

THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL, AND AGENCY BOARD	FROM: HARRY S. MAVROGENES DEBRA FIGONE
SUBJECT: SEE BELOW	DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 2010

INFORMATION

SUBJECT: NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION COALITION ACCESS TO CITY FACILITIES

During the August 10, 2010, Joint Redevelopment Agency Board/City Council meeting, Board member Campos requested information on how Neighborhood Action Coalitions (NAC's) obtain after-hours access to City facilities to conduct neighborhood meetings and activities. In addition, she asked how across-the-board equity is achieved in such access, including whether there is a single point of contact for NAC leaders.

Over the next three months, the Redevelopment Agency and the City Manager's Office will reconvene the Neighborhood Services City Service Area (CSA) team composed of City department and Redevelopment Agency staff to develop a process that ensures fair and equitable access to facilities that support NAC and neighborhood association meetings and activities.

Attached are the Strong Neighborhoods NACs' current meeting locations and associated fees and/or costs. The NACs currently access meeting space in City facilities as well as in non-City facilities such as schools, churches, or community arts spaces. The vast majority of NACs meet in PRNS satellite centers, with the exception of the Mayfair NAC, which meets in a PRNS hub facility.

Use of City facilities carries an overhead cost to cover expenses such as lighting and routine maintenance. In most cases, Strong Neighborhoods staffs are required to be present as a condition for insurance or as a means of ensuring that the facility is secure, otherwise there is an additional charge for use of the City facility.

When necessary, the Agency has covered costs for the NACs to access facilities because these organizations facilitate public outreach to implement capital infrastructure projects and private development associated with the elimination of physical blight. However, there are no longer funds in the Agency budget to cover these costs.

Currently, the only after-hours, free access for neighborhood meetings/activities in City facilities occurs at community center reuse sites per Council Policy 7-12, which was amended per the Manager's Budget Addendum #11 in June 2010. Additionally, free access is provided at the Santee, Spartan Keyes and Hoffman/Via Monte Strong Neighborhoods Neighborhood Action Centers. Public library community rooms can be secured with a \$35 application fee.

When the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative activities began almost a decade ago, most community meetings were held in neighborhood school cafeterias or multipurpose rooms or in old community centers free of cost. In 2000, San Jose voters passed Measure P and then PRNS, together with the Redevelopment Agency, began demolition of old community centers and the construction of PRNS Hubs. As newer and larger facilities have been built, operations and maintenance costs have increased and PRNS has been directed to implement a cost recovery model for operations.

In 2003, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 71740, setting the schedule of fees for the use of parks and recreational facilities, which also provided a category of user in which no fees were to be charged. In 2007, all school districts began charging an application fee and requiring a security deposit and custodial services. In the Alum Rock School District, every school has a \$45 application fee, a \$175 deposit and a \$45 hourly rate for custodial services. There are some examples of City/School Joint-Use Agreements that include community use of school facilities, such as the West Evergreen NAC and O.B. Whaley School in the Evergreen School District and the Dorsa Neighborhood Association at the Dorsa Elementary School in the Alum Rock School District.

In 2008, the City Council approved Council Policy 7-12, which established the free use of community center reuse sites in exchange for services that primarily benefit San Jose residents. Currently, some Strong Neighborhood staff is housed in PRNS reuse sites including Capitol Park, McKinley and Olinder Neighborhood Centers.

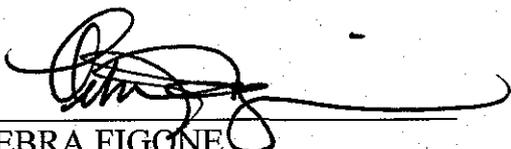
In 2009, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 74983, "Pricing and Revenue Policy", authorizing the City Manager to initially adopt the existing fees and charges for the PRNS Department and to administer fees and charges consistent

with Council policy and within approved cost recovery goals. In 2010, the City Council adopted a schedule of fees and charges that eliminated the category allowing free use of facilities as of July 1, 2010.

