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City Council Commends Elite Racing for Success of Inaugural San Jose Rock ‘n’ Roll Half Marathon

Race, showcasing San Jose’s downtown and neighborhoods, is second fastest half marathon ever in U.S.

SAN JOSE, CALIF., October 31, 2006— Mayor Ron Gonzales recognized Elite Racing, Inc., in a commendation—presented at today’s San Jose City Council meeting—for the marketing, operational and technical planning and execution of the inaugural San Jose Rock ‘n’ Roll Half Marathon race weekend that took place Friday, October 6 through Sunday, October 8. The race attracted more than 12,000 runners and thousands of spectators and visitors.

The commendation presented by the Mayor and City Council complements San Jose’s City’s *Economic Development Strategy* that advances the vision of increased Downtown use and of creating a compelling identity for the City on a broader scale.

The second fastest half marathon ever to take place on American soil and the seventh most successful inaugural racing event in the world, the San Jose Rock ‘n’ Roll Half Marathon featured a flat 13.1 mile course that featured 13 bands, passed San Jose award-winning City Hall and took runners into the San Jose’s Japantown and Rose Garden neighborhoods. This set the stage for strong racing performances, including newcomer Duncan Kibet, 28, of Kenya who won with a time of 1 hour, 22 seconds—a California state record. Former San Francisco 49er and three-time Super Bowl champion Roger Craig participated and finished the race in a time of 1:40:27.

For more information on the City of San Jose's *Economic Development Strategy*, visit <http://www.sjeconomy.com>.

About Elite Racing

Elite Racing, Inc. is a sports marketing and management company based in San Diego, Calif. that specializes in road racing. The musical marathon concept was created by Elite Racing in 1998 with the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon in San Diego. Now in its 10th year, the concept has grown to six cities nationwide attracting more than 124,000 runners and walkers annually from around North America and the world. Additional Elite Racing musical marathons include the P.F. Chang's Rock 'n' Roll Arizona Marathon & ½ Marathon in Phoenix, Tempe and Scottsdale Ariz., the Country Music Marathon & ½ Marathon in Nashville, Tenn., the Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon in Virginia Beach, Va. and San Jose, Calif. and the Jefferson Hospital Philadelphia Distance Run.

About the City of San Jose's Office of Economic Development

The City of San Jose's Office of Economic Development (OED) is committed to a vital, competitive San Jose economy that increases prosperity for people and companies and enhances City revenues. The Office guides the City's economic strategy, provides assistance for business success, helps connect employers with trained workers, and provides art and cultural resources to our community. For more information, please visit, www.sjeconomy.com.

About the City of San Jose

From its founding in 1777 as California's first city, San Jose has been a leader, driven by its spirit of innovation. Today, San Jose stands as the largest city in Northern California and the Capital of Silicon Valley—the world's leading center of innovation. The city, the 10th largest in the U.S., is committed to remaining a top-ranked place to do business, work, live, play and learn. For more information, visit, www.sanjoseca.gov.

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