



District 10 Mid-July Newsletter 6th Month Review

Dear Neighbor,

It seems like just yesterday I was celebrating, with friends and family, my swearing in as the newest San Jose City Councilmember. The past year and a half have far exceeded my expectations, and everyday I wake up feeling so blessed to be able to serve District 10. Every six months, my staff and I take a day away from the office to recap the accomplishments of the prior six month, learn new things, and strategize on how best to tackle the challenges that face our City.

This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to bringing you up to date on our work over the past six months and a few of our goals for the upcoming year. First, an update on what we've accomplished together, with your help and that of non-profits, businesses, generous sponsors, City staff, and many other dedicated individuals and organizations:

PROVIDING FINANCIAL LEADERSHIP

- During the 2014-2015 budget process, I brought forth an initiative to implement new restrictions on Lease Revenue Financing. Now, before the City Council approves any lease revenue bonds – the type of financing used to pay for the money-losing Hayes Mansion and Los Lagos Golf Course – they will need to be presented with a worse-case scenario and not just the best-case scenario for revenues and expenses. This new initiative also requires a 2/3rds vote of the Council before using this type of financing mechanism on new projects.

- Mayor Reed responded to my call for an additional \$16 million in one-time funding for street maintenance and included it in his June budget message. My colleagues on the City Council approved this funding as part of the 2014-2015 budget. As a result, this will be the first year in over a decade that we are spending enough on our streets so that their condition will not worsen.

- During budget discussions, my staff and I worked hard to obtain additional funding for the Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative that works to improve the condition of housing that serves lower-income communities within San Jose. This \$25,000 was instrumental in the formation of the new Hoffman-Via Monte Neighborhood Association.

HELPING HOMEOWNERS

- One of my greatest accomplishments was to reduce permitting costs for small home improvement projects, approved as part of the 2014-2015 budget process. Partnering with the Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement Department (PBCE), we were dedicated to reducing the cost of home-improvement permits so residents and contractors alike can afford to complete projects legally and safely.
- In addition to the reduced permitting fees, PBCE can now accept plans for large projects on a USB drive (thumb drive). This allows the Planning Department to do electronic plan review rather than needing multiple large-format printouts of plans. This initiative not only saves paper, but provides more consistency and accuracy around plan checks.
- Another change for the better in PBCE is the implementation of a small-projects desk. This desk, dedicated to only small-scale projects, allows for considerably faster processing of permits for home improvement projects. What used to take days is now completed in a matter of minutes.

IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY

- Since taking office, it has been my goal to utilize the South San Jose police substation. I fought to maintain funding within the budget for this objective last year. Now, as part of this year's budget, the completed-but-unoccupied City facility will be repurposed to house the 28 new Community Service Officers that will be hitting the streets this fall and serve as a training site for SJPD cadets.
- My staff and I worked tirelessly to facilitate the formation of a new Hoffman-Via Monte Neighborhood Association to help property owners share ideas, to strengthen community, and to improve the living conditions for the residents of this area. This neighborhood has been plagued with crime, and with more neighborhood involvement we are hoping to turn the tide.

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UPS

- ***Great American Litter Pick Up:*** On Saturday, April 26th, hundreds of volunteers from all around District 10 came out to beautify their neighborhoods. At Almaden Community Center, neighbors of the Center and members of the Almaden Swim and Racquet Club came out to pull weeds, clean up litter, and spread fresh wood chips in the flower beds around the campus. They did a fantastic job sprucing the place up! Just a stones-throw away, neighbors were joined by young people and adults from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, members of the Assyrian-American Association, brothers of

the California Zeta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at San Jose State University, and staff from the City of San Jose's Anti-Graffiti and Litter Program, diligently painted the entire stretch of sound wall along Almaden Road, from Kelez to Bose.

At Pioneer High School and Del Roble Elementary School, YMCA staff led a great effort in picking up litter and removing graffiti from street signs, light poles, and utility boxes. In the Hoffman-Via Monte neighborhood near Pioneer, volunteers collected 93 bags of trash and 20 shopping carts! A majority of those volunteers were children and families from Almaden Elementary. What a great opportunity to get kids involved and to teach them how to take ownership of their community! Del Roble was a great success as well, with Principal Yolanda Ross joining the effort!

In the VEP and Playa Del Rey neighborhoods, volunteers collected upwards of 23 bags of trash, removed graffiti, raked up leaves and pine needles, and planted a tree! In addition to the volunteer efforts, my office requested the clean up of the medians along Camden Avenue, and thanks to the Department of Transportation, they were all spruced up!



• ***Beautiful Day:*** On Saturday, May 17th, South Hills Community Church (SHCC) partnered with my office in arranging three beautification projects that made a big impact on our community.

