Task Force Members' Biographies

Co-Chair Shirley Lewis is the Assistant Vice President for Old Republic Title Company, Commercial Department, Santa Clara County. She is a native of San Jose and a graduate of Notre Dame High School and San Jose State University. She served as a San Jose City Councilmember for twelve years from 1981 through 1992, including two years as Vice Mayor and four years as Vice Chair of the Redevelopment Agency; six and half years as the Executive Director of the San Jose Symphony and the San Jose Youth Symphony; and three years as the Vice President of Development for the Mobedshahi Hotel Group where she oversaw renovation and development projects for two and half years. Besides her active career, Shirley has six children, seven grandchildren, one great grandchild and is involved in many community organizations including the Rotary Club of San Jose, the Friends of the Guadalupe Park & Gardens, First Community Housing and the COMPAC Board of the Chamber of Commerce.

Co-Chair, Councilmember Sam T. Liccardo represents San Jose's downtown district, District Three, on the San Jose City Council. Prior to winning election to City Council in November of 2006, Sam served as a prosecutor of sexual assault and child exploitation crimes in the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office. He previously worked as a federal prosecutor and at private law firms. Sam's previous work in the community included tutoring homeless children, serving on the boards of several affordable housing organizations, and advocating for a successful countywide transit ballot measure in 2000. After graduating from Bellarmine College Prep in San Jose, Sam attended Georgetown University studying government and economics and graduated magna cum laude in 1991. Subsequently, he enrolled at Harvard Law School and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. After graduating with a law degree and a master's degree in public policy, Sam returned to the Bay Area in 1996. Sam's family goes back four generations in the downtown neighborhoods, where he lives and works. In addition to his role on the City Council, Sam also serves on Envision San Jose 2040 General Plan Update Task Force (Co-Chair); Transportation and Environment Committee (Vice-Chair); Community and Economic Development Committee (Member); Association of Bay Area Governments (Executive Board member); Downtown Working Group (Member); Santa Clara County Cities Association (Board member); Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (Board member); Valley Transit Authority Policy Advisory Board for Downtown/East Valley Corridor (Member); and Downtown Parking Board (Liaison).

Vice Chair David Pandori is a former member of the San Jose City Council who represented the downtown area from 1991 through 1998. He has a degree in Environmental Studies from San Jose State University and a Masters Degree in City Planning from UC Berkeley. He has been a Deputy District Attorney since leaving the City Council and prosecutes gang members and career criminals.

Jacquelyn Adams has lived in San Jose for 30 years, of which 27 years have been as a homeowner and active community member in District 2. She is married and the proud mother of two terrific sons. She is currently employed as a Program Manager with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. She is also serving her 16 plus years as a member of the Oak Grove School District Board of Trustees. She is a past member of the Diversity Committee and District 2 Advisory Committee, and was an employee for 22 years with the Santa Clara County Public Health Department. She has a B.A. degree in Social Science and a Masters degree in Public Health.

Teresa Alvarado is the Executive Director of the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley, which cultivates philanthropic leadership in the Hispanic community. She previously worked in both Public Affairs and Charitable Contributions for Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Teresa, a San José native, is active in community service. She currently serves on the boards of CompassPoint Nonprofit Services and SJECCD Foundation and advisory boards of the San Jose Education Foundation, Hispanic-Net, Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley and Emerge: Women Leaders for a Democratic Future.
She is a member of Class XIX of the American Leadership Forum Silicon Valley. Teresa holds a M.S. degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Tufts University, a B.S. degree in Environmental Technology & Management from San Jose State University, and a Minor degree in Technical Writing from San Jose State University. She is married to Jess Moreles, has two stepsons and one dog. Teresa loves to walk, run, hike and backpack and is an avid film, music and performing arts fan.

Shiloh Ballard is the Director of Housing and Community Development for the Silicon Valley Leadership Group. She grew up in a rent controlled apartment in westernmost San Jose, where she benefited from excellent public schools in addition to a parenting philosophy by her mother that relied upon the notion of keeping a child out of trouble by keeping the child completely booked—Girl Scouts, choir, theatre, dance classes, soccer, flute lessons, church youth group and lots of Nancy Drew mysteries. Torn between making it big as a Rockette or becoming a journalist, Shiloh eventually majored in environmental studies at UC Santa Cruz, leading her to a career in politics and public policy. Shiloh serves on the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara County League of Conservation Voters, the Board of Governors for the California Housing Consortium, and Thimmakka, an environmental nonprofit, and as a court appointed Child Advocate for foster youth. She lives with her significant other near the Blossom Hill Light Rail Station in South San Jose and commutes to work on her bike almost every day via the bike path along Highway 87 through downtown San Jose.

