

NAMED NATIONAL FOUR-YEAR DAILY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR FOR 2020-21 IN THE COLLEGE MEDIA ASSOCIATION'S PINNACLE AWARDS

CITY COUNCIL



SAM DIETZ | SPARTAN DAILY

Several San Jose City Councilmembers discuss approval of the expansion of emergency housing units during their city council meeting in Downtown San Jose.

SJ expands emergency housing

By Bojana Cvijic
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

During a Tuesday San Jose City Council meeting, councilmembers unanimously passed resolutions surrounding interim and emergency housing to help mitigate the housing crisis in the areas of Downtown and South San Jose respectively.

The first location, regarding the Guadalupe emergency interim housing program, is located at the police administration parking lot in downtown and will include an expansion of tiny homes as a “committed” addition into the 2023-24 city budget, according to the resolution memorandum.

The future five-year general fund forecasts for the city is expected to certify operating and maintenance costs in relation to the housing project.

General fund forecasts are the city’s predictions in revenue to predict future budgets for San Jose, according to the City of San Jose website.

Other actions in the memorandum include a contract with Devcon Construction, Inc., the company that the city is working with to build the expansion, and to increase the contract amount by \$2,300,000 for a new total amount that can not exceed \$8,300,000, according to the council agenda.

During the meeting, Mayor Sam Liccardo thanked the organizations that have contributed to the current quick housing builds that are currently located in the Guadalupe site while the city works on expanding emergency housing.

Shaunn Cartwright, member of the all-volunteer team serving the San Jose

unhoused community Unhoused Response Group, said it was nice to see the city expand their resources to different parts of the city including South San Jose.

“The south side is a resource desert. Districts 2, 9 and 10 have no resources whatsoever,” Cartwright said in a phone call. “The majority of the resources out there actually come from advocates and nonprofits, more like churches and stuff that are trying to fill in the blanks.”

Districts 2, 9 and 10 include the neighborhoods of Oak Grove, Willow Glen, Almaden, Santa Teresa and Cottle.

Cartwright said she hopes that sweeps occurring in South San Jose are being done more humanely than the sweeps occurring on Spring Street, near the Guadalupe

“

A lot of people aren’t taking tiny homes. That’s one of the reasons they aren’t taking tiny homes is because they don’t have things like the kitchenettes or there’s only so many areas where some of the tiny homes have attached bathrooms.

Shaunn Cartwright
Unhoused Response Group member

HOUSING | Page 2

SJSU hosts talk, breaking down anti-AAPI hate

By Brandon Twomey
STAFF WRITER

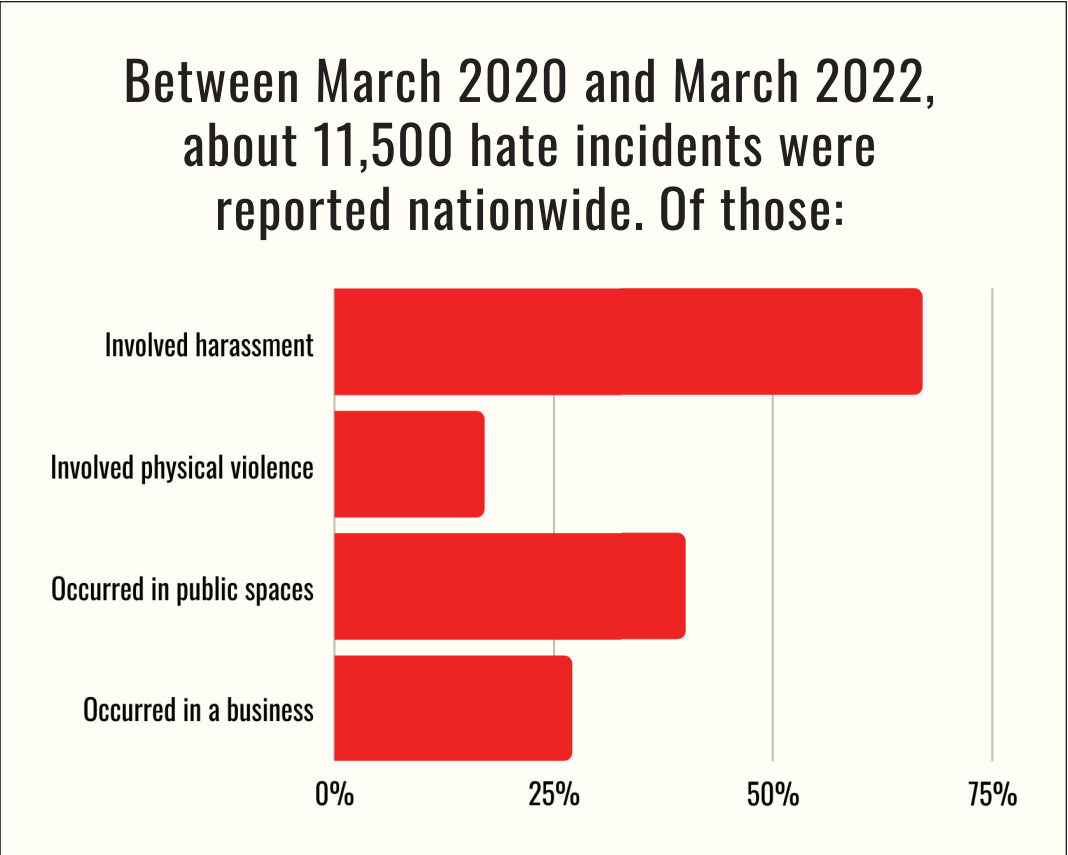
Several San Jose State community members gathered on Zoom Tuesday to hear from the Asian Law Alliance, which discussed the relevance and importance of understanding the hate that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders experience.