The residential walls on Trinidad Dr., near Almaden Expressway received a fresh coat of paint! About 20 volunteers from SHCC, along with several homeowners and residents from the surrounding neighborhood worked hard to paint the walls and rake and sweep up leaves and debris. Dan Burnham of Burnham Construction contributed his time and expertise. Not only did he do the spraying of the paint, he did all the prep work in the weeks leading up to the event. Michele Dexter from my office helped with project coordination and the paint was donated from my office.

Almaden Meadows Park was a huge undertaking. About 30 volunteers from SHCC worked along side volunteers from the Friends of Almaden Meadows Park, other community residents, and staff from the City's PRNS Department. They painted the wall around the playground as well as the picnic tables; moved 150 yards of fibar into the playground area; moved 150 yards of bark around the dirt areas to reduce weeds; painted the park signs on the corners; cleaned up the corners around the signs and put in new chocolate bark to reduce weeds and prepare for future planting after the drought is over.

Almaden Elementary School is just across the street from District 10 and is the neighborhood school for D10 residents living in the Hoffman/Via Monte area. The Principal told Pastor Larry Brundage that many of the families at their school could not afford to purchase the required school uniforms. So, the third project SHCC took on was to reorganize a storage shed to make room for new uniform storage; install a uniform closet in the nurse's office; and fill those shelves with hundreds of new uniforms. In addition, volunteers who brought young children spent time planting flowers in pots to put in each teacher's classroom so it could be a Beautiful Day inside as well.

While I can't take responsibility for the lion's share of this project, it is an example of the kinds of collaborations and partnerships I love being a part of. I am so glad to have been able to partner with South Hills in beautifying our community!

EDUCATION

• ***SJ Between the Lines:*** In January, my office partnered with Almaden Cares, and the Del Grande Dealer Group to host SJ Between the Lines, a safe driving video contest open to all high school students living or attending school in San Jose. I knew going in that our students would produce quality work, but I was absolutely amazed by not only the caliber of the videos that were made, but the incredible thoughtfulness and maturity that came out in all of their videos. Through the support of donations from local businesses and organizations, we were able to give away nearly \$9,000 in prize money to the students. We are looking forward to hosting the contest again this coming school year!



• ***3rd Grade Field Trips:*** Since taking office, it has been my goal to host every third grade class in my district on a tour of City Hall. This year, several classes from Discovery Charter School, Los Alamitos Elementary, Holy Spirit School, and others toured City Hall, led by our amazing docents, Dan and Harriet. They were able to join me in Council Chambers for a question and answer time about local government, how the City is run, and even how they can get involved in their community. This is an ongoing invitation to all 3rd grade classes in our district, and I look forward to expanding it every year!



• **Education Grants:** One of the perks of being a City Councilmember is having the opportunity to support amazing institutions, organizations, and non-profits with grant funding. This year, the District 10 Council office distributed over \$10,000 in grant funds to schools and organizations like The Assistance League of San Jose, the YMCA, the San José Public Library, and the College Day Fund, that provide services to public school students within San Jose.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

• **July 4th Fun Festival:** In an effort to curb the use of illegal fireworks in our city, my staff and I decided to host the First Annual July Fourth Fun Festival and Fireworks Show at Almaden Lake Park. On Independence Day, thousands of people flooded into Almaden Lake Park to enjoy live music, local vendors, food trucks, and, of course, a large-scale fireworks display to end the evening! With the help of generous donations from companies like Casino Matrix, Yellow Cab of Silicon Valley, The San Jose Parks Foundation, Amato's Pizzeria, and many others, as well as the volunteer force led by fabulous community volunteers Dave Fadness and Bob Vonderweth, we were able to pull off a successful event that far surpassed my expectations! We are already putting together a committee to ensure a bigger, better event next year!



LOOKING AHEAD

As we look ahead to the second half of 2014, my staff and I will continue to work on issues of importance to District 10 and all San Jose residents. There is still more work to be done in improving the experience that small businesses have when they go through the City's planning and inspection processes and I know that the new director of PBCE, Harry Freitas, is dedicated to bringing more positive changes to his department. He and I realize that being business friendly must extend not only to big business, but to our mom and pop businesses, as well. I am dedicated to this and other ways that we can improve the prospects for small businesses to grow and thrive within San Jose.

I look forward to finding more creative ways to partner with the SJPd, the Crime Prevention unit, and others in law enforcement to move our City back to the very top of the list of Safest Big Cities in America. While it is wonderful that through the hard work of the men and women of the SJPd and alert and aware residents, we remain within the Top 10, we still have challenges to tackle together, including rebuilding the number of police officers serving in our police department. One initiative that I look forward to rolling out is dedicated to reducing the proliferation of graffiti within San Jose and the rampant theft of copper wire that is costing public agencies millions of dollars each year and makes darkened neighborhood streets and parks less safe. Watch for more information on this initiative soon!

