



Memorandum

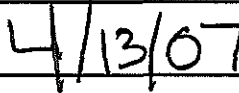
**TO: Honorable Mayor &
City Council**

**FROM: Councilmember
Pierluigi Oliverio**

SUBJECT: See Below

DATE: April 13, 2007

Approved: 

Date: 

RECOMMENDATION

- (1) Establish and adopt a “pilot program” which will allow for a private entity to provide park maintenance for the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden Park for one calendar year. The maintenance would include; pruning the trees, cleaning and servicing the bathrooms, mowing the lawn, dumping the garbage, removing the weeds, clipping the rose bushes, removing crab grass from rose beds, opening and closing the park and planting roses among other maintenance needs the park requires.
- (2) Direct city staff to follow the same bidding process as it does for other city wide projects in order to find a private landscaper/maintaince contractor to provide park maintenance for San Jose Municipal Rose Garden Park for one calendar year.
- (3) The “pilot program” will be measured at the end of the year in two areas; service delivered and money saved.

BACKGROUND

The San Jose Municipal Rose Garden Park was acquired by San Jose in 1927. It is a regional park covering approximately 5 ½ acres and is the home to many weddings, graduations and other memorable community events.

The San Jose Municipal Rose Garden Park is in terrible disarray. Weeds are taller than the rose bushes, the bathrooms are not maintained properly and rose beds (where roses once grew) are now home to “crab grass.” These are only a few of the problems at the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden Park. Many residents have contacted my office outraged that the City of San Jose has allowed the park to become the victim of severe neglect.

Although our city has suffered budget cuts, I don’t believe that budget cuts are an excuse for not maintaining our city parks properly. We must use the money we do have wisely. Therefore, it is time that we investigate alternative ways that are fair and prudent to ensure that our parks are maintained.

The goal and purpose in establishing a “pilot program” for outsourcing park maintenance at the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden Park is to measure the effectiveness of a private entity providing park services compared to what is currently being provided. If the quality of the service improves and the city does save money, then the money saved could be better spent on libraries, code enforcement, and public safety.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject:
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