The Asian Law Alliance is a nonprofit community law office which aims to provide equal access to the legal justice system for low-income and Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in the Santa Clara County area.

During the event, Asian Law Alliance members presented a powerpoint, explaining the history of Asian hate and how similar it was to what is happening today.

“When talking about cross-racial solidarity, historically, white communities have used these racial tensions as a mechanism to further oppress communities of color,” said Therese Santiago, Asian Law Alliance volunteer coordinator. “The animosity between the groups of color is not happenstance but rather intentionally designed to uphold white supremacy.”

HATE | Page 2



INFOGRAPHIC BY BRYANNA BARTLETT; SOURCE: STOP AAPI HATE WEBSITE



ALESSIO CAVALCA | SPARTAN DAILY ARCHIVES

RVs and vehicles could be seen at the Field of Dreams encampment on Oct. 13 near Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport. Sweeps are expected to continue to occur at that encampment through Nov. 18 to clear the flight path of the airport.

HOUSING

Continued from page 1

emergency housing units.

“[Sweeps have] been going all this time, except now they’re starting to randomly sweep people in the creek,” she said. “Some of the people are being swept with no warning. So you just see people being swept and walking away in tears, barefoot, with no belongings.”

City council also moved forward with a resolution to adopt Agenda Item 8.3, which includes accepting an award of about \$51.5 million in Homekey Program

Round 2 funding from the California Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Homekey program in California is an opportunity for local public entities to help develop a wide range of housing types including motels, hostels, single family homes, multifamily apartments and more, according to the California Department of Housing and Community development Homekey webpage.

Mercy Housing is one of the nation’s largest affordable housing organizations which contributes to the development and preservation of affordable housing across the country, according to its website.

The \$51.5 million funds are expected to go toward the Mercy Interim Housing, located on Branham Lane and Monterey Road, to address the needs of individuals and families at risk of houselessness or already experiencing houselessness.

The award is expected to be split up into construction, which includes about \$40.7 million from Homekey, with about \$10.8 million being used to operate the site

for seven years, according to the council presentation.

Housing Policy Manager Rachel VanderVeen, said during the meeting that the development would include 204 units, which would provide interim housing for individuals and couples.

VanderVeen also said the interim housing unit is designed to be converted into permanent housing, should the city allow it.

“Half of the units will be set aside for chronically homeless and the site will be managed using housing first principles, meaning that the site will be a low barrier shelter allowing people to move in right off the street,” she said. “Creating a place for them to stabilize and receive bus services to help the residents gain a footing in their lives.”

Currently, the interim housing units would not include basic amenities with the option of kitchenettes being built in should the site be converted into permanent housing.

Houseless people in San Jose are concerned with emergency housing as policies surrounding accessing interim housing is incredibly restrictive, according to a Oct. 20 Spartan Daily article.

Cartwright said people who are being swept from areas including Spring Street are moving into other areas, choosing not to take tiny homes because of the lack of basic amenities.

