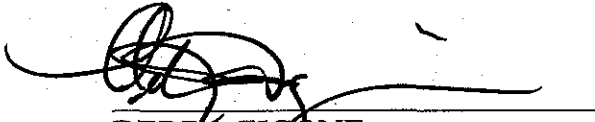
Since the Initiative's inception, significant progress has been made to create safer and more attractive neighborhoods through the development and preservation of affordable housing, safer and more attractive residential streets, cleaner neighborhoods through concentrated code enforcement efforts, new parks and community centers and the development of community leadership. However, the significant achievements are being threatened and strained by the current economic downturn and uncertainties and the fiscal challenges facing both the City and the Redevelopment Agency. Given the current environment, we must work with our community leaders to update the SNI business plan and transition the SNI model by effectively aligning resources and community efforts to address the challenges presented by this new and uncertain reality.

Mayor Reed's Redevelopment Agency Budget Message released on November 20th, recommends that the Agency Executive Director and City Manager engage stakeholders to update the Strong Neighborhoods Business Plan to produce the following objectives:

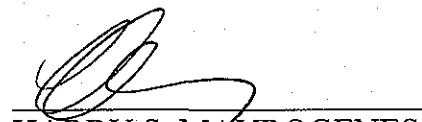
- Refocus the mission, goals and priorities of the program;
- Identify potential new funding sources, including partnerships and leveraging opportunities; and
- Review the organizational structure of the SNI so that it is aligned with the mission, goals and priorities of the Mayor and the City Council.

As schedules become very challenging during this time of year, Agency and City staff thought it was important to engage the SNI leaders in a facilitated dialogue prior to the holiday break in December. A meeting date was coordinated in advance with SNI leaders. The first such dialogue with Neighborhood Advisory Council leaders is scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2009. The meeting will be held at the Fourth Street Summit Center from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Free parking will be available in the Fourth Street Garage.

For questions please contact Sal Alvarez, Interim SNI Manager at 535-8502.



DEBRA FIGONE
City Manager



HARRY S. MAVROGENES
Executive Director