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## **City Council Recognizes IBM as Key San José Business**

### *San José initiative recognizes local businesses that drive the economy*

**San José, CA** – San Jose Mayor Ron Gonzales and the City Council commended IBM today for its contributions to the people and economy of San Jose through jobs, innovations and citizens that help strengthen the community.

In presenting the city’s commendation to IBM Vice President Jeanette Horan, who is senior location executive for Silicon Valley, Gonzales noted IBM’s deep roots in San Jose that reach back more than half a century.

“We are proud to salute the achievements of companies like IBM that are the foundation for our city’s economy,” said Mayor Gonzales. “IBM’s commitment to creating jobs for our families and value for other businesses is an excellent model for success that benefits our entire community.”

IBM began operations in downtown San Jose more than 50 years ago and was a critical factor in establishing Silicon Valley as a world leader in technology development.

Today IBM operates three significant San Jose campuses that are home to more than 5,000 local jobs. Its San Jose-based research and development expertise is an ongoing source of innovation that has contributed to IBM’s lead among all companies worldwide in U.S. patents for twelve consecutive years. IBM’s annual patent accomplishments represent more than all other Silicon Valley high-tech companies combined.

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IBM has awarded nearly \$1.5 million of corporate funds annually in cash and equipment grants to Silicon Valley schools and non-profit organizations, and IBM employees have also pledged to contribute over \$1 million to Silicon Valley non-profit health and human service organizations in 2005.

IBM has launched the groundbreaking “On Demand” community web portal to support its employees and retirees in their volunteer efforts, providing tools to improve volunteer effectiveness and Community Grants of cash and equipment to schools and non-profit organizations.

The company’s philanthropic commitment includes several large-scale community initiatives such as its collegiate and employee partnership programs, MentorPlace, EXITE Technology Camp for Girls, National Engineers Week, National Black Family Technology Awareness Week, La Familia Technology Awareness Week, Native American Family Technology Journey. These community programs are driven by 400 IBM volunteers and benefit approximately 3,000 students, parents, and educators each year.

“IBM is routinely recognized for driving the strongest standards of professional conduct and is leading a revolution in corporate social responsibility locally,” said Paul Krutko, San Jose Director of Economic Development. “These efforts inspire other companies to invest in our community.”

The commendation presented by Mayor Gonzales and the City Council is a part of San José’s Business Appreciation Initiative, a key component of the City’s Economic Development Strategy and "Getting Families Back to Work" effort. This business-retention effort recognizes San José companies that meet at least one of the following criteria: fast-growth, significant sales tax generator, large employer (more than 1,000 employees), or publicly traded company headquartered in San José.

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

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