

18 May 2004

Harry Mavrogenes
Acting Executive Director
San José Redevelopment Agency
50 W San Fernando Street, Ste 900
San Jose, CA 95113

Mr. Mavrogenes,

The Campus Community Association expresses its opposition to proposed changes in the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative relating to future community participation in the planning and execution of SNI projects. CCA members reside within the SNI/University boundary.

The CCA is understanding and supportive of the need to adapt the SNI project staffing structure to reflect current and projected budgetary resources. The CCA objects to the proposed reduction in community participation and oversight in the continuing planning and execution of these projects. Since the funding and execution of these projects has been rescheduled beyond the original five years, it is the position of the CCA that existing NAC staffing participation should continue in its current role until the execution of these plans is complete or well underway.

The CCA further objects to the process used to develop the new SNI staffing procedure. SNI PACs and NACs were not consulted regarding organizational changes until it was well committed. This action is contrary to the RDA/community partnership touted under the SNI program and lends credibility to the argument that RDA will act without regard to community desires or even consultation.

We thank you for your consideration of our concerns. We offer to discuss these considerations further.

Sincerely,

David Erickson
President, CCA

cc: Councilperson Cindy Chavez, District 3
Kip Harkness, San José Redevelopment Agency
Cynthia Bojorquez, PRNS
Jim Holgersson, City Manager's Office
John Weiss, San José Redevelopment Agency
University Neighborhoods Coalition
Strong Neighborhoods Initiative PAC

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