Currently, available space in community centers can be reserved by eligible users for free during normal operating hours, providing a minimal \$35 application fee is paid. Should groups be interested in reserving a space beyond normal operating hours, direct costs of \$19 per hour per staff member required to be present is charged for facility use. PRNS staff is in the process of developing a revised facility rental policy that will ensure fair and equitable access to community centers with consideration given to cost recovery opportunities. The policy will incorporate provisions for access to existing Community Centers and reuse sites.

On August 10, 2010, the City Council and Redevelopment Agency Board approved the Strong Neighborhoods Business Plan Update, implemented by Council Resolution No. 75527, which directed the City Manager to implement a City-wide approach to Strong Neighborhoods that would; 1) Remove barriers to neighborhood action, 2) Stabilize neighborhoods in crisis, 3) Support neighborhood action, and 4) Connect resources to priorities. Providing consistent and accessible community facilities is critical to achieve Strong Neighborhood Goal #3 Supporting Neighborhood Action.

As noted previously, the Agency and the City Manager's Office will reconvene the Neighborhood Services CSA to identify and develop a process that ensures equitable access to facilities that support NAC and neighborhood association meetings and activities. Additionally, the Strong Neighborhoods and PRNS staffs will work with NAC leaders to identify accessible facilities for their meetings and activities available as of January 1, 2011.


DEBRA FIGONE
City Manager


HARRY S. MAVROGENES
Executive Director

Attachment

**Strong Neighborhoods Initiative
Neighborhood Action Coalition
Access to City Facilities**

NAC NAME	MEETING LOCATION	FEE	POINT OF CONTACT	COUNCIL DISTRICT
Blackford	West San Jose Community Center	None with SNI staff present; or \$35 application + staff time - \$19/hr per staff after normal operating hours	Heather Keag	1
Burbank/Del Monte	Sherman Oaks Community Center	None – agreement with PRNS Reuse	Heather Keag	6
Delmas Park	Delmas Park Apartments – 350 Bird Avenue*	None; No SNI Staff needed to be present	Art Nino	3
East Valley/680 Communities	Alum Rock Youth Center	None during normal operations; or \$35 application + staff time - \$19/hr per staff after normal operating hours	ARYC Staff	5
Edenvale/Great Oaks	Caroline Davis Intermediate School* GONA Family Resource Center*	\$50 insurance fee None	Jose Villarreal	2
Five Wounds/ Brookwood Terrace	McKinley Neighborhood Center	None; No SNI staff needed to be present	Paul Pereira	3
Gateway East	PAL TABS Center	None with SNI staff present	Monica Kitchiner	5
Greater Gardner	Gardner Community Center	None with SNI staff present; or \$35 application, + staff time - \$19/hr per staff after normal operating hours	Anna Le	6/3
Hoffman/Via Monte	Pat Dando Hoffman/Via Monte Neighborhood Center	None	Jose Villarreal	10
KONA	Hubbard Elementary School*	\$45 application plus \$45 per hour custodial fees, plus \$175 Deposit.	Jennifer Luc	8/7
Market/Almaden	MACLA Center for the Arts*	None; No SNI staff needed to be present	Tom Johnston	3
Mayfair	Mayfair Community Center	None during normal operations ; or \$35 application + staff time - \$19/hr per staff after normal operating hours	Sal Alvarez	5
Spartan Keys	Spartan Keys Neighborhood Action Center	None; No SNI staff needed to be present	Anna Le	3
Thirteen Street	Joyce Ellington Library	\$35 per year application plus SNI staff present	Debbie Bybee	3
Tully/Senter	Santee Neighborhood Action Center	None	Cindy Ho	7
University	Lowell Elementary School*	\$25 per year application plus \$100 per meeting	Paul Pereira	3
Washington	Alma Community Center	None with SNI staff present or \$35 application + staff time - \$19/hr per staff after normal operating hours	Art Nino	3/7
West Evergreen	O.B. Whaley Elementary School*	None with City/EESD Joint-Use Agreement	Cindy Ho	7/8
Winchester	Pueblo De Dios Church, Payne and Eden*	None; No SNI staff needed to be present	Heather Keag	1/6

*Not a City facility

ATTACHMENT