“A lot of people aren’t taking tiny homes,” she said. “That’s one of the reasons they aren’t taking tiny homes is because they don’t have things like the kitchenettes or there’s only so many areas where some of the tiny homes have attached bathrooms.”

Tiny homes and interim housing have become a quick solution in the

Bay Area to help unhoused people find temporary housing while cities seek more permanent solutions, according to a Sept. 25 Mercury News article.

In Santa Clara County, people who left tiny homes landed in permanent housing 43% of the time between June 2019 and June 2022, according to the Mercury News article.

District 2 Councilmember Sergio Jimenez said the expansion of emergency and interim housing is important and there’s more the South San Jose area can do in relation to the housing crisis.

“Many of the residents I represent continue to say that South San Jose is doing too much. We’re doing a lot of these projects,” Jimenez said. “So I’ve often told my residents that it may seem that way, there’s other districts that I think have done more, but we shouldn’t say it in such a way in which we’re upset about it and we should acknowledge that it’s a good thing that we’re stepping up and doing what needs to be done to help the issue of our unhoused residents forward.”

Cartwright said she feels even with the passing of these ordinances, the city will not change its treatment toward unhoused people during encampment sweeps.

“I don’t think they’re going to change that and that’s terribly frustrating and upsetting because of all the trauma,” Cartwright said. “You know, sweeps can be less traumatic for people if you communicate clearly and treat them humanely. But I don’t think that the city or that [Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services] is interested in that.”

Follow Bojana on Twitter | @bojanaacv

HATE

Continued from page 1

Asian Law Alliance members also explained the difference between a hate incident and a hate crime.

They said a hate incident is where behavior motivated by hate is presented, but legally protected by the First Amendment rights of freedom of speech. If that certain hate incident starts to threaten a person or a property, it becomes a hate crime.

Social-protected groups in California include ethnicity, religion and gender who are legally protected under the law. If a victim were to be targeted by any of the social protected groups as a criminal offense, it would be a hate crime.

Asian Law Alliance members presented information from the Stop AAPI Hate website, which shows that between March 19, 2020 and March 31 of this year, nearly 11,500 hate incidents were reported.

Stop AAPI Hate is a nonprofit organization that runs the Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center, which tracks incidents of hate and discrimination against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the U.S.

Of that 11,500, 67% involved harassment, 17% involved physical violence, 40% occurred in public spaces and 27% occurred in a business, according to the Stop AAPI Hate website.

The report also said mental health is one of the many factors affected by a hate incident, specifically among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

As many as 49% reported having depression or anxiety and 72% named discrimination as the greatest source of stress, according to the Stop AAPI Hate website.



We always encourage people to report these things because some people, especially in the Asian American community, brush it off as they’re just too scared to report it at all.

Leika La Roque
Asian Law Alliance community organizer

It said those hate incident’s not only impact mental health, but additionally leads to increased levels of fear.

About 49% of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders felt safe going out, 65% worried about family members and elders’ safety, and 32% of parents were concerned about their child being a hate and discrimination victim.

Therese Santiago said she believes as hard as it is to read these statistics, the generalization of anti-Asian hate has been relevant for hundreds of years.

“I think it’s important to have multiple approaches to understanding the issue,” Santiago said. “It highlights the importance of everybody having a historical understanding of Asian hate from a legal and cultural perspective.”

In 1875, The Page Act prohibited the recruitment of laborers from “China, Japan or any Oriental country,” who were not brought to the U.S. of their own free will, according to a March 19, 2021 History article.

A recent tragic incident was the series of shootings that occurred at massage parlors in Atlanta on March 16 and out of eight people who were killed, six were Asian American women, according to a March 17 NBC News article.

Leika La Roque, Asian Law Alliance community organizer, said she wants individuals who are affected by hate to share their stories and use their voices.

“There are ways for people to understand Anti-Asian hate,” La Roque said. “It can be through statistics and it can be through personal stories.”

She said it’s important to show people that those incidents occur more often than they think and the main way to fight back at it is to speak up.

La Roque said fear will overwhelm the public if the public does not speak out.

“We always encourage people to report these things because some people, especially in the Asian American community, brush it off as they’re just too scared to report it at all,” she said.

The event was part of SJSU’s annual “Transforming Communities: A Movement to Racial Justice,” which is a two-week series that is designed to catalyze change and create a more just and equitable city and county, according to its website.

