



OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER JOHNNY KHAMIS  
SAN JOSE, DISTRICT 10

## District 10 April Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

We are officially in the throes of budget season! If you have ever wanted to know more about the City's budget, ask questions, and provide your input on San Jose's finances, you will soon have your chance. I invite you to attend the District 10 Community Budget Meeting to be held from 6 PM to 8 PM on Monday, May 5th, in the Board Room of the Santa Clara Valley Water District, 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118. Mayor Reed and I will be joined by many of those who lead the City's various departments. There is plenty of free parking at the Water District offices. If you have any questions, please contact my office at [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4910.

### **GREAT AMERICAN LITTER PICK UP**

The Great American Litter Pick Up is just around the corner! On Saturday, April 26th, from 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM, my office will be organizing litter pick-up and beautification projects all around District 10! This is a wonderful opportunity to get out and help beautify your neighborhood while getting to know your neighbors. This is also a great opportunity for students looking for community service hours!

Last year, we increased our volunteer numbers 10-fold from the previous year, and we are hoping for record-breaking numbers of volunteers on April 26th! With staging areas throughout District 10, we have made it convenient for almost every neighborhood to find a spot to volunteer that is near their homes and directly helps their community. Below you will find the six staging areas around the District, with the details of the types of projects we will be working on:

#### ***Staging Site Number 1: Almaden Community Center***

-At the Almaden Community Center, volunteers will be pulling weeds, picking up trash and spreading wood chips around the center campus. With large flower beds and lots of shrubbery, we want to ensure that the Almaden Community Center remains a clean and welcoming place for everyone to enjoy. If you plan to volunteer at this location, please bring your own gardening gloves, shovels, and rakes.

#### ***Staging Site Number 2: Almaden Road sound wall – between Bose Lane and Kelez***

-Unfortunately, the Almaden Road sound wall has been plagued by tagging of all sorts.

Luckily, we have a diligent volunteer who has been painting over the graffiti when it happens, but now the wall is left with splotches of different shades of paint. We need A LOT of volunteers to help us restore this wall! We want to make sure the wall is one, uniform color and that all signs of tagging are removed. If you plan on volunteering here, please wear clothes you wouldn't mind getting paint on.

***Staging Site Number 3: Pioneer High School – Hoffman-Via Monte***

-The Hoffman-Via Monte neighborhood has been a hot spot for graffiti and litter. Last year, we collected more bags of trash from this neighborhood than all of the other sites combined. We want to make sure we keep this neighborhood clean and a priority for litter pick up. We will also be working on graffiti removal from public areas. We will be meeting in Pioneer High School's back parking lot and walking over to the neighboring Hoffman-Via Monte community.

***Staging Site Number 4: Playa Del Rey Park***

-This is a new site this year, and we are looking forward to working in this neighborhood. Volunteers will be doing general litter pick up, graffiti removal, and cleaning of park amenities, as well as a possible tree planting. We hope to see a lot of the Playa Del Rey neighbors help with this clean up effort!

***Staging Site Number 5: Del Roble Elementary School***

-This is also a new site this year! District 10 staff members have been coordinating with the principal of Del Roble to ensure that this event is a success. Similar to Playa Del Rey, volunteers will be doing general litter pick up. We are hoping to get families from the school involved, and teach kids the importance of volunteerism and community involvement!

***Staging Site Number 6: Ohlone/Chynoweth VTA Station***

-Volunteers can choose from several different projects here; general litter pick-up, graffiti removal, and tree and shrub trimming and removal along nearby trails. This is also a great opportunity for students from Gunderson High School to earn community service hours while beautifying the area around their school.

In order to make this event a success, we need your help! This entire event depends on volunteers from our community. Breakfast snacks, coffee, and lunch will be provided for all who help out, and volunteer service hours will be given to students who need them. If you have any questions, or you would like to join the team, please contact Rayshelle and let her know the staging site at which you wish to volunteer. Rayshelle can be reached at [rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov) or by calling 408-535-4910. I hope to see you on April 26th!

