

10-5-21  
Item #10

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**From:** Brandi Nuse-Villegas <brandiangela78@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2021 12:29 PM  
**To:** BOSComments  
**Subject:** Public comment, 10-5-21,

**CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK**

Dear Board of Supervisors,

You have at least two opportunities in the last few weeks to support efforts to protect the health of our community in the past two weeks and I urge you to act in a way that helps your constituents and respect the expertise of Dr. Vohra and our public health department.

At the last meeting, you had an opportunity to consider a \$500 retirement incentive for county employees to get vaccinated. This was not punishment and it was to be paid with federal funds. We are heavily impacted and Pacheco recognized that but still refused to help in the effort. Please bring this back and pass this effort. If anything, it will show appreciation to your hardworking employees for protecting themselves and others in your community. If it encourages people to get the vaccination, we will be that much more safe.

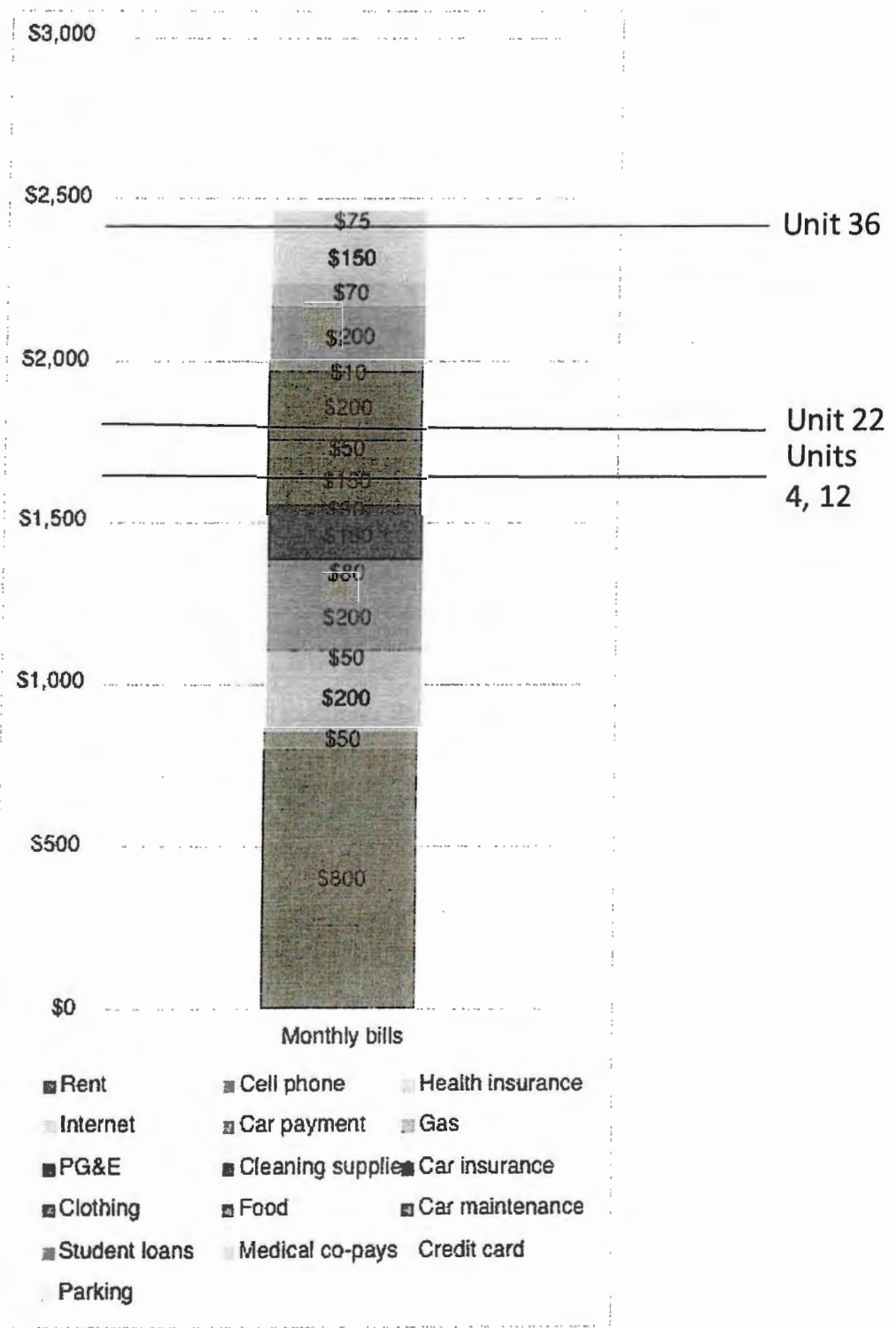
Also, Dr. Vohra spoke up on the impacts of climate change, especially to our community. I understand that some on the board have different views on climate change due to their politics, but we need our supervisors to not let their views discourage efforts to protect our community. Dr. Vohra said nothing extreme and while the board members have said they didn't tell him to apologize, I am aware that a supervisor spoke concern to his supervisor and the board has publicly expressed the idea that it is political. Board of Supervisors, you freely express your political views, despite the fact that it doesn't represent all of the county. His career has been the health of your community members and speaking out of concern. We need to encourage his work. Allow our public health officers to speak in their areas. If we don't respect our officers, we will lose them.