The events in the series, put on by university community members, are scheduled every day up to Nov. 13.

Follow Brandon on Twitter | @brandon_2me

CAMPUS IMAGE



ALEXIA FREDERICKSON | SPARTAN DAILY

Teokalli Movimiento Cosmico, a multi-faceted traditional Aztec Dance group, performs a dance called xitontequiza, which means cosmic movement in the Mexica Language Nahuatl, Tuesday afternoon in front of the Student Union on Seventh Street Plaza. Teokalli Movimiento Cosmico says it is committed to preserving Indigenous culture and raising awareness of traditional practices that promote healing on individual, interpersonal and community levels.





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Pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, & pepperoni

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Meats Lovers

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Pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, pepperoni, italian sausage, bacon, & ham

Combination

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Pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, pepperoni, italian sausage, bell peppers, mushrooms, & olives

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P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99

Basil pesto, mozzarella cheese, artichokes, zucchini, bell peppers, mushrooms, onions, & tomatoes

Al Pastor

P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99

Marinated pork, mozzarella cheese, onions, cilantro, & salsa

Carnitas

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Pork carnitas, salsa, mozzarella cheese, onions, jalapenos, & cilantro

Chicken, Bacon, & Ranch

P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99

Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, bacon, & onions

Chicken Spinach

P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99

Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, bacon, & onions

Margarita

P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99

Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, white sauce, artichoke, & basil

Shrimp Arugula

P \$9.50 / S \$15.99 / M \$19.99 / L \$23.99

Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, bacon, & onions

Caprese Chicken Pesto

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Mozzarella cheese, marinated chicken, cherry tomatoes, & basil

El Italiano

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\$11.99

Mini Burger Sliders (3Pc)

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Sampler

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Sweet Potato Fries

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French Fries

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COMBOS

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1 XL pizza, chicken wings, & loaded tater tots

Combo B

\$75

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Combo C

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Personal pizza, soft drink, & salad or fries

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\$15

20 Pc (3 Flavors)

\$29

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\$42

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100 Pc

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‘Captain America: New Order,’ same shit



Myenn Rahnoma
STAFF WRITER

“Israeli” and “superhero” is a paradox which simply cannot coexist in the same sentence. It’s similar to saying “diet” and “coke.” It technically exists, but the concept is redundant. So I guess you can sense my confusion when I heard about Marvel’s new Israeli “superhero” Sabra.

Her character will appear in the fourth “Captain America” movie “Captain America: New World Order” and will be played by Israeli actress Shira Haas, according to a Sept. 16 Variety article.

For those who may not be as familiar with the controversy, allow me to explain.

There is no such thing as a conflict between Israel and Palestine. The Israeli “Defense” Forces are backed and supported by the U.S.

Almost all current U.S. aid to Israel is in the form of military assistance, according to a Feb. 18 Congressional Research Service report.

Meanwhile, the people of Palestine are starving to death because of the Trump administration’s decision to cut off assistance to Palestinian refugees, particularly ones residing in Gaza, according to a 2021 article by ReliefWeb, a humanitarian information outlet.

It’s as if your local high school bully picks on the tiny freshman for his lunch money, it’s not a fair fight. It’s a targeted attack.

In 1948, Palestinians experienced Nakba, or the “ethnic cleansing of Palestine and the near-total destruction of Palestinian society,” according to a May 23, 2017 Al Jazeera article.

Nakba resulted in the permanent displacement of Palestinians, and contributed to their constant neglect, torture, abuse and death.

Palestinians were forced to relocate to refugee camps in Beirut, Lebanon. In 1982, Palestinian refugees and some Lebanese civilians were attacked and murdered by the Israeli military and right-wing Lebanese militia, according to a Sept. 16 Al Jazeera article.

That tragedy is known as the Sabra and Shatila massacre, named after the areas where the attack took place.

Sabra is also the name they used for the Israeli Marvel superhero.

I mean, who could predict such a tone-deaf move from a film named after Hitler’s “New World Order” plan to murder innocent Jews? I guess normalizing mass genocide is a subtle theme throughout the movie.

Tanya Abushaban, the president of the San Jose State branch of the Students for Justice in Palestine,

home for the Jewish People,” in an email.

Additionally, being anti-Zionist is not the same thing as being anti-Semitic. Zionists tend to casually throw that term around, in hopes of leeching off of Jewish struggles.

