



# News Release

## Department of Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services

### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Contact**

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### **San José Announces Grants to Improve Neighborhoods**

*#BeautifySJ Funding Opportunities Available for Community Groups*

**SAN JOSE, Calif.** – We have all seen trash and graffiti in our neighborhoods, parks and roadways. The impacts are real: criminologists tell us that “broken windows” and other sources of blight invite crime, impact our quality of life and discourage investment in our city and neighborhoods.

The City of San José wants to engage the community to reduce trash, graffiti, and other sources of blight by offering grants to fund projects that create a cleaner, more vibrant city. The #BeautifySJ grant program will provide financial support to projects that:

- Reduce trash, graffiti, and other blight;
- Organize neighborhood beautification projects that improve neighborhood conditions;
- Collectively create a cleaner, safer, and more vibrant city;
- Organize and conduct activities that address issues important to neighborhood quality of life; and
- Conduct activities that build or strengthen the neighborhood.

“Through our #BeautifySJ initiative, we seek to unleash the collective energy and passion of our community to create a cleaner, safer and more vibrant city,” said Sam Liccardo, mayor of San José. “These grants will empower neighbors to get to know each other, build relationships and work together to improve their neighborhoods.”

To be eligible, applicants must be a neighborhood, property owner, or a tenant association operating free of charge with a record of resident volunteer participation working to improve the neighborhood. Groups must have an open bank account in the name of the association, provide a list of Board Members with home addresses and a copy of the Bylaws or minutes of their last meeting. Organizations located outside of the City of San José or with an inactive Board are ineligible.

Organizations will be eligible to receive up to \$5,000 and are required to provide matching funds or volunteer time equivalent to 50 percent of the amount awarded.

A pre-proposal workshop will be held at the Hank Lopez Community Center, 1694 Adrian Way, San Jose, CA 95122 on Thursday, August 24, 2017 from 6 p.m.–7 p.m. Questions and answers

discussed at the workshop will be posted under the “Addendum” at [grants.sanjoseca.gov](http://grants.sanjoseca.gov) by Thursday, August 31, 2017. All other questions must be emailed to Alex Niles, [alex.niles@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:alex.niles@sanjoseca.gov), by Friday, September 1, 2017. Replies to emailed questions will be posted Thursday, September 7, 2017.

Completed proposals must be submitted online via WebGrants, [grants.sanjoseca.gov](http://grants.sanjoseca.gov) by Thursday, September 21. Late, emailed, faxed, or incomplete proposals will NOT be accepted. Awarded grantees will be notified via email on Friday, October 13, 2017.

For more information on the #BeautifySJ Campaign, visit [www.beautifysj.org](http://www.beautifysj.org).

#### **About Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services**

The City of San José Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) has one of the most diverse service models of any agency of its type. The recreation, social services and outdoor spaces serve not only San José’s million plus residents, but individuals from surrounding cities and communities, as well. They remain committed to building healthy communities through people, parks and programs and to be a national leader in cultivating healthy communities through quality programs and dynamic public spaces. For more information, please visit <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns>.

#### **About the City of San José**

Known as the Capital of Silicon Valley, San José is the nation’s tenth largest city and the largest city in Northern California, with an ethnically diverse population of more than one million. San José was founded in 1777, once served as the state capital of California, and now encompasses 180 square miles. Facts about San José can be found here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/780>. The City’s website is [www.sanjoseca.gov](http://www.sanjoseca.gov).

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*This news release is available at [www.sanjoseca.gov](http://www.sanjoseca.gov).*