**ALMADEN RANCH DEVELOPMENT**

Driving along Almaden Expressway, many of you may have seen the construction on the large parcel of land at the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Highway 85, across from the Best Buy shopping center. This development is called Almaden Ranch and is the future site of a Bass Pro Shop. While the development is in District 9, not District 10, it will certainly affect the traffic in our neighborhoods and my office often receives calls and emails regarding the project.

Recently, representatives from both the developer and the property manager of the Almaden Ranch retail center project spoke at both the VEP Neighborhood Association

and the Erikson Neighborhood Association. Below is information from their newsletters about the presentations.

*As the project details firm up, there have been minor site changes for which a Planned Development permit amendment was filed in December. The Bass Pro Shop will have a lodge look with a water feature in front, and include an Uncle Buck's restaurant inside. Bass Pro will build boats to order in their store. They plan to have a boat hull storage lot on the northeast side of the property between Cherry Ave and the Guadalupe River, but no work will be done there.*

*They are in the process of requesting permission for a height exception to allow an 80 foot tall design feature in a specific location, about 30 ft x 30 ft, in the back of the property behind Bass Pro Shop. This would extend about 15 ft above the freeway at that point.*

*Some other tenants are expected to include a PGA Superstore, City Sports Health Club, Ulta Cosmetics and about 3-4 unique restaurants. They are also considering a future hotel at the southeast portion of the property. That would be a separate project and require separate approvals later.*

*Current construction is all infrastructure related. They hope to begin facilities construction this summer for completion by about March-June next year. They anticipate opening the Cherry/Sanchez connection to the public about the same time.*

*Both the developer and City Council District 9 have provided the money needed to build a pedestrian bridge across Guadalupe River. This will allow pedestrian/bike traffic to access Oakridge Shopping Center and the VTA Light Rail.*

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the project, please feel free to contact my office at [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4910, or contact the District 9 Council Office at [district9@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district9@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4909.

### **COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS**

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, Lime Tree Espresso, our usual Wednesday evening location for Community Office Hours, has closed shop. While we are sorry to see such a community-oriented business close its doors, we are looking forward to holding our meetings at City Espresso Gourmet Coffee, located at 630 Blossom Hill Rd., San Jose, CA 95123. Please join next Wednesday evening, April 23rd between 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM, to ask questions, express your concerns, or just to meet me face-to-face to discuss the latest happenings in our city...no appointment needed. I hope to see you there!

### **BRASILIA WAY - GUEST COLUMN FROM COLIN GRAY - JSM ENTERPRISES**

Below is a guest column from Colin Gray, the Senior Vice President of JSM Enterprises, the developer of the Brasilia Way project.

*When the Envision 2040 Plan was developed, the City of San Jose conducted extensive community outreach and spent a great deal of time and energy to review its development policies and identify areas throughout San Jose where future development would occur. During this process, the 7-acre parcel at the end of Brasilia Way, near the intersection of Coleman Avenue and Almaden Expressway, was designated in the General Plan as Rural Residential with the potential of developing up to two homes per acre (a maximum of about 14 homes) on the site. This designation was carefully considered by City stakeholders and approved by the City Council, along with the new*

*General Plan, on November 1, 2011. With this in mind, JSM Enterprises has developed a proposal that provides the City with over five (5) acres of open space, dedicated as open space in perpetuity via an easement, while working to minimize the loss of native oak trees and delivering ten (10) carefully-planned, beautiful homes for the residents of Almaden Valley.*

*The site is a very significant site within Almaden and we were tasked with working with neighbors, the City of San Jose Planning Department, and the City Council to develop a plan that will create a viable development that carefully minimizes visual and other environmental impacts while supplying much-needed homes to a growing population. The top of the hill was previously developed as a ranch-style home with a detached garage/shop and a large, nearly one-acre, paved area. Some grading had also been done on the eastern side of the property and elsewhere on the property, areas that are devoid of trees.*