Zionism is essentially defined as a movement for Jewish people to create a space for themselves.

No one has an issue with that, until it starts to violate basic human rights. The issue is not against Jewish people or their cultural identity, but against the violent and hypocritical

is an international ultra-Orthodox anti-Zionist group who claims to essentially pray for Israel to be dismantled peacefully, according to a March 2019 article by the Anti-Defamation League, a Jewish organization that focuses on battling anti-Semitism.

Does that mean the Neturei Karta, an anti-Zionist Jewish group is anti-Semitic as well?

According to that logic (or lack thereof), why isn’t anyone *claiming* that murdering innocent Palestinians and Muslims for existing in their countries is blatantly Islamophobic?

each respective holy book believes in Genesis, the prophets and Palestine as the holy land.

So whose birthright is this?

Balint said there is a dual narrative when it comes to the Israeli-Palestinian “conflict.” She claims that Nakba, known as the Palestinian day of Disaster, is also known as the Israeli Independence day.

Shira Haas, the actress playing Sabra, is a former Israeli Offensive Force soldier and plays a “superhero” who is a secret agent of Mossad, Israel’s national intelligence agency.

“The character’s disturbing origin story centers on the death of a Palestinian child, employing a slew of racist, anti-Muslim stereotypes and dehumanizing depictions of Palestinians—all while glorifying Israeli military violence,” according to the Institute for Middle East Understanding in a Sept. 13 Palestine Chronicle article.

Rami Annan, an SJSU Palestinian student, said he’s shocked that Marvel would enable such a false portrayal of the Israel Defense Forces.

“There are countless international laws broken by their military force, as well as hundreds of hundreds of innocent women and children who have been killed,” he said. “Now I’m not really into comics or anything, but I do know that heroes aren’t supposed to be committing international war crimes or taking the lives of innocent people.”

The movie is set to release in May 2024, starring Anthony Mackie and Harrison Ford alongside Haas.

So far, audience responses to the film have been justifiably critical.

Amal Omar, another SJSU Palestinian student said he hopes that people who intend to watch the new Marvel movie will stop being ignorant and do some research on what they’re supporting.

“The Palestinian people, including myself, are begging the world to wake up and take a look at the real side of the Israeli army and let us know if they still think they are ‘superheroes,’” Omar said.

Who could predict such a tone-deaf move from a film named after Hitler’s “New World Order” plan to murder innocent Jews? I guess normalizing mass genocide is a subtle theme throughout the movie.

said her initial reaction was of utter shock and disgust.

“I’m reading stories about the people who actually survived [the massacre] and it’s hard to not get chills and not just read that and be like, ‘How was this allowed?’ ” she said. “It was actually considered a genocide by the [United Nations].”

Palestinian voices all around have expressed their frustration and disappointment.

“Just using certain words or names like Sabra is very dehumanizing. Just to minimize our pain and our suffering, [and essentially] glorifying it,” Abushaban said.

Anat Balint, a former Israeli studies professor at SJSU, described her class as an opportunity for “understanding the Zionist idea about a national

movement rooted in racism and xenophobia.

The hypocrisy lies within claims of national self-determination being a universal right, yet fail to uphold the same philosophy when it’s applicable to the people of Palestine, according to a May 2019 article by The Guardian.

Anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism are not the same, and claiming so uses Jewish suffering to erase the Palestinian experience, according to the Guardian article.

Additionally, a lesser known fact that people know about is the Neturei Karta.

Neturei Karta, or “Guardians of the City,”

I took her class in Spring 2022 and according to her lectures, the roots of Zionism originated when Eastern European Jews were sent into exile.

It sounds like any other immigration story and it’s a sad story, truly.

From there, Austro-Hungarian political activist Theodor Herzl, also known as the “father of modern Zionism” brilliantly decided to “settle” in Palestine.

Until you realize they’re not resettling, but claiming a fully inhabited piece of land and using that excuse to justify committing atrocious war crimes and mass genocide.

In other words, we’re supposed to feel bad for Eastern European Jews for being sent into exile and then committing the same exact crime on another innocent group of people for their ethnic and religious backgrounds.

The justification of it all? It’s their birthright.

Mind you, the land of Palestine is now predominantly populated by Muslims, Christians, and Jews. All three religions are Abrahamic, meaning



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ABOUT
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