

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND FROM: CITIZEN OVERSIGHT

CITY COUNCIL **COMMITTEE FOR LIBRARY**

PARCEL TAX

SUBJECT: ANNUAL STATUS REPORT DATE: November 12, 2025

ON THE LIBRARY PARCEL

TAX FOR FISCAL YEAR

2024-2025

Approved	Date:

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Library Parcel Tax update and Auditor's Report as the Library and Education Commission acting as the Citizen Oversight Committee for the Library Parcel Tax.

<u>OUTCOME</u>

Acceptance of this report would conclude the Citizen Oversight Committee's review of the implementation of the Library's Parcel Tax program in FY 2024-2025.

BACKGROUND

In November 2004, registered voters of the City of San José approved Measure S, a parcel tax for library specific purposes. The parcel tax replaced the ten-year Library Benefit Assessment District that ended on June 30, 2005. Beginning July 1, 2005, the parcel tax has been collected with the annual Santa Clara County property taxes for each fiscal year until June 30, 2018.

After voter approval of the 10-year Library Parcel Tax measure in November 2004, the City Council appointed the Library Commission as the Citizen Oversight Committee to conduct an annual public hearing and prepare an annual report informing the Council and public of the appropriateness of expenditures and the results of the annual audit on or before December 31st of each year.

In the June 2014 Primary Election, over 81% of San José voters approved continuing the Library Parcel Tax for an additional 25 years beginning in fiscal year 2015-16.

The ballot measure read as follows:

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To continue existing, voter-approved funding for all San Jose's libraries and services, including: open hours; librarians; updated books/research materials; access to computers/technology; children's reading programs, story times, teen/senior programs; and adult literacy/job readiness, shall the City of San Jose continue its library parcel tax for another 25 years, subject to independent annual audits and 'citizens oversight, with no change in the existing voter-approved tax rate formula?

The Library Parcel Tax proceeds are to be used for Library purposes only, including but not limited to staffing for open hours, the acquisition of Library books and materials; the costs of maintaining Library collections; the development and delivery of homework and educational programs; the repair, equipping and staffing of libraries, and the cost of collection and administration of the Library Parcel Tax.

ANALYSIS

Revenue/ Expenditures Projects

For FY2024-2025, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment of 2.37% was applied to the Library Parcel Tax rate. The tax for a single-family residence or condominium/ townhome parcel was \$40.03.

Total Library Parcel Tax revenues were \$11,108,134, which includes \$111,009 in investment income and \$19,866 in unrealized gains.

During the fiscal year, the Library Parcel Tax Fund expended \$10,428,565 for library services, programs, materials, staffing technology, and support costs. An additional \$38,252 was transferred out for the Fund's share of City Hall debt service.

At year-end, the Fund also had \$588,535 in outstanding encumbrances, representing committed but not yet spent resources for materials, supplies, equipment and systems-related contracts. Encumbrances are not included in expenditures. The ending fund balance was \$5,308,354.

Use of Funds	Amount
Personal Services	\$9,347,563
Non-Personal Services/Equipment	\$918,224
Automation Projects	\$147,045
Annual Audit	\$15,733
Transfers Out	\$38,252
Total Expenditures and Transfers	\$10,466,817
Encumbrances (Outstanding at Year-End, Not Yet Spent)	\$588,535

COC/LIBRARY AND EDUCATION COMMISSION

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The Library continues to rely on the Library Parcel Tax (LPT) to sustain Library services, including staffing to sustain the expansion to seven days a week, offsetting General Fund program, and staffing reductions that have occurred in recent years. The LPT has also supported needs within the Capital Fund for acquisitions and technology, such as purchases of adult large print books, electronic resources and physical materials in multiple languages, annual contracts, systems maintenance, and monthly broadband costs for equipment and public technology at library locations. In FY 2024-2025, the LPT continues to fund a significant portion of library staffing, 74.55 FTE (129 positions) within the Library, as well as other Citywide overhead costs for staffing.

The report on the independent audit of the Library Parcel Tax Fund done by Macias Gini & O'Connell, LLP is attached. As part of the outside auditor's review, any significant issues are identified and commented upon. No significant issues were identified and reported on for the Library Parcel Tax Fund.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

Status reports on the Library Parcel Tax are reported on an annual basis.

COORDINATION

This memo has been coordinated with the Finance Department and the City Auditor's Office.

/s/

Angelica Ramos, Chair San José Library Parcel Tax Oversight Committee

For questions, please contact Fiahna Cabana, Administrative Officer, Library Department, at email or (408) 808-2192.

ATTACHMENT A

CITY OF SAN JOSE LIBRARY PARCEL TAX FUND (A Fund of the City of San José)

Independent Auditor's Reports, Financial Statements, Required Supplementary Information, and Independent Accountant's Report

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025



(A Fund of the City of San José) For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

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Independent Auditor's Report

City Council and Members of the Library Parcel Tax Oversight Committee City of San José, California

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Library Parcel Tax Fund (Fund), a fund of the City of San José (City), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund of the City of San José, as of June 30, 2025, and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of a Matter

As discussed in Note 2, the financial statements present only the Fund and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the City, as of June 30, 2025, the changes in its financial position, or where applicable, its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control–related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 15, 2025 on our consideration of the City's internal control over the Fund's financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over the Fund's financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the City's internal control over the Fund's financial reporting and compliance.