*After two community meetings, as well as several private meetings with neighbors, it was determined that the effects on trees, the view-shed, and the natural hill were three of the biggest concerns. To minimize the visual impacts, we worked carefully to cluster five homes at the site of the existing home site and located them such that the residents will see only one or two, depending on their view of the site. These views will be screened by the planting of 8-to-10-foot native oak trees. The homes are also set within existing oaks, which become a masking element to lessen the visual impact and help maintain the beauty of the hill. Further, these homes utilize smaller lots and no back yards, paired with carefully-designed outdoor entertaining spaces that maximize the views of the existing landscape and limit disturbing the natural aesthetic of the hill. Homes will not have fenced yards. The remaining five homes are placed along Almaden Expressway, at the bottom of the hill. The area's existing 8-foot sound wall will be continued along the frontage to provide a sound barrier for new and existing residents, while still affording views of the beautiful oak trees at the top of the hill and the attractive homes along Almaden Expressway.*

*The site currently has 55 native oak trees varying in size, age, and health. This project will preserve a minimum of 43 of these native oaks. We will also plant 35 new native oaks on-site. The newly-planted trees will help hide the new homes and to provide an excellent resource to our Urban Forest. They will be a mixture of 48" box trees and field-grown trees that will be carefully tended to insure their survival. They will not be seedlings or small 24" box trees. These larger oaks (8-10 feet tall) provide an immediate visual impact. The loss of any of the existing trees is not taken lightly. In fact, the majority of the time spent designing this project was spent avoiding the disturbance of the existing trees. However, when developing an in-fill site, there are sometimes trees that cannot be saved. Two of the trees are actually touching the existing driveway and, when it is improved, they will not survive. Others are being removed due to various reasons; however, we are working with City staff to make every effort to preserve as many trees as possible. Further, the 35 new oaks will mature and result in a net gain of 23 native oak trees on the property.*

*JSM Enterprises takes its responsibility to the environment and the neighbors very seriously. Every effort has been made, and will continue to be made, to produce a thoughtfully-executed and beautiful product. If approved, this project will provide the residents of San Jose with over 5-acres of permanent hillside open space, add 23 new oak trees and provide 10 beautiful homes to meet the city's demand for quality housing.*

## **HR 29**

Recently, the State Assembly introduced House Resolution 29, a piece of legislation that could potentially harm the state of our City's finances. The resolution states that the Assembly opposes the "outsourcing of public services and assets, which harms transparency, accountability, shared prosperity, and competition." In a report from our city manager, the impacts noted are as follows:

-HR29 is aimed at restricting local government's ability to manage its very mission to provide local services in an efficient and economical way.

-HR29 attempts to lock legislators into a vote without specific, real details required to make an informed decision.

-HR29 would deny local government the flexibility to determine how to deliver quality services to its residents.

-HR 29 is unfavorable for California's business climate.

According to the City Manager, "the legislation would unduly interfere with the City's ability to explore alternative, cost-effective options in providing efficient, quality services to its residents which, ultimately, is the City's primary purpose." As of April 9th, over 40 California cities have stood in opposition of this resolution. I would encourage you to share your opinions regarding the resolution to your State representatives. [To find out who represents you in the State Assembly and Senate, click here.](#)

Continue reading below for more updates and opportunities to get involved in our community. If you have any questions regarding what you've read in this newsletter, feel free to contact my office at [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4910. Also, for updates between newsletters, add me as a friend on [Facebook](#) or follow me on [Twitter](#)!

My family and I will be celebrating Easter this week, so to those who are also celebrating the holiday, Happy Easter! For those of you of the Jewish faith, may you have a blessed Pesach, and I wish all of you a wonderful spring!

Sincerely,

Johnny

## **Volunteer with Our City Forest**

Our City Forest is looking for volunteers to help water young trees at TJ Martin/Fontana Park. Volunteers will be rewarded with the opportunity to learn more about the crucial, yet often overlooked, care needed to ensure the health and success of these young trees.

Volunteers should be at least of high school age (with a consent form) or older, and anyone with a truck is highly encouraged to help out! These events usually take place every Friday and Saturday, from 9 AM until noon. Those interested should contact the Tree Care Volunteer Coordinator, Olivia Goguen: [treecarevolunteers@ourcityforest.org](mailto:treecarevolunteers@ourcityforest.org) (408) 998-7337 x 105

## **Giant Spring BOOK SALE by the Friends of the Almaden Library**

Saturday, May 3, 9 AM to 3 PM  
6445 Camden Ave, San Jose 95120

The large Community Room will be filled with gently-used books & media, CDs, DVDs, & audio books. Most paperback books are 50 cents and most hardback books are \$1. Some special/coffee-table books are slightly more. There will be many cookbooks, science fiction, medical, parenting, house & garden, crafts, computer, music, religion, business, and other categories, & languages. CDs & DVDs are now a bargain for just \$1. Bring some bags, and find books to enjoy for many months! The last hour, from 2-3 PM, is the sale where you can fill a Bag of Books and Media for \$5. What a bargain!

