

Bill of Rights for Children and Young Adults for Santa Clara County

Every young person must get what they need when they need it, no matter their actual or perceived race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, mental or physical ability, nationality, immigration status, criminal history, first language, skin color, education status, or wealth. We value the diversity of our children and young adults in Santa Clara County and believe we must treat each of them with respect and dignity.

All children and young adults have the right to:

Healthcare- Affordable, timely, and quality mental and physical healthcare that they can access at any time.

Mental health- Mental and emotional health and well-being and support systems in and outside of the home that promotes emotional and social safety.

Love and emotional connections- Meaningful connections with consistent, caring adults and peers who love and appreciate the young person for who they are and want to see them grow.

Support and Guidance- Receive support and guidance from role models who are dedicated to helping them achieve their dreams and goals.

Life Skills- Training to develop life skills and knowledge as well as opportunities to apply them for their growth.

Education- A relevant and engaging education that exposes them to other cultures and promotes lifelong learning.

Job Opportunities- Job opportunities that provide safe and reasonable working conditions, and a living wage, and allow them to grow their careers.

Personal Development- Time, space, and resources to pursue any interest or opt for rest.

External support for family- Support that will allow their families to be taken care of so they can pursue their dreams.

Modern needs- Reliable transportation and wifi, computers that meet their needs, and phones when applicable.

Basic needs- Enough quality food and water, showers, clean clothes, and hygiene products to keep their bodies healthy.

Housing- Affordable, stable, safe, and comfortable housing that meets their needs as individuals.

Green spaces- Easily accessible and clean green spaces that will be preserved for future generations.

Safety- Feel and be safe in all environments they are in, such as their schools, homes, neighborhoods, and online.

Voice- Be treated as equal partners in identifying problems, developing solutions, and making the decisions that they are impacted by.

Choice- Make important decisions for their lives and set boundaries that are respected.

The rights above have not been fulfilled for all youth. Many are limited by the inflexible and overly restrained structure of the environments designed for them. Change to these environments will not happen without mass commitment and action. By combining our personal power and expertise through continuous collaboration, we have the ability to create lasting change for Santa Clara County youth.



Commissioner Andrew Lieu
San Jose Youth Representative for Council District 5
(Appointed by San Jose City Council: [Learn More](#))
the City Of San Jose in California

Date: January 12, 2023

Authored by Andrew Lieu, Member of the San Jose Youth Commission (D5)
Date proposal written: January 12, 2023
Date of Event: February 25, 2023

District 5 Policy Conference X One-time event ongoing event

Our Policy Conference will be hosted by the District 5 Youth Commissioner and Youth Advisory Council with the goal to have learned the issues or “strengthens” of East San Jose. We will develop policy proposals to better our community as a result of this conference.

History/Background

District 5 has historically been an under-resourced community with issues affecting adults and youth. In an effort to prioritize putting forth solutions to some of the issues that young people see in their community, we will hold a policy conference that will allow young people themselves to take charge and have first-hand experience in the analysis of their communities and offer them the platform to better their city* environment.

Connection to YAC and Youth Commission Work Plan

This event ties into District 5 YAC’s Work Plan, through Objective one; Connect District 5 Youths. By leading YAC meetings, conferences, and events throughout the year. With the desired outcome of Creating a sense of community among youth.

This event ties into the Youth Commission Work Plan through Objective 1, Empower youth to pursue their careers and encourage them to be civically engaged through local and city-wide events and initiatives.

Along with Objective 3, Empower youth to pursue their careers and encourage them to be civically engaged through local and city-wide events and initiatives. And under Objective 3 Action 3, which is to advocate for at least one resource and/or training for out-of-school time programs, community centers, library staff, and administrators to empower LGBTQ+, ethnically diverse, and other marginalized youth, such as Black Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), disabled, and homeless youth.

Vision

We will have at least two policy proposals that will be developed as a result of the data that has been collected at District 5's Policy Conference. The data will go through research, analysis, and discussion (By the D5 Youth Commission and Youth Advisory Council) before being presented to the San Jose Youth Commission by the end of the fiscal year.

Goals

1. Goal #1: Youth will seek and identify problems and propose solutions that young people see.
2. Goal #2: Youth will form a sense of community.

Objectives

Goal #1 = We will seek and identify problems and propose solutions that young people see.

Objective 1 = Through active discussion and hands-on activities, youths will be directly involved in the governmental decision-making process.

Objective 2 = Youths will further use the skills learned through discussion and research to benefit both their personal lives and while serving others.

Goal #2 = Youths will form a sense of community.

Objective 1 = Through active discussion and hands-on activities, youths will understand that collaborating with each other will result in personal growth.

Objective 2 = By teaching young people the skills to develop policy they could use their experience to benefit others.

Resources and Collaboration

Resources:

- Collaboration with SJ Library Staff
- Collaboration with District 5 Council Member's Office
- Collaboration with those involved in legislative work in government; with an emphasis on the city.

Organizations

- Work with Dr. Martin Luther King Library for a community room/and or multiple rooms that hold 10 or more persons.

Critical Factors of Success

1. The presence of youths during the event with at least ten public members.
2. Commitment from the District 5 Youth Commissioner and Youth Advisory Council members to execute planned item preparation (having posters made and having all materials) and learning of the policy development curriculum.

Potential Obstacles

1. Lack of youth engagement during the discussion and activity.
2. Lack of youth attendance so that not enough youth will learn about leadership skills.

Strategy for Recruitment & Marketing

- Promotion through SJPL/or SJ Youth Commission's Methods of Outreach (Newsletters and flyers/posters)
- Send flyers to high schools in East San Jose
- Collaborate with District 5 Councilmember office's community division for outreach.

Overview of Event

Policy Conference Agenda Hyperlink: [Policy Summit Sch.](#)

Materials Needed (Retail Prices)

- Post-it Poster Board (3) - \$125
- Pack of Mr. Sketch markers (2) -\$11
- Tape roll (2) - \$5
- Paper and Printer - \$15
- Pencils/Pens (11)
- Food, Snacks, and Drinks (Pizza, water, etc) - \$180
- Other supplies - 20\$
- Taxes - \$14

Timeline

At the Youth Commission General Meeting in January 2023, this proposal will be presented to the Youth Commission.

February 25th, 2022 - The conference will take place at King Library.

Cost Implications

Supplies and Materials for Policy Conference: \$370

Approval

Date: January 23,2022

Youth Commission approval YES NO

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Council Office approval _____YES _____NO Date_____

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