My team and I also look forward to continuing to find ways to bring the community together and to engage with residents to make San Jose a great place to live, work, play, and raise a family. Please continue to contact me with your ideas, and be sure to advocate to the Mayor and all members of the City Council for the changes you would like to see within our City. Remember, I am only one vote out of eleven, so your strong voice continues to be instrumental in creating change. I sincerely appreciate all of the things that you, the residents, are doing to improve our City.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Last year, National Night Out was a tremendous success throughout District 10. I am hoping that with some advanced notice, more neighborhoods will join the effort and host their own events! National Night Out will take place on Tuesday, August 5th this year, and I hope you all consider participating! For those of you who may be unfamiliar with National Night Out, it is held each year to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie and to send a message to criminals to let them know that our neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. We encourage you and your neighbors to spend some time outside, getting to know one another, and making your presence known in the neighborhood. If you'd like to learn more about hosting an event in your [community click here](#). Also, please let us know if you'd like the Councilmember to join you and your neighbors at your event! Contact us at district10@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-4910.

Continue reading below for more updates and opportunities to get involved in our community. If you have any questions with regard to what you've read in this newsletter, feel free to contact my office at 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](#)!

Sincerely,

Johnny

Almaden Valley Summer Concert Series

Returning again for the 12th year! The Almaden Community Center, The Almaden Senior Advisory Association, and Sereno Group proudly present the Almaden Summer Concert Series.

7/17 - Silicon Valley Houserockers

7/24 - Altrasound/ School of Rock San Jose

7/31 - Sage

Located at Greystone Park from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Activities for children, live music, and good family fun!

CAP Grant Cycle 28 Applications are Available NOW on WebGrants

The City of San Jose is pleased to announce the Request for Proposals for grant applications for the Community Action and Pride (CAP) Grants Program, Cycle 28. The online application process is located on the City of San Jose Webgrants page which can be accessed at <http://grants.sanjoseca.gov/login.do>. You will then click on Go to Webgrants to look for the process under Funding Opportunities.

The new grant funding amounts will range from \$300 (minimum)-\$1500 (maximum) per organization and can be used for activities such as neighborhood newsletters, get-togethers, cultural events, and more. For a complete list of eligible activities and items, and other information about CAP Grants, visit <http://www.unscc.org/grants.html>

The application period will end on Thursday, July 31, at 4 p.m.

Hispanic Heritage Youth Foundation Awards

The Hispanic Heritage Foundation is once again conducting a nation-wide search for the best and the brightest Hispanic/Latino leaders. The Youth Awards program offers educational grants in several categories to qualified Hispanic/Latino high school rising seniors. Recipients are eligible to receive an educational grant ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000. The application is now available online at bit.ly/1npK5bS. The deadline to apply is September 15, 2014.

The 2014 Youth Awards scholarship application has now gone live! Rising Latino high school seniors please visit [http://bit.ly/1npK5bS!](http://bit.ly/1npK5bS)

Movie Night at Almaden Lake Park

Come enjoy a family-friendly film in a beautiful outdoor setting! Movie begins at 8:30 p.m. or when it becomes dark enough outside! The movie is free, but parking costs \$6.00. Refreshments will be available for purchase. For more information please call: 408-927-0868

Saturday, July 26, 2014 - E.T.

Saturday, August 23, 2014 - THE LEGO MOVIE

Almaden Lake Park

15652 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95120

2014 Sister Cities International Annual Conference and Youth Leadership Summit

The City of San Jose is hosting the 2014 Sister Cities International Annual Conference and Youth Leadership Summit this summer from July 30th to August 3rd. Attendance is expected to be between 150- 200 students including international students from China, Japan, El Salvador and other localities as well as students from around the US and local high schools.

SJSU President Qayoumi and CSJ Council Member Ash Kalra are the Co-Chairs of the Youth Leadership Summit which will be held on the San Jose State campus from Thursday night July 31st to August 3rd.

[For more information or to register, click here.](#)

Senator Jim Beall Hosts Job Fair

Looking for a job? More than 40 local employers looking to hire will gather at the Annual Summer Job Fair next month in San Jose.

When: Thursday, July 24, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Where: Employment Connection Center, 1879 Senter Road, San Jose

For more information, click the following link...

<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/ec/Pages/default.aspx>, or call (408) 758-3797

San Jose Police Department Hiring School Crossing Guards

\$15.98 - \$17.66 Hourly (Part-Time/Un-benefited)

Minimum Qualifications

Able to work morning and afternoon shifts every school day during school start and end

times

Possession of a valid State of California driver's license

Access to a motor vehicle on a daily basis

Have the ability to satisfactorily pass a Police Department background check

Be physically and mentally capable of performing the duties of a Crossing Guard

Have the ability to give and follow oral instruction

Have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with children, parents, school officials and law enforcement

Have the ability to use judgment, initiative and remain calm in an emergency situation

Be of good moral character

Please contact the School Safety & Education Unit at (408) 277-4553 if you have any questions and/or to arrange to pick up an application.

