



News Release

For Immediate Release:

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Councilmember Pete Constant's "Mobile City Hall" Receives Acclaim from Residents

San José, CA – Councilmember Pete Constant launched his new blight-busting iPhone App, *Mobile City Hall*, built by CitySourced on Saturday, December 12. A room full of District 1 residents downloaded the application together after a demo from the Councilmember and CitySourced founder Jason Kiesel. Braving sporadic downpours, participants went out in groups of two to four, to perform the District's first resident-aided blight assessment. Teams were able to find and report nearly 60 incidences of blight, the majority of which were graffiti.

Councilmember Constant received positive feedback from participants, "Download Day was very successful. We had a wide-range of groups represented at the event from Neighborhood leaders to our District 1 youth advisory council. Even a few first-time volunteers showed up to help make their community better. This app has broad appeal, because of its power to help address every individual's neighborhood pet peeve. People couldn't wait to get out and start using the application. Mobile City Hall also helps me track problems on a grander scale. We are tracking where blight occurs in District 1 so that we can be more proactive addressing these issues in the future."

This application makes San José one of the few cities in the world on the cutting of civic engagement. In the short time that the application has been available, nearly 300 people have downloaded it and are sending in reports to cleanup neighborhood blight. On Saturday alone almost 70 people downloaded the app.

The *Mobile City Hall* application allows citizens to easily report problems such as graffiti, potholes, illegal dumping, illegal signage or abandoned cars. When a resident encounters blight in the neighborhood, they simply launch the application, which prompts them to take a picture of the issue from their phone, answer a few short questions and then click "Submit Report." The information is immediately sent to Constant's office to be routed to the appropriate city department. The application captures the GPS location and address, which helps city staff pinpoint the problem and respond with the proper tools and equipment to handle the issue. iPhones users can download the application now by searching the app store for "CitySourced" or "San Jose 311". CitySourced is currently developing the application for other smart phones which are scheduled to be available in early 2010.

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News Release

About CitySourced

CitySourced is a real time mobile civic engagement tool. CitySourced provides 1) a free, simple, and intuitive tool empowering citizens to identify civil issues (potholes, graffiti, trash, snow removal, etc.) and report them to city hall for quick resolution; 2) an opportunity for government to use technology to save money and be more accountable to those they govern; and 3) a positive, collaborative platform for real action. The platform is called CitySourced, as it empowers ordinary citizens to crowdsource solutions for common civil issues. CitySourced is powered by FreedomSpeaks, the leader in interactive civic engagement.

About Councilmember Pete Constant

San José Councilmember Pete Constant represents Council District 1, a region of West San José bordering Santa Clara, Saratoga, Cupertino and Campbell. He was elected to the City Council in June 2006 and took office in January of 2007. Councilmember Constant has focused on public safety, economic development, open government, and regional land planning. Prior to being elected to office, Councilmember Constant served for fourteen years in the San José police department.

About the City of San José

The City of San José is the third largest city in California and the 10th largest city in the United States, with a population of nearly 1 million and an annual budget of over 3 billion dollars. San José, the *Capital of the Silicon Valley*, is home to the largest concentration of technology expertise in the world with more than 6,600 technology companies. More information about the City of San José can be found at: www.sanjoseca.gov