### **Student Election Officers Needed**

The Santa Clara County Student Election Officer Program provides High School students with the opportunity to serve their community, experience democracy first hand and earn up to \$130.00 or community service credits. Student Election Officers are required to attend a training class, and work on Election Day as an official member of a Precinct Board to assist voters and setup and close the polling place. The Student Program fosters understanding of the importance of voting and helps to establish the foundation for a lifetime of civic involvement and responsibility.

To qualify a student must:

- Be a U.S. citizen on Election Day
- Be at least 16 years old on Election Day
- Have a GPA of 2.5 or higher
- Obtain written permission from parent/guardian if under 18 years of age
- Obtain written permission from school
- Agree to complete Election Officer training
- Agree to work on Election Day

For more information, visit

<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/rov/Volunteer/Pages/Students.aspx>

### **Rec. Day San Jose**

The City of San Jose's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department is hosting its' first annual 'Rec. Day San Jose' event, at Guadalupe River Park-Discovery Meadow on Saturday, May 17th from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. This is a free family event for the entire community to enjoy games, arts and crafts, music, giveaways and more! Come learn about the amazing summer recreation programming the City of San Jose offers, and participate in some fun and exciting activities! You will also have the opportunity to meet our fantastic summer staff!

Find out more information by contacting your local City of San Jose Community Center. Information will also available in our upcoming Summer Community Center Brochure.

Don't forget to like San Jose Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services on Facebook for updates on this event!

### **Almaden Lions: I Care Classic Bike Ride**

The Almaden Super Lions Club will hold their 23rd annual I Care Classic Bike Ride fundraiser Saturday, May 10, 2014. 100% of proceeds received will be used to provide eye exams and eye glasses to children in needy families.

There are five separate tours designed to meet all levels of ability; such as 20 miles, 50 km, 100 km, flat 100 miles and hilly 100 miles. We also have a 20 mile route, desirable for families. Routes are clearly marked and well supported. This is a tour, not a race and not a pledge ride.

Please visit our website: [Almadenlions.org](http://Almadenlions.org) to find out more about the lions club and how you can join or donate. The club is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are 100% tax deductible.

Information about the bike ride can be made by visiting [lcareclassic.org](http://lcareclassic.org) web page or by contacting Lois Ferber, Past President at 408-268-6739.

### **Gardening Workshop with Guadalupe River Park Conservancy**

#### ***Starting From Seed***

Saturday, April 26th

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Ages 16 and up

\$25/members, \$30/non-members

Join Guadalupe River Park Conservancy and Master Gardener Laura Monczynski to learn how to grow your own vegetables and flowers from seeds. Workshop will discuss what seeds need to grow into healthy seedlings: soil, containers, watering, and more. Participants will get hands-on experience sowing seeds and transplanting seedlings, receive valuable advice on caring for them, and take home a flat of seedlings for their summer garden, a value of \$75!

All programs take place at the Guadalupe River Park Visitor & Education Center, 438 Coleman Ave in San Jose. Pre-registration is required, and space is limited. For more information visit [grpg.org](http://grpg.org) or call 408-298-7657.

### **Interested in Joining the Arena Authority Board of Directors?**

The San Jose Arena Authority is seeking volunteer candidates to submit their resumes for two upcoming vacancies on the Arena Authority Board of Directors. The San Jose Arena Authority Board of Directors convenes monthly to identify and address issues

relating to the management and operation of SAP Center at San Jose (home of the San Jose Sharks); Sharks Ice at San Jose (San Jose Sharks training facility and public ice rinks); and San Jose Municipal Stadium (home of the San Jose Giants). The Arena Authority Board is seeking interested candidates with knowledge in contract management and experience with community-based nonprofit organizations. The Arena Authority invites candidates who are willing to attend and actively participate at the Authority's monthly Board meeting and a select number of committee meetings. This is an engaged, hands-on organization looking to fill two volunteer Board positions that will be vacated on July 1st due to Board members terming out. The submittal deadline is April 30, 2014. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 408-977-4783 or at [morrisey@sjaa.com](mailto:morrisey@sjaa.com).

