

May 16, 2023

San José City Council  
City of San José  
200 E. Santa Clara Street  
San José CA 95113

Comments for Item 3.3 File 23-690 – Measure E Expenditure Plan and the 2023-2024 Budget

Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Kamei and Councilmembers:

SPUR submits this letter in regard to proposed changes to percentage allocations and the spending plan for FY 2023-2024 Measure E funds that will alter current policy by reallocating funds away from the existing balanced commitment to the creation of new affordable housing and homelessness prevention, support, and management.

We are writing to express our concern that the proposed changes come too soon in the life of Measure E and adoption of the current expenditure plan. In 2020, SPUR expressed concerns about the security of the revenue over time. While the San José City Council has adopted a series of resolutions to protect how the funds are used, there is always a chance that future councils could decide to reallocate funds to address other needs. If the proposed changes move forward, it sets a precedent of reallocating funds whenever we have a new council.

We know that it is not enough to fund affordable housing; we must also make it faster and less expensive to build housing. San José needs housing of all types and while interim housing and homelessness services are an important piece of a comprehensive housing needs strategy, the cornerstone of the City's approach to the housing crisis should be to maintain its commitments to the near-term and long-term investments that will create a more affordable city for all.

For these reasons, we ask that the City consider alternative policy measures that include current funding strategies for the creation of affordable housing to mitigate impacts from any changes to the FY23-24 Measure E percentage allocations and spending plan.



Fred Buzo  
San José Director



Erika Pinto  
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