Macias Gini & O'Connell LAP
Walnut Creek, California

October 15, 2025

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(A Fund of the City of San José)
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2025

Assets	
Equity in pooled cash and investments	
held in the City Treasury	\$ 5,521,852
Accrued interest receivable	 9,051
Total assets	\$ 5,530,903
Liabilities and Fund Balance Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	\$ 4,337
Accrued salaries, wages and payroll taxes	 218,212
Total liabilities	222,549
Fund balance:	
Restricted for neighborhood library services	 5,308,354
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 5,530,903

(A Fund of the City of San José)

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Change in Fund Balance For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Revenues:	
Library parcel tax	\$ 10,977,259
Investment income	111,009
Unrealized gain on investment	 19,866
Total revenues	 11,108,134
Expenditures:	
Personal services	9,347,563
Non-personal services/equipment	918,224
Automation projects	147,045
Annual audit	 15,733
Total expenditures	 10,428,565
Excess of revenues over expenditures	679,569
Other Financing Uses:	
Transfers out	 (38,252)
Change in fund balance	641,317
Fund balance, beginning of year	4,667,037
Fund balance, end of year	\$ 5,308,354

(A Fund of the City of San José) Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF REPORTING ENTITY

In November 2004, registered voters of the City of San José (City) approved Measure S, a parcel tax for library specific purposes. The parcel tax replaced the ten-year Library Benefit Assessment District that ended on June 30, 2005. Beginning on July 1, 2005, the parcel tax is collected with the annual Santa Clara County property taxes for each fiscal year until June 30, 2018. In the June 2014 Primary Election, over 81.0% of San Jose voters approved continuing the Library Parcel Tax for an additional 25 years beginning with fiscal year 2015-2016. Proceeds from the library parcel tax may only be expended for library purposes, including the following:

- the acquisition of library books and materials and related costs to maintain library collections at all libraries;
- the development and delivery of homework and educational programs for all age groups to support literacy and lifelong learning;
- the repair, equipping, and staffing of libraries; and
- the cost of collection and administration of the library parcel tax.

The City Council may, by resolution of the City Council, increase the library parcel tax rates if the City Council finds that the cost of living in the City as shown on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased over the preceding period. The increase in the library parcel tax rate shall not exceed the increase in the CPI for the applicable period, but in no event shall the increase exceed 3.0%. For the year ended June 30, 2025, the increase in the library parcel tax rate was 2.37%.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements present only the financial position and the changes in financial position of the Library Parcel Tax Fund (Fund) and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the City's financial position as of June 30, 2025, and the changes in its financial position, or where applicable, its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

A special revenue fund (governmental fund) is used to account for the City's library parcel tax activities. Special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditures for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. Proceeds of specific revenue sources establish that one or more specific restricted or committed revenues should be the foundation for a special revenue fund.

Basis of Accounting

The Fund's activity is reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon

(A Fund of the City of San José) Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The Fund considers parcel tax (property tax) revenues and investment income to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accounting. However, expenditures related to vacation, sick leave, claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

Fund Balance

Under Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, the balance sheets of governmental funds classify fund balances based primarily on the extent to which the Fund is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which those funds can be spent. The Fund only has restricted fund balance at June 30, 2025. Restricted fund balances are amounts when constraints placed on use of resources are either: (1) externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

NOTE 3 – CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Cash and investments balances of the Fund are pooled and invested in the City's investment pool. The Fund's portion of this pool is displayed on the balance sheet as "equity in pooled cash and investments held in the City Treasury" and are subject to the requirements of the City's adopted investment policy. The amounts held in the City's investment pool can be withdrawn upon demand. Income earned or losses arising from pooled investments are allocated on a monthly basis by the City's Finance Department to the Fund based on the average daily cash balances. These investments are reported at fair value generally based on quoted market prices in the accompanying financial statements and the corresponding change in fair value of investments are reported in the year in which the change occurred.

At June 30, 2025, the City's investment pool invested in U.S. government and agency securities, commercial paper, negotiable certificates of deposit, money market funds, corporate medium-term notes, and California's Local Agency Investment Fund as authorized by the City's investment policy. The weighted average maturity of the City's investment pool is 560 days.

Information regarding the characteristics of the entire City's cash and investment pool can be found in the City's basic financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2025. A copy of that report may be obtained by contacting the City's Finance Department, 200 East Santa Clara Street, 13th Floor, San José, CA, 95113 or can be found at the City's Finance Department website at http://www.sanjoseca.gov.

