

# MCBA 2025 11 13

## Meeting summary (MINUTES)

### Recap

The group discussed plans for an upcoming meeting with Union Pacific and addressed encampment issues around Home First, including a two-block no encampment zone and police patrol arrangements. They reviewed a new police program called Connect San Jose that allows small businesses to connect their cameras to the police department's real-time intelligence center, along with associated fees and exemptions. The meeting covered various business-related topics including disability access grants, environmental regulations affecting operations, and Union Pacific's upcoming maintenance activities, concluding with updates on security initiatives and contract renewals.

### Next steps

- [Chad: Figure out catering for the next meeting and determine number of people attending](#)
- [Diana: Provide Chad with the number of people expected at the meeting for catering purposes](#)
- [Beth: Work with neighbors on bullets of solutions to problems and identify different parties involved](#)
- [Diana: Submit kudos to SJPD officers via sjpd.org website for the RV removal service](#)
- [Diana: Email City Manager Jennifer Maguire about the good police work](#)
- [Jonathan: Include the SJPD kudos website information in the meeting notes](#)
- [Mike: Ensure someone from the DA's office attends a future meeting to address catch and release concerns](#)
- [Captain Tran: Follow up on Connect San Jose program implementation with businesses](#)
- [Lieutenant Ashley Burns: Provide stickers/badges for businesses participating in the Connect San Jose camera program](#)
- [Emily: Send exemption approval email to Diana for workers' compensation and get legal agreement signed](#)

- [Emily: Set up a Zoom meeting with Dynast and Diana to review quarterly reports and explain the spreadsheet](#)
- [Juan: Send CAST grant information link to Diana to share with members](#)
- [Juan: Put new CAST grant applicants on waiting list once funding is exhausted](#)
- [Nathan: Follow up with Leela about finishing the mural project](#)
- [Nathan: Coordinate with Pat about moving Amazon lot items before mural work can begin](#)
- [Athena: Connect with Patrick about environmental lawyer recommendations](#)
- [Athena: Discuss joining forces with Patrick on BAAQMD education and advocacy efforts](#)
- [BeautifySJ/Anthony: Send out time frame to members when Union Pacific will be cleaning/fixing fencing tomorrow](#)
- [BeautifySJ/Anthony: Send email notification before future Union Pacific cleanup visits, especially for Phelan, Little Orchard, and Monterey Brook areas](#)
- [BeautifySJ/Anthony: Work on getting PD support for Union Pacific cleanup operations](#)
- [BeautifySJ/Anthony: Obtain and distribute copy of the letter authorizing police to access Union Pacific property](#)
- [BeautifySJ/Anthony: Bring the UP authorization letter to the Home First meeting on the 18th](#)
- [Diana: Send out prevention mailing to members about security cameras](#)
- [MCBA Board: Create target list of places to install MCBA security cameras](#)

## **Summary**

### **Union Pacific Meeting Planning**

The group discussed plans for an upcoming meeting with Union Pacific, including the need for catering and determining the number of attendees. They focused on solutions for addressing encampment issues, with a two-block no encampment zone around Home First and an MOU from the city for PD to patrol Union Pacific-owned areas being key priorities. The group also praised recent police action in removing an abandoned RV and discussed ways to acknowledge and report exceptional police service. Mike mentioned

that the DA's office would be represented at a future meeting to address concerns about catch and release policies.

### **Connect San Jose Camera Program**

Captain Trang introduced a new program called Connect San Jose, which allows small businesses to connect their cameras to the police department's real-time intelligence center. The program includes a \$300 box that can connect up to four cameras, with an annual subscription fee of \$120. The District Attorney's Office is offering a reimbursement of up to \$480 for businesses with fewer than 20 employees. The system allows for immediate access to camera footage during emergencies and can help deter crime. Emily discussed the approval of an exemption for workers' compensation and mentioned that businesses will receive a separate invoice for the business improvement district fee, which will be added to their business certificate renewal. The group discussed the possibility of increasing these fees in the future, but any changes would need to be requested after the current renewal period.

### **CAST Grant Applications Update**

Juan, the Small Business Ally Program Manager, reported that they have received over a dozen applications for the CAST grant, which provides funding for disability access improvements. The program is currently at its funding capacity, but Juan will maintain a waiting list for additional applicants. Diana expressed concern about reaching all business owners, especially those with business tax certificates, to ensure compliance with ADA requirements ahead of upcoming events. Juan explained the grant program's details, including the available funding and eligibility criteria, and emphasized the importance of improving accessibility for all community members.

### **CASP Certification and Facility Closures**

Juan explained that businesses inspected and certified as CASP (Commercial Accessibility Self-Policy) can remedy TDA violations before lawsuits are filed, helping minimize damages. Pat shared that Glencore's San Jose facility will close next year due to regulatory challenges and changing business conditions, including new air quality requirements that made operations uneconomical.

### **Air Quality Regulation Concerns**

Pat and Nathan discussed Leela's progress on the witch cult mural and her plans to open a showcasing room in San Jose. Pat shared his concerns about recent air quality regulations imposed by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, which he believes are unfairly targeting his business. Diana mentioned similar issues she is facing with the district's

rulings and the high costs associated with compliance. They expressed concerns about the district's approach to monitoring and regulating air quality, particularly regarding industrial emissions.

### **Environmental Compliance and Industry Challenges**

The meeting focused on environmental regulations and their impact on businesses, particularly regarding monitoring and compliance. Patrick Bielejak expressed concerns about impractical enforcement measures and lack of understanding from regulators about industry operations. Diana discussed efforts to educate regulators about the feasibility of different compliance requirements across their sites. The group also addressed Union Pacific's upcoming maintenance activities and the need for police support during these operations due to safety concerns. The conversation ended with updates on MCBA's security camera initiative and approval of CSS contract renewal for another year.