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San Jose Redevelopment Agency

**San Jose Strong Neighborhoods Experience
Significant Property Value Increase**
*San Jose Redevelopment Agency's investment of more than \$53
million strengthens the City's and County's General Fund*

SAN JOSE, Calif. --- In a recent review of tax revenues by the City of San Jose and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, the data suggests that the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) area exhibited strong positive growth in revenues since the plan adoption started in Fiscal Year 1999-2000.

“I am delighted that redevelopment investments in the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative have enhanced property values and increased General Fund revenues,” said Mayor Chuck Reed. “By partnering, the City and residents help improve our neighborhoods. Let us continue to strengthen our neighborhoods and improve the quality of life for our residents.”

The Agency has invested more than \$53 million in more than 120 capital projects in the Strong Neighborhood areas, including building and renovating new parks and community centers, installing traffic calming measures to improve pedestrian safety, housing rehabilitation, tree planting and business facade improvement.

“We have succeeded in taking some of the neighborhoods that were experiencing physical decline, and have turned them around to where they are now contributing significantly towards the tax base for the City and County,” said Harry Mavrogenes, Executive Director, San Jose Redevelopment Agency. “The SNI project is a good example of a successful grassroots revitalization effort and how the community can utilize redevelopment to improve their neighborhoods. The best part is that community members participated in prioritizing their projects.”

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SNI property tax revenue in Fiscal Year 2006-07 was \$116.9 million compared to \$58.7 million in Fiscal Year 1999-2000, a total growth rate of nearly 100 percent in the SNI areas, while the rest of the city experienced only 72 percent growth rate in the same time period.

“The Agency’s investment in the traditionally underserved neighborhoods that comprise the SNI project area is paying off,” said SNI PAC Chair Ernest Guzman. “The increased tax revenue for the 19 SNI neighborhoods does not just add value to the quality of life for those who live there, but reaches out to all corners of San Jose in continuing to develop a more livable city.”

The Agency does not collect tax increment from these areas. Therefore, the City of San Jose will receive increased property tax revenue of approximately \$7 million of the \$14 million total this year, which will contribute to the General Fund to pay for public services such as police officers, fire fighters, parks, libraries and community centers. The County of Santa Clara, which is suffering from a budget deficit, will receive an additional \$8 million of the \$16 million total this fiscal year, largely due to the redevelopment effort.

About the San Jose Redevelopment Agency

The Agency is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all who live and work in San José. Governed by the City Council, the Agency facilitates and oversees comprehensive programs for development to revitalize and strengthen quality of life and competitiveness for San Jose’s downtown, neighborhoods, and industrial areas. www.sjredevelopment.org

About the Strong Neighborhood Initiative (SNI)

The Strong Neighborhoods Initiative is a partnership of the community, City of San José, and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency to build clean, safe, and attractive neighborhoods with independent and capable neighborhood organizations. The San Jose Redevelopment Agency Board/City Council adopted the Redevelopment Plan in 2002.

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