Michele Beasley has been Greenbelt Alliance's South Bay Field Representative since 2004. In that capacity, she works with residents and elected leaders to adopt policies that protect open space and create more livable communities in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. Recent projects include helping to secure a mitigation policy for Santa Clara County farmland, advocating for more walkable neighborhoods in places like Bay Meadows and North San Jose, and researching development threats for Greenbelt Alliance's 2006 report, *At Risk: The Bay Area Greenbelt*. Michele spent four years as a homelessness and affordable housing advocate in Contra Costa County and spent two years with the Peace Corps in West Africa, supporting community-based eco-tourism enterprises. She holds a degree in Business Administration from St. Mary's College, and is a native of San Mateo County. Michele currently serves on the Santa Clara County League of Conservation Voters.

Beverley B. Bryant, Ph.D. is the Executive Director of the Southern Division of the Home Builders Association of Northern California. She was previously employed by Kaiser Permanente and Sun Microsystems. Beverley has served with a variety of organizations including American Electronics Association's Bay Area Council Executive Committee; the San Mateo County Economic Development Association; the Massachusetts Governor's Economic Development Council; Public Affairs Council and the Associated Industries of Massachusetts (Board Member); Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group; Silicon Valley Chapter of NAIOP (Executive Director); New Hampshire House of Representatives; The Strafford County Legislative Delegation's Executive Committee; and the New Hampshire Constitutional Convention. Beverley holds a BA degree in history from Mount Holyoke College, a MA degree in government from St. Mary's University, and a Ph.D. in political science from Arizona State University.

Frank Chavez has lived in San Jose since 1967, is married and the father of 5 children. After serving in Viet Nam, he started his own business in San Jose, Chavez Jewelry Design, which is now family owed. Frank has been an active community volunteer serving with Alum Rock Union Elementary School District (Clerk of the Board of Trustees); NAC Board Member of KONA SNI; NAC Board Member of East Valley/680 SNI; Story Road Business Association (Past President and current 1st Vice President; San Jose GI Forum East Valley Chapter (Commander); Tropicana Merchant's Association (Co-Founder); United Way Committee.

Councilmember Judy Chirco, a resident of the Cambrian neighborhood of San Jose for over 40 years, was elected to the City Council in March of 2002 and re-elected in 2006. Judy graduated from Camden High and went on to San Jose State University. After starting a family, she returned to school and graduated in 1994 with a Bachelor's degree in Social Science. Together Judy and her husband, Ed, have managed property in the City of San Jose and elsewhere, allowing them the flexibility necessary to become active in the community. Prior to being elected to the City Council, Judy served as a volunteer, community advocate, and Cambrian School Board member. For over eight years, she was a Board Member of PACT (People Acting in Community Together), working to secure access to city services for the youth, initiate and maintain funding for After School Homework Centers, expand gang prevention funding, improve funding for affordable housing, and guarantee access to health care for all children in our community. She currently chairs the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee, and sits on the Rules Committee and Transportation and Environment Committee.

Gary Chronert is the Training Manager for Cupertino Electric, Inc. in San Jose. Prior to joining Cupertino Electric he worked for more than 20 years in corporate communications, marketing communications, and training with ROLM, IBM, and Siemens. Gary is married and has two daughters, one in college and the other in graduate school. He has been a San Jose resident for almost 30 years, living in Willow Glen, Almaden, and now the Cambrian Park neighborhood. Since 1994 he has served as a member of the Cambrian Elementary School District Board (several times as an officer). In 2006 he represented District 9 on the Megan's Law Task Force. Gary has an MA in Education from San Jose State University.

Mary Creasman is the Political Director for the South Bay Labor Council. In this capacity, Ms. Creasman leads political and public policy campaigns at the local and regional level. She joined the Labor Council in September 2006 and has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of San Francisco. Ms. Creasman joined the Envision San José 2040 Task Force in November 2008 replacing Phaedra Ellis-Lamkins, Executive Officer of the South Bay Labor Council, who resigned due to scheduling conflicts.

