



## NEWS RELEASE

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### *San Jose – Evergreen CCD Board of Trustees Places College Transfer, Classroom Repair and Safety Measure and Career Training, Student Services and Affordability Measure on the November Ballot*

**(San Jose, Calif.)** — After many supportive public comments from the community, an independent community survey, and extensive community engagement conducted over the past nine months, the San Jose – Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD) board of trustees voted unanimously to place College Transfer, Classroom Repair and Safety; and Career Training, Student Services and Affordability measures on the November 2020 ballot. If enacted, these measures will allow SJECCD to maintain a high standard of local, affordable education through economic recovery.

“San Jose City and Evergreen Valley colleges are key pathways to higher education for local low-income students and students of color, many of whom depend on our colleges for training in the high-demand jobs that allow them to move into the middle class,” said Dr. Byron D. Clift Breland, SJECCD chancellor. “As our region faces large-scale unemployment and a recession, it’s more important than perhaps ever before to invest in quality education and workforce training.”

If enacted, the measures would also allow SJECCD to support the increasing number of students facing food insecurity and homelessness, provide classrooms and labs for career preparation in growing fields like nursing and healthcare, and recruit and retain quality faculty.

“The cost to attend a CSU has risen to five times that of attending a community college, while the cost to attend a UC is ten times as expensive,” according to Dr. Rowena Tomaneng, president of San Jose City College. “Now more than ever, more students and families rely on our colleges to save tens of thousands of dollars,” she said.

“Expanding opportunities for local students to earn college credits, certifications, job skills, or transfer to four-year universities at a reasonable price is critical for our community during these challenging times,” said Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson, Evergreen Valley College president.

For more information on the measures, visit: [www.sjeccd.edu](http://www.sjeccd.edu).

Located in vibrant downtown San José in the heart of Silicon Valley, the San José – Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD) encompasses more than 300 square miles, including a large portion of the City of San José and all of the City of Milpitas. SJECCD is comprised of: San José City College, the first community college in Santa Clara County, established in 1921; Evergreen Valley College, established in 1975; the Community College Center for Economic Mobility (previously known as the Workforce Institute), established in 1988; and the San José – Evergreen Community College Extension at Milpitas, established in 2016. For more information, visit [www.sjeccd.edu](http://www.sjeccd.edu).