



DEVORA "DEV" DAVIS CITY COUNCILMEMBER

District 6 Newsletter September 2018

Dear Neighbors,

On Thursday, August 30th, I held a community meeting at the Willow Glen Community Center about public safety with residents from Districts 6 and 9 in attendance. Thank you to all who attended the meeting and participated in the lively Q&A session! If you wish to view the meeting via Facebook Live, click [here](#). You do not need a Facebook account to view the video.

During the meeting the position of San Jose City Manager was discussed, and I introduced our current City Manager, Dave Sykes, who attended the meeting and spoke briefly about his role. Immediately after the meeting and the days following the meeting, countless people have asked me about the discussion and said they had no idea about the role or responsibilities of the City Manager. In case you missed the meeting, or would like more information, here is a summary of how our city government is structured.

A city charter governs the City of San Jose. In the charter, the City Manager's role is equivalent to a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or a Chief Operating Officer (COO). The City Manager has the day-to-day responsibility for nearly all city functions and departments. He or she directly oversees all city employees via the department heads – except for the positions that are appointed by the City Council (the City Attorney, the City Auditor, the City Clerk, and the Independent Police Auditor) and the Office of Retirement Services. Here's a [link](#) to the City of San Jose's Organizational Chart.

Our City Manager, Dave Sykes, is a long time San Jose resident who graduated from San Jose State University and worked his way up from an entry level position in public works to our current city manager. The city manager produces a weekly report that you may read. Click [here](#) to view past weekly reports. The city manager attends every city council meeting and is an active participant in city council discussions.

With this form of government, the Mayor and City Council have zero direct management over the daily operating functions of the city and have zero authority to direct city employees. The only exception to this are the staff for the Mayor and City Council, who are overseen by the elected official who hired them.

However, the Mayor and City Council do have full control of the city budget and passing of policies and ordinances. The City Council does not pass laws; those are enacted by the state legislature and signed by the Governor or by Congress and signed by the President. In the case of San Jose,

This was just one of the areas that were covered during the Public Safety meeting. A few other takeaways include:

- SJPD has added over 200 new officers in the past 1 ½ years and the police academy continues to have full enrollment.

- One-third of the General Fund goes toward the police department (\$408.8M) with an increase of \$26.8M over last year's budget.
- As of last week, there were 22 arrests over a two-week period in the areas of concern.
- The Police Chief announced that the police department will now respond to unverified burglar alarms in addition to increasing patrols and starting a proactive burglary task force city-wide.

The police command also asks residents to continue to call 911 and 311 to report crime. It has also been very helpful in building cases to have video evidence from security cameras. They ask residents and businesses to register their cameras with the police department so if a crime occurs in an area, they have a database of camera locations where they can request footage for evidence. To register a camera, click [here](#).

A follow-up to the Public Safety meeting will be a Robbery Prevention Workshop hosted by the SJPD Crime Prevention Department. It will be held on Wednesday, September 19th at 6:30 p.m. at the Willow Glen Community Center. This is open to the public and everyone is welcome. Click [here](#) to view a flyer with details.

We're here to serve you. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office at 408-535-4906 or district6@sanjoseca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra J. Johnson".