Yolanda Cruz is currently the President of the AFSCME MEF Chapter of City Employees, the largest union in the City of San Jose. She is the Vice-President of the AFSCME Local 101 and serves as an Executive Board member on AFSCME Council 57 and South Bay Labor Council. She is also the Chief Spokesperson for the City Labor Alliance. She has been a City of San Jose employee for 22 years and a resident of San Jose for over 40 years. Yolanda currently resides in District 9 and has one adult son. In the past Yolanda also served as a community activist in the Evergreen Area. She helped co-found the LeyVa Community Action Team and served as the Vice President for two years. She has been a leader for young adult education in her Church, as well as an active parent participant in multiple community and school sporting events.

Dr. Oscar E. Dace, Sr. is the Senior Pastor of Bible Way Christian Center in San Jose. Over the years Pastor Dace has volunteered his skills as a basketball, football and baseball coach with various school districts and Little League. His numerous ministerial and community service endeavors include South Bay Christian Ministers Union (President); Transforming Alliance of Santa Clara County (TASCC); Correctional Institution Chaplaincy (Vice President/Chaplain); Silicon Valley Faith-Based Coalition (President); San Jose Police Department (Chaplain); and West Valley College Extended Opportunity Program and Services Advisory Board (President/Advisor). Pastor Dace has received the Gene Young Community Service Award, Clergy of the Year Award, and an Honorary Doctorate of Ministry from Redemption Bible College.

Pat Dando, a 30-year resident of San Jose, was appointed President and CEO of the San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce in September 2005. She has a long and distinguished record of public service, which includes having served as Director of Local Government Affairs for Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Vice Mayor of San Jose and San Jose City Councilmember for nearly a decade. Over the years she has also served on several professional, policy and community boards and committees, including the Santa Clara County Cities Association, League of California Cities, National League of Cities, National Homeland Security, Valley Transportation Authority, Stroke Awareness Foundation, Good Samaritan Hospital, and the Education Foundation for American Chamber of Commerce Executives. Pat graduated from North Texas State University with a double major in Elementary Education and English. She attended Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government to study public policy for senior executives. Pat is now the proud grandmother of seven grandchildren. She and her husband, Bob, have lived in the same San Jose neighborhood for 30 years where they raised their three children.

Harvey Darnell is a Nurse Specialist for Kaiser Permanente Santa Teresa where he is the Chair of the Nursing Specialty Peer Group and also serves as the Northern California Representative to the Kaiser Permanente National Sourcing and Standards Team. His community involvement includes work with the North Willow Glen Neighborhood Association (Secretary Treasurer, Vice President, President); Greater Gardner SNI NAC (Vice Chair, Chair); Willow Glen Neighborhood Association (Director); Citizens for a Liveable San Jose (founding member and Vice Chair); and the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative Project Area Committee (SNI PAC) and SNI PAC Neighborhood Project Funding Subcommittee (Executive Board).

David Fadness is a retired mechanical engineer, having retired in 1999 after self-employment as a machine designer and business owner for more than 25 years. He has resided in Santa Clara County since 1966 and in San Jose since 1974. David is married to Aiko and they have a grown son, Matthew. David holds a BSME from Stanford University. He has been active as a civic and community volunteer serving in leadership roles on numerous non-profit boards, community organizations, and a variety of local government committees and commissions relating to land use and transportation (Santa Clara County Transportation Commission (14 years); Santa Clara County Roads Commission (8 years); Measure B Transportation Improvement Program Citizen Watchdog Committee (2 years). Volunteer community service is and has always been an important and very satisfying part of David's life.

Enrique L. Fernández, a native of Uruguay, attended college in Montevideo and moved to San José in 1983. His tenure in the hospitality industry allowed him to rise through the ranks of his Union and get involved in the community serving in previous task forces like Downtown San Jose Task Force and the Redevelopment Agency. He is the Business Manager of UNITE HERE Local 19 in Silicon Valley, President of the California State Council of UNITE HERE, Vice President of the California Labor Federation, Treasurer of the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council and serves in different National and West Coast Trust Funds. As well as being a member of the board of Team San Jose and Working Partnership USA in San José, Enrique is an alumnus of the American Leadership Forum.