If you know of any individuals who are interested in serving on the Arena Authority Board of Directors, please have them submit a resume along with three professional references to the following:

[morrisey@sjaa.com](mailto:morrisey@sjaa.com)

Or mail information to:

Chris Morrisey  
Executive Director  
San Jose Arena Authority  
P. O. Box 90207  
San Jose, CA 95109-3207

### ***Youth Partnership Opportunities***

#### ***\*San Jose Youth Commission's Youth Conference***

Friday, April 18, 9am-3:30pm at San Jose City Hall. For more information and to register visit: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/youthcommission>

#### ***\*2014 Social Innovation Leadership Forum***

A forum designed to network, share best practices, generate innovative ideas and build leadership skills and capacity to advance community initiatives. Friday, April 25, 8am-4:30pm at San Jose City Hall. For more information and to register visit:

<http://www.sjsu.edu/svsiln>

#### ***\*"Own Your Success"***

Foster Care Awareness Month event with the Santa Clara County's Foster Youth Success Initiative Collaborative. Current and former foster youth ages 16-21 are invited! Saturday, May 17, 9:30m-2pm at San Jose City College. Please RSVP to 408-484-6207.

### **Share What You Do For Earth Day**

Are you a fan of the Planet? Share what you do for Earth Day! On Earth Day, April 22, people around the world take green actions to show how they care for Mother Earth.



This year, the Environmental Services Department (ESD) encourages San Joseans to share their Earth Day actions by posting them on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook with **#keepSJclean**. Need ideas for how to celebrate Earth Day? Check out [www.sjenvironment.org/earthday](http://www.sjenvironment.org/earthday) for a list of green actions and Earth Day Events.

### **San Jose: Silicon Valley Crime Stoppers Crab and Pasta Feed Fundraiser**

Date: Saturday, April 26, 2014

Time: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Location: San Jose Police Officers Association Hall 1151 N. 4th Street, San Jose  
Join Silicon Valley Crime Stoppers for an evening of all you can eat crab, cioppino, pasta, salad and more: fighting crime, one leg at a time! Founded in 1982, Crime Stoppers is a non-profit 501c3 organization that partners with citizens, local law enforcement and the media, and has been responsible for clearing nearly 800 cases since its inception. \$40 per person.

More information: [www.svcrimestoppers.org](http://www.svcrimestoppers.org)

### **"Pioneering the Valley, the Chinese American Legacy in Santa Clara Valley"**

Visit the Vineland Library, now until April 25 to see the Traveling Exhibit, "Pioneering the Valley, the Chinese American Legacy in Santa Clara Valley", sponsored by the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project/CHCP.

Learn about the Chinese and Chinese American contributions to the Santa Clara Valley from 1850 to 2011. 14 colorful panels contain historical and current information on topics such as immigration trends, the 5 San Jose Chinatowns, and new pioneers in politics, sports, the arts, business, and more. The exhibit will be at the Vineland Branch Library, 1450 Blossom Hill Road, between Camden Ave. and Almaden Expwy from March 25 through April 25. For more information, please email the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project at [chcp.info@gmail.com](mailto:chcp.info@gmail.com) or Brenda Wong, [bjhwong@yahoo.com](mailto:bjhwong@yahoo.com).

### **Community Center Reuse Program Meeting**

The District 10 Council Office and the City of San José invite you to attend a community input meeting to discuss the Reuse Program. Public participation is encouraged. For more information contact Rayshelle at [rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4910

Monday April 21, 2014

6:30 PM

Almaden Winery Community Center

5730 Chambertin Drive

San José, CA 95118

Office of Councilmember Johnny Khamis  
San Jose City Hall  
200 E Santa Clara Street - 18th Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

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