Dionne Warwick Shows You the Way to San Jose

Dionne Warwick, five-time GRAMMY® Award recipient and international music icon, will perform at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts on Aug. 1, 2014 at 8 pm as part of Sister Cities International Annual Conference and Youth Leadership Summit hosted this year by the City of San Jose. The one-show-only engagement will also feature the MGM Resorts International "Inspiring Our World: A Musical Journey," Silicon Valley Music Festival and the San Jose State University Choraliers.

For tickets (\$100VIP, \$85, \$65 and \$45) and more information about Dionne Warwick's Aug. 1 performance in San Jose, please visit www.DionneWarwickSanJose.com. Fifty \$100 VIP ticket holders will receive full access to a special Meet-and-Greet event with Dionne Warwick immediately after the concert. All inquiries can be directed to info@captivateartists.com. Press images, videos, and interview requests are available by contacting Jim Fung at jim.fung@captivateartists.com.

Free Safety Training for Excavators and Contractors

Hitting an underground utility can endanger your crew, add potential fines and repair costs, result in lost work time and delay your project. This training is perfect for both the novice excavator and the experienced construction professional. Register now for one of our upcoming free trainings on safe excavation and reducing potential damage to underground utilities.

Monday, August 4 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

DoubleTree by Hilton, 200 Marina Blvd., Berkeley

Wednesday, August 6 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

DoubleTree by Hilton, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose

Friday, August 8 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame

You will learn:

How to use the free and easy Underground Service Alert (USA) service

Laws regarding excavation in California

Steps to plan a safe digging project

Complimentary continental breakfast will be served and space is limited. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Breuner at (925) 628-7873 or JCBF@pge.com.

Supervisor Wasserman Hosts Photo Contest

The 2014 Summer Photo Contest is here! Supervisor Wasserman wants to see your favorite photos that show why Santa Clara County is the place to be in the summer. He will frame and proudly display the winning photos in his office. Grab your camera and show them your favorite images of landscape, farmers markets, parades, county parks, neighborhood BBQs, pets, and other fun images of summer! Deadline: August 1, 2014. Simply email your photo to Kevin.Maitski@bos.sccgov.org along with your name, address, and where you took the photo. More information on the photo contest including rules and photos of past winners can be found on his website.

You may reach Supervisor Wasserman's office at (408) 299-5010, or you can email him at mike.wasserman@bos.sccgov.org with your comments and concerns.

Parks and Recreation Fall 2014 Registration Opens Soon

The City of San Jose's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department Fall 2014 registration begins on Saturday, July 26th at 10:00 am. Find out more information by contacting your local City of San Jose Community Center or visit us online at www.sanjoseca.gov/prns. Register early as spaces are limited!

Want to Become a Child Advocate?

When: Wednesday, July 23rd from 6:15-8:00p.m.

Where: Sobrato Center for Nonprofits, 1400 Parkmoor Ave, San Jose

Child Advocates of Silicon Valley recruits, trains and supports volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) to work one on one with foster children, providing critical emotional and educational support, ensuring that each child's needs are met and their voice heard while navigating the court dependency system.

Becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) in Santa Clara County is a truly gratifying and impactful volunteer experience. Children who have a CASA receive more services (medical, dental, academic etc.) and are less likely to reenter the system than those who do not have a CASA.

For more information about Child Advocates of Silicon Valley, visit:

www.bemyadvocate.org

Almaden Cares Crashed Car Display

Almaden Cares is going to display a "Crashed Car" in the vacant lot on the southwest corner of Almaden Expressway and Redmond Avenue to those who pass it about the choices they make as responsible drivers -- as a BOLD reminder about the repeated tragedies and loss of life in our community. We have had two fatal car crashes in the last two months in the Almaden area. One was at the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Coleman Road and the other was on Camden Avenue across from the Almaden Community Center. Both accidents resulted from poor choices made by drivers. Our children and families are also victims of these needless and senseless tragedies. In the past, many of victims have been recently graduated students and "We Can't Keep Losing Our Kids!"

Mr. Tom Mancuso, who owns the property and Campbell's Towing in San Jose, who will provide the crashed car, have been very gracious in assisting Almaden Cares in this endeavor.

The crashed car will be on display at that location from July 18th through July 25th. There will be banners to assist in directing people's attention to the vehicle.

Please tell your friends and neighbors and especially your children who are of driving age or who will soon be of driving age. Share with them what poor choices (that they might make) can result in such as: Texting while Driving, Driving at High Speeds, Driving while Under the Influence of Drugs and/or Alcohol, or SIMPLY Being In a Vehicle -- where these conditions exist. Encourage them to make good choices and call for a ride home should the occasion require.

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