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

Minimum monthly expenses for one

Take-home pay for FT positions exceeded



Expense type	Sample amount	Explanation
Rent	\$800	This rental price is artificially low, as fewer than 1% of rentals in Fresno city cost less than \$700. Studio prices in Fresno range \$725-900. Avg price for a 1-bdrm is \$1300.
Health insurance	\$200	Both health and dental, assuming the cheapest county plans that actually cover something.
Car payment	\$200	This is what I pay for a used 2012 Toyota Corolla, 6 yr. loan, 1.9%APR
Gas	\$80	Bi-weekly fill-up, 10-gal tank, \$4/gal, primarily used to commute.
Car insurance	\$150	According to the interwebs.
Cell phone plan	\$50	
Electric/gas	\$150	
Internet	\$50	Prices range from \$30-90 depending on carrier and required speed.
Student loans	\$200	These are undergraduate loans only, since many positions include years of college. Although just because the job doesn't require education doesn't mean an employee doesn't have educational debt. Unit 3 is not on this chart because the additional burden of graduate education skew the chart.
Food	\$200	SNAP maximal benefit.
Household goods	\$30	Toiletries, cleaning supplies, etc. Amount listed assumes quarterly Target run of ~\$100.
Clothing	\$50	The cost of a pair of shoes, or a pair of button-down shirts. Employee codes require clothing be clean and in good repair.
Car maintenance	\$10	Oil changes, tire rotations, etc. Amount listed assumes quarterly maintenance of \$30, the cheapest advertised oil change. Personally, it's \$70-\$150 depending on the shop.
Routine medical care, prescriptions	\$70	Using county copays for visits and medications.
Parking	\$75	If you work downtown and pay a monthly rate for a garage. Paying garages daily- \$9 max*5 days*4 weeks= \$180.
Credit card	\$150	Given that only unit 36 take-home wages cover food and toothpaste and shoes and oil changes, running a balance and making minimum payments is a common way to meet the unfunded needs.

Which of these does the county think a full-time employee ought not be able to afford?

**Unforeseen adult expenses**

Laptop or computer	\$600+	
Cell phone	\$300+	This cost can spread across monthly bills, raising those to \$75 and placing internet out of reach for FT employees in units 4 & 12.
Major car repairs	\$1000+	Rebuild engines, repair axels, replace tires, etc.
Non-disposable household goods	\$100+	Furniture, cookware, serving ware, linens, appliances, etc.
Dental repairs	\$500+	Non-metal fillings, bridges, root canals, extractions, caps.
Major medical intervention	\$700+	This was the out-of-pocket costs for an ER visit and emergency endoscopy a few years ago. I was not admitted to the hospital and did not rely on an ambulance for transportation.
Legal expenses	\$275+	Price of a C&D I had to have drafted for a stalker. Less than a red-light violation or a tow.