City of San José
Youth Commission

District 1 – Gordon Chen
District 3 – Deitra Hoang
District 5 – Andrew Lieu
District 7 – Ananya Sriram
District 9 – Agam Singh
Citywide – Vendant Janapaty

Kathy Lu – District 2
Nuha Khan – District 4
Amiya Bansal – District 6
Aldjoell Gonzalez Muniz – District 8
Alexander Lee – District 10

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 22, 2023
6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M
Location: Council Chambers

I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day

A. Roll Call

PRESENT: Chair Chen, Vice Chair Sriram, Commissioners Hoang, Lieu, Bansal, Singh, Gonzalez-Muniz, Lu, Khan, Lee, Janapaty.

STAFF: Deputy Director of Public Services Michelle Ornat; Division Manager Vidya Kilambi; Sr. Librarian Elizabeth Nolan; Librarian Megan Maloy; Administrative Assistant Dzien Nguyen; Senior Office Specialist Julia Santos

OTHERS: Assistant to the City Manager Laura Buzu; Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Supervisor Nick Georgoff; Council Assistant Alexander Dersh, Naomi Porter, Anthony Lopez, Christina Gotuaco, Woody Hanson.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. Quorum was achieved with 11 Commissioners present.

II. Consent Calendar

A. Approve May 22, 2023 Agenda
B. Approve April 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes
C. Approve April 24, 2023 Attendance Record

On the motion of Commissioner Khan, seconded by Commissioner Lee, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the items on the Consent Calendar.

III. Public Record: There was no correspondence for the Commission to review.
IV.  **Open Forum:**  There was one public comment to the Commission.

   A. Layal Forooghi addressed the Youth Commission with words of encourage on the impact of their voice as a Youth Commissioner.

V.  **Discussion/Action Items**

   A. **INFORMATIONAL:**  *Student Voices and Statewide Opportunities*  
      (N. Porter) – Virtual Presentation

   Naomi Porter presented information on the State Board of Education and the opportunities for youths to be involved on the state level. Ms. Porter shared information on her role as a student member with the State Board of Education. The Board is California’s K-12 policy-making body for academic standards, curriculum, instructional materials, assessments, and accountability. Youths can be involved by being a Student Member of the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) or the State Board of Education. Both positions are full-time one-year term with full voting privileges. Applications for them for open in August.

   No discussion followed.

   B. **INFORMATIONAL:**  *28th Street/Little Portugal Future Transit-Oriented Development*  
      (A. Lopez)

   Anthony Lopez, Christina Gotuaco, and Woody Hanson presented on the future transit-oriented development (TOD) project at 28th Street/Little Portugal. TOD is real estate developments that are located place next to transit. The TOD project will be at the 28th street/Little Portugal site near the future BART station. The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) team is in phase two of the BART development in which TOD projects will be developed in conjunction with the BART development. VTA is in the beginning process of engaging the community to have their voices heard on this future TOD location.

   Commissioners engaged in discussion.

   C. **ACTION:**  *Enhancing the Youth Commission and Youth Participation in the City Memo Recommendation*  
      (M. Maloy)

   Megan Maloy shared the updated memo recommendation of the Enhancing the Youth Commission and Youth Participation in the City. The memo was originally approved by Youth Commission and was brought to the Office of City Manager’s for review. The memo was revised base Office of City Manager’s feedback on the feasibility of the
recommendations due to current City process. The changes between the Youth Commission approved memo draft and the revised version includes shortening of the preamble, removal of timeline, and changes to section B, specifically pertaining to recommendations to problems and opportunities.

Commissioner engaged in discussion.

Public Comment: Paul Soto (Zoom Speaker) offered public comment on this item.

On the motion of Commissioner Singh to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Khan, 9 votes to approve the item, 2 abstentions. The item is approved.

D. **ACTION:** Adopting the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth (M. Maloy)

Ms. Maloy revisited the Youth Commission letter to City Council encouraging the Council to endorse the revised Bill of Rights for Children and Youth Adults for Santa Clara County. It has been recommended to revise the Youth Commission’s letter to change the word “endorse” to “adopt” the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth Adults for Santa Clara County.

Commissioners engaged in discussion.

Public Comment: Jane (in-person) and Paul Soto (Zoom Speaker) offered public comment on this item.

On the motion of Commissioner Khan to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Janapaty, 10 votes to approve the item, 1 abstention. The item is approved.

E. **ACTION:** Policy Proposal – Increased Housing Distance from Highways (Commissioner Hoang)

Commissioner Hoang shared her policy proposal on increasing housing distance from highways. Due to the housing issues in the San Jose, there has been an expansion of housing development in the City. The location of these expansions is in close proximities to highways and freeways. Housing that is near highways and freeways will lead occupants to long term exposure to toxic air pollutants that are related to cancer, birth defects, neurological, reproductive, and respiratory problems. Commissioner Hoang’s policy recommends that San Jose
should change their existing zoning policy to require housing to be built a minimum of 1,000 feet away from freeways and highways. The recommendation also includes all future housing developments to be at least 1,000 feet away from highways and freeways.

Commissioners engaged in discussion.

Public Comment: Paul Soto (Zoom Speaker) provided public feedback on this item.

On the motion of Commissioner Lu to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez-Muniz, the Commission unanimously voted to approve this item.

F. ACTION: Policy Proposal – Ending Period Poverty (Commissioner Khan)

Commissioner Khan shared her revised period poverty policy Recommendation that was written in collaboration with Commissioner Hoang. According to a study conducted by San Jose State University in 2020, 14% of college-attending women don’t have access to menstrual products. In addition, 22 states have a tax on period solutions because they are considered nonessential goods. This policy proposal is making two recommendations. The first recommendation is menstrual product machines should be restocked in state-owned buildings, buildings providing state services, and state-funded hospitals. In each building, the products will be made available in women, all-gender, and at least one men restroom. The second recommendation is the reinstatement of AB 367 to require public schools’ grades 6-12, California State University, Community Colleges, and public agencies to have at least 50% of restrooms always stocked with menstrual products.

Public Comment: Paul Soto (Zoom Speaker) and T Lund (Zoom Speaker) provided public feedback on this item.

On the motion of Commissioner Lieu to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Janapaty, the Commission unanimously voted to approve this item.


Commissioner Khan shared the policy proposal for household hazardous waste (HHW) pick-up system. The policy recommends that the city implement a HHW residential curbside pickup system to reduce improper disposal of HHW. This residential curbside pickup
will be in addition to the existing trash and recycling pick-up programs that are currently in place.

Commissioners engaged in discussion.

Public Comment: Matthew Herdman (Zoom Speaker), Paul Soto (Zoom Speaker), and Jane (in-person) provided public feedback on this item.

On the motion of Commissioner Bansal to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Sriram, the Commission unanimously voted to approve this item.

H. ACTION: Policy Proposal – Anonymous Tip line (Vice Chair Sriram)

Vice Chair Sriram shared the policy proposal on anonymous tip line. The proposal recommends the City to require district schools to establish an anonymous tip line. The tipline should include coordination with school personnel, law enforcement agencies, resource officers, and families. Schools will require training and information on using the tip lines.

Commissioners engaged in discussion.

Public Comment: Jane (in-person speaker) provided public feedback on this item.

On the motion of Commissioner Hoang to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez-Muniz, 10 votes to approve the item, 1 abstention. The item is approved.

I. ACTION: Policy Proposal – San Jose Citywide Restoring California Native Oaks (Commissioner Janapaty)

Commissioner Janapaty shared the policy proposal for California Oak tree restoration program. The proposal requests approval to plant native oaks (ReOak initiative) in San Jose. The goal of this proposal is to control the spread of invasive species and the reintroduction of native plant species to the area such as the oak tree. Native California oaks are drought tolerant and fire-resistant which would help mitigate the damage to the wilderness caused by invasive plant species that are susceptible to fires. There are four steps to the reintroduction of oaks to the area: site selection, planting, plant protection, and water and care.

Commissioners engaged in discussion.
Public Comment: Paul Soto (Zoom Speaker)

On the motion of Commissioner Lee to approve the item, seconded by Commissioner Lieu, 10 votes to approve the item, 1 abstention. The item is approved.

VI. Reports and Information Only

A. Office of City Manager Report (L. Buzo)
Laura Buzo, Assistant to Deputy Manager, reported on the status of the Children and Youth Services Master Plan. For May and June, the CMO’s office will be meeting staff, community partners, families, youth, and County department staff to draft the recommendations and goals of the Children and Youth Services Master Plan. In July and August, CMO will start drafting the master plan and will share with the Youth Commission in August.

B. Council Liaison’s Announcements (A. Dersh)
Alex Dersh, Council Assistant, shared announcements from the Council. Council rejected status report on Community Opportunity to Purchase Act and adopted a memo to Alternative Anti-Displacement Strategies. The Council also adopted a new Climate Advisory Commission. They also added to their Climate Smart plan preservation, restoration, and expansion of green spaces to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. May 16th, Council voted to end the City’s proclamation of the existence of a local emergency for COVID-19 pandemic. The Council held a hearing to receive public comment on Mayor Mahan’s proposal on spending for Measure E funds. The Vice Mayor Kamei authored the policy memo directing staff to investigate anti-displacement strategies. She joined Councilmember Doan and Batra in proclaiming Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month for May 2023. She attended several celebrations including Asian American and Pacific Islander celebration with SJSU, ACCI, and San Jose Public Library Foundation. Upcoming events in San Jose includes Paint the CitySJ, Make Music San Jose event on June 21st, Viva Calle will be June 11th. Mr. Dersh, on behalf of Vice Mayor Kamei, presented an Award of Appreciation to Chair Chen for his service with the Youth Commission.

C. Parks and Recreation Neighborhood Services (PRNS) Report (N. Georgoff)
Nick Georgoff, Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Supervisor, shared updates from PRNS. Mr. Georgoff shared information on the Summer 2023 program locations, summer job positions with PRNS, and BeautifySJ’s annual Summer Festival on June 17th at the Kirk Center.
D. **San José Library Report** (M. Ornat)
Michelle Ornat, Deputy Director of Public Services, shared updates from the Library. West Valley celebrated its 20th anniversary on May 13th with over 1,000 community members. SJPL also hosted the 8th Annual Gira de Libro -Library Tour by Bicycle. In May, the Library is celebrating and recognizing Asian American and Pacific Islander month, Jewish American Heritage month, and Mental Health Awareness month. The Library will be closed in observance of Memorial Day, May 29th. SJPL Summer Learning is open for pre-registration from June 1st through July 31st. SJPL has 6 staff members who are receiving awards this year: Karla Alvarez (LJ Mover and Shaker-Innovator Award); Lizzie Nolan (LJ Mover and Shaker-Advocates Award); Megan Maloy (Young Adult Service Award); Marketing and Communications Team: Elizabeth Castañeda, Nancy Macias, Moises Moreno (PRExcellence Award).

E. **Commission Chair Report**
For the Chair report, Chair Chen shared that this is the last meeting of the fiscal year, Youth Commissioners shared their annual report at NSE on May 11th, and Commissioner Lieu has an event on May 28th. Chair Chen asked photos from events be sent to Commissioner Bansal for the Youth Commissioner Instagram page.

F. **Commissioner's Report per City District**
Each Commissioner shared a report of their district.

VII. **Items for Future Commission Meeting Agendas**
No items are proposed for August meeting

VIII. **Adjournment**
On the motion of Commissioner Singh, seconded by Commissioner Lee, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM.

The next regular meeting will be an in-person meeting on August 28, at 6:30 P.M.

/s/
Deitra Hoang, Chair
San José Public Youth Commission

ATTEST:
LIBRARY AND EDUCATION COMMISSION SECRETARY

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Dziem Nguyen