Leslee Hamilton was recently named Executive Director of the Friends of Guadalupe River Park and Gardens after serving on the Board for eight years. She was formerly the Communications and Special Projects Director for the Mineta Transportation Institute at San Jose State University. She was appointed to the San Jose Parks and Recreation Commission in January 2007. Leslee bicycles to work and is an advocate for improving the accommodation of bicycles on roads and transit. A native of the SF Bay Area, she has lived in the Midtown area of San Jose for 20 years.

Sam Ho currently serves as a board member of CET (Center for Employment Training) – a 40-year non-profit corporation providing job and life skills training with a record of having placed over 100,000 residents in decent paying jobs. He has been active in many community organizations over the past 25 years including Human Agenda, LaRaza Roundtable, Coalition for Concerned Citizens, and Coalition for Justice and Accountability. Sam works at the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District as the director of employment services and diversity. He completed his Master's of Business Administration in California, Bachelor's in New York, High School Diploma in Florida, and ninth grade in Vietnam. Sam arrived to the United States in 1975. He is married and has two children. He believes that to help build a better San Jose for residents to live, work, and learn, one can be an agent of positive change through reaching out and building bridges of understanding and appreciation among various networks of community resources. One of his favorite quotes is by Fannie Lou Hamer, "There are two things we should never forget: First, always remember where we came from; and second, never forget the bridges that brought us over."

Nancy Ianni has been a resident of San Jose for over 40 years and served as a San Jose City Councilmember for 12 years. She holds a B.A. degree from Stanford University and a California Secondary Teaching Credential. Her volunteer experience includes Vice President, League of Women Voters of the Bay Area; President, the Willow Glen Neighborhood Association; and President of the San Jose Public Library Foundation. Prior to her Council experience, she was employed at Stanford Electronics Laboratories of Stanford University, and from 2002 to 2007 she taught computer applications in the government-sponsored Refugee Employment Services Program. Reflecting her special interest in intergovernmental cooperation, during her term of office she chaired the Santa Clara County Intergovernmental Council and the countywide US EPA Integrated Environmental Management Project.

Lisa Annan Jensen is the Development Director for San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles. She has a Bachelors Degree in Mathematics from California State University at Fresno and has attended Emerge CA—Women Leaders for a Democratic Future, Neighborhood Reinvestment Institute, and Women's Leadership Council. Her community service is demonstrated by work with City of San Jose Planning Commission (Commissioner); EHC Lifebuilders (Board of Directors); IEEE 1012 Standard for Software Verification and Validation; Community Development Block Grant (Commissioner); City Year, San Jose/Silicon Valley (Board of Directors); Megan's Law Task Force; BART to San Jose Downtown Community Working Group; Downtown Access and Circulation Working Group; University Neighborhoods Coalition (Co-Founder, Past President); Rape Crisis Counseling.

Frank Jesse is an architect and Vice President, Real Estate and Corporate Services for BEA Systems, Inc., headquartered in San Jose, California. Prior to BEA, Frank held executive positions with DHL Worldwide Express and Equitec Properties Company, and various roles in the design and construction of hospitals in the early part of his career. Frank has a variety of credentials and licenses including architecture, real estate, and various construction related certifications. He received his B.S. degree from the University of Virginia, and Masters degrees in both Urban Planning and Architecture from the University of Michigan. In addition to his involvement in the San Jose Envision 2040 General Plan Task Force and the Downtown San Jose Art Task Force, Frank is a member of the Board of Directors of the San Jose / Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the 2006 President and member of the Board of Directors Santa Clara Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Franks is also the BEA Liaison Representative to the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, an organization devoted to quality of life and work issues in the San Francisco Bay Area. As a Liaison Representative he has chaired the Housing and Land Use Committee.

Mehran (Matt) Kamkar is a California Licensed Civil Engineer building single family homes outside of the San Jose City limits in Santa Clara County. He has a BS in Civil Engineering from San Jose State University and a MS in Construction Engineering and Management from Stanford University. Matt is an avid soccer player and fan. His civil and community volunteer activities include San Jose Planning Commission (Commissioner); Norouz Festival Celebrating the Iranian New Year (Organizer); San Francisco Bay Area Iranian-American Chamber of Commerce in charge of South Bay (Director); Small Business Development Commissioner; Robotics First Lego League Competition for Middle School (Head Coach); Almaden Valley Youth Soccer (Referee, Director and Board Member).