(A Fund of the City of San José) Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

NOTE 4 – INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENDITURES

The City issued lease revenue bonds and commercial paper to pay for the City Hall construction costs. The Fund's share of the debt service is calculated as a percentage of library staff occupying City Hall coupled with an estimated use of the Council Chambers and other City Hall offices and as a percentage of central services that benefit all departments. For the year ended June 30, 2025, the Fund's share of the debt service paid to the City was \$38,252.

NOTE 5 – OTHER COMMITMENTS

At June 30, 2025, the Fund has outstanding encumbrances for the following activities:

Activity	A	Amounts		
Materials acquisition	\$	30,211		
Non-personal services/equipment		249,892		
Annual audit		16,205		
Automation projects		292,227		
Total encumbrances	\$	588,535		

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(A Fund of the City of San José)

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual Budgetary Basis

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Budgetary Basis Actual	Variance Over (Under)	GAAP Adjustments	GAAP Basis
Revenues: Library parcel tax Investment income Unrealized gain on investment	\$ 10,975,224 30,000	\$ 10,975,224 30,000	\$ 10,977,259 111,009 19,866	\$ 2,035 81,009 19,866	\$ - - -	\$ 10,977,259 111,009 19,866
Total revenues	11,005,224	11,005,224	11,108,134	102,910		11,108,134
Expenditures: Personal services Materials acquisition Non-personal services/equipment Automation projects Annual audit Total expenditures Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	9,622,841 - 2,218,025 - 17,000 11,857,866 (852,642)	9,623,119 119,306 2,382,121 466,278 32,733 12,623,557 (1,618,333)	9,347,563 30,211 1,168,116 439,272 31,938 11,017,100 91,034	(275,556) (89,095) (1,214,005) (27,006) (795) (1,606,457) 1,709,367	(30,211) (249,892) (292,227) (16,205) (588,535) 588,535	9,347,563 - 918,224 147,045 15,733 10,428,565 679,569
Other financing uses: Transfer out	(38,252)	(38,252)	(38,252) 91,034	- \$ 1,700,267	588,535	(38,252)
Change in fund balance Fund balance, beginning of year Liquidation of prior year encumbrances	\$ (890,894)	\$ (1,656,585)	2,446,731 (27,485)	\$ 1,709,367	27,485	4,667,037
Fund balance, end of year			\$ 2,510,280		\$ 616,020	\$ 5,308,354

(A Fund of the City of San José) Note to the Required Supplementary Information For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Budgetary Information

The adopted budget represents the financial and organizational plan by which the policies and programs approved by the City Council will be implemented. It includes: (1) the programs, projects, services and activities to be provided during the fiscal year; (2) estimated revenues available to finance the operating plan; and (3) the estimated spending requirements of the operating plan. The City Charter requires that the City establish a budgetary system for general operations and prohibits expending funds for which there is no legal appropriation. Annual budgets are prepared for the Library Parcel Tax Fund.

The annual appropriation ordinance adopts the budget at the appropriation level by expenditure category (personal services, non-personal services) within departments. Accordingly, the lowest level of budgetary control exercised by the City Council is the appropriation level within a department.

Budgetary Results Reconciled to GAAP

The budgetary process is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis other than the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) basis. The results of operations are presented in the accompanying budget and actual comparison schedule in accordance with the budgetary process (budgetary basis) to provide a meaningful comparison with the budget.

The major differences between the budgetary basis actual and GAAP basis are as follows:

- Certain accounts such as the change in fair value of investments included in the City's GAAP basis
 amounts, for which no formal budgets are prepared, are excluded from the budgetary basis
 comparison schedule.
- Year-end encumbrances are recognized as the equivalent of expenditures in the budgetary basis
 comparison schedule, while encumbered amounts are not recognized as expenditures on the GAAP
 basis until the equipment, supplies, or services are received.



Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

City Council and Members of the Library Parcel Tax Oversight Committee City of San José, California

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the Library Parcel Tax Fund (Fund), a fund of the City of San José (City), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 15, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City's internal control over the Fund's financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Fund's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Walnut Creek, California

Macias Gini & O'Connell LAP

October 15, 2025



Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Measure S

City Council and Members of the Library Parcel Tax Oversight Committee City of San José, California

We have examined the City of San José's (City) compliance with certain provisions of Measure S for the year ended June 30, 2025 as follows:

- Parcel tax is used for the acquisition of library books and materials and related costs to maintain library collections at all libraries; the development and delivery of homework and educational programs for all age groups to support literacy and lifelong learning; the repair, equipping, and staffing of libraries; and the cost of collection and administration of the library parcel tax.
- The City's annual parcel tax, \$25 (2006 annual parcel tax) for single-family residences and proportional for other properties, will be adjusted for inflation capped at 3% annually and will be limited to ten years. In the June 2014 Primary Election, the City's voters approved to continue the Library Parcel Tax for an additional 25 years beginning fiscal year 2015-2016.
- Independent audits were performed.
- A citizen's oversight committee was established.

Management is responsible for the City's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the City's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance whether the City complied with the specified requirements, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the City's compliance with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the City's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the City complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Walnut Creek, California

October 15, 2025

Macias Gini É O'Connell LAP

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