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Subj: [SJ-D6NL] Neighborhoods Commission

Notes from the November 13th City of San Jose Neighborhoods Commission (SJNC) meeting:

The 20 member Commission, is now permanent and represents neighborhoods of the City's 10 Council Districts. It meets 10 times a year.

Council Liaison Report:

Councilmember Donald Rocha D-9 informed the Commission that high on the Council's list of concerns are:

- the issue of medical marijuana; the number of dispensaries in the city; and the impact of those close to schools
- 4th of July fireworks and the city's enforcement and current City laws regarding such
- and the City's move toward refining the design and qualities of Urban Villages more to follow in the coming months

Neighborhood streets:

San Jose Dept. of Transportation presented a "State of the Streets" update:

- an overview of their condition
- how they got this way
- and 'where to' from here

For years now, limited funding for our streets and roads has been focussed on keeping or improving major streets and arteries; those that support jobs, retail business and carry 80% of the traffic.

Of the 2400 miles of City streets and roads, 1500 miles are neighborhood streets and in need of funding for maintenance and repair. Age, weather and traffic continue to degrade these streets, and as they become dry, cracked and broken, followed by rain and a softening base, the cost of repair or rebuilding grows. \$400M over 10 years is needed:

- to rebuild the worst of our neighborhood streets,
- repair and restore many of the 1500 streets,
- and maintain those in good shape to prevent costly deterioration.

More information on this will be forthcoming in the next month or two as the City weighs options for funding this growing need.

Resolving this not simple. Decades of changing economic conditions, State and Federal laws, fees, and revenue sharing problems combined with changing and challenging priorities at the City, County and regional level have been contributing factors. To learn more about this [click here](#).

The SJNC has been asked to look at this in greater detail, share this with our neighbors and develop informed community input on how best to deal with. More information to follow, but feel

free to email your thoughts on this to Larry Ames, myself or contact the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Commission Representation:

Commissioners are chosen by a neighborhood caucus process. Odd numbered districts will hold caucuses in the spring of 2014 where 2 Commissioners from those districts will be chosen by neighborhoods to sit on the Commission. In 2016 the process will be repeated for even numbered districts. Commissioners will serve a four year term.

Areas of Commission study and input are: The City Budget, Transportation and Quality of Life in San Jose's neighborhoods.

Commissioners from D-1, 3,5,7 and 9 will work with the Commissioner Chair and City Staff person to lay out a plan for those caucuses for Council approval. This should be done in the coming weeks.

Going Forward:

In the coming months the Commission will be:

- developing input for the Mayor's budget plan
- comments, feedback and ideas on improving neighborhood streets
- community input on City policy regarding Medical Marijuana outlets
- and other issues that impact quality of life in San Jose neighborhoods

The Commission meets at 6:30PM in the West Wing of City Hall on the second Wednesday of the month except in December and July. Meetings are open to the public.

David Dearborn, Commissioner, D6