Charles Lauer is a Sales Engineer for a Mechanical Equipment Manufacturers Representative. He has resided in the south bay for 8 years and in San Jose since May 2004. Charles graduated from the University of Wisconsin. His volunteer and community associations include Arts Commissioner, San Jose Envision 2040 General Plan Update, Strong Neighborhood Initiative/Project Action Committee, Stonegate Villas Condominium Association (President), Moreland West San Jose Advisory Council (Past President), Westside Property & Homeowners Association, Blackford Neighborhood Advisory Council, and Winchester Neighborhood Advisory Council.

Karl Lee is broker/owner of Realty World Results Pros, a boutique realty brokerage. Karl is Vice-President of the Santa Clara County Association of REALTORS® (SCCAOR), where he chairs the SCCAOR Foundation. He represents SCCAOR on the Board of "Don't Borrow Trouble" Silicon Valley, a City of San Jose and Freddie Mac organized coalition of consumer advocate and industry organizations dedicated to fighting predatory lending practices. He is a Director for the California Association of REALTORS®, where he serves as Vice-Chair of the Taxation Committee. As President of the Chinese-American Real Estate Association, Karl's theme is "Building Community, Together." Karl is passionate about San Jose, having grown up in East San Jose and graduated from Bellarmine College Prep. He spent thirteen years in Corporate Finance in the banking industry after graduating from Boston College. Karl developed his community spirit with the Christian Athletic Association, a San Jose-based youth sports league serving over 500 families, where he served as President from 1988 to 1989.

Linda J. LeZotte served 8 years as a distinguished member of the San Jose City Council and 6 years as a Planning Commissioner. Prior to public service, Ms. LeZotte practiced law for three decades in San Jose. She recently joined the San Jose law firm of Berliner Cohen, with a focus on environment and land use; municipal law and corporate development of emerging technologies. Linda is a member of the Boards of RAFT, League of Conservation Voters, and Sustainable Silicon Valley. She was named Legislator of the Year by the League of Conservation Voters and the San Andreas Regional Center. Linda is a graduate of San Jose State (BS and BA) and lives in West San Jose with her husband, Ken Kelly.

Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio was born in San Jose, raised in Willow Glen, and now represents District 6 on the San Jose City Council. He attended Booksin, Hoover, and Willow Glen High School and then went onto San Jose State University where he received his teaching credential in 1992. Pierluigi taught high school part time and then left teaching for the high-tech industry in 1995. Prior to his election in 2007, he volunteered his time to various organizations both civic and through his profession. Pierluigi currently serves on the following commissions and committees: San Jose Traffic Calming Committee (Chair); Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee; Cal Train Maintenance Facility Oversight Committee; Healthy Neighborhood Venture Fund; Library Commission; Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Support; General Plan Update Task Force; Santa Clara County Cities Association; Santa Clara VTA Board; Sewer Advisory Board; and SJ/SC Clean Water Financing Authority.

Richard Santos is a native Alviso resident and a retired Fire Captain from the San Jose Fire Department, having served the Department for 33 years. Richard is currently serving as the Director of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board for District 3. He represents the Board on the following committees: California WateReuse Association Education, Legislative & Potable Reuse Committees; Coyote Flood Control and Watershed Advisory Committee; Landscape Advisory Committee; Lower Peninsula Flood Control and Watershed Advisory Committee; Santa Clara County Litter Technical Advisory Committee; and Santa Clara County Emergency Preparedness Council. While with the Fire Department he served on the San Jose Police and Fire Retirement Board and was a labor representative of the San Jose Firefighters local union. Richard received a BS degree in public administration from Farelston and Nova College, an AA degree in police science, and an AS degree in fire science. He also has a lifetime teaching credential from the California Community College system.

Patricia Sausedo served as San Jose's Vice Mayor and Councilwoman representing District 8 from 1981-1992. Prior to serving on the City Council, Patricia served on the Planning Commission from 1978-1981 and the Santa Clara County Planning Commission from 1992-1996. Patricia founded Sausedo Company Consulting in 1993 providing entitlement, project management and community outreach services to the bay area development community. Patricia serves as Executive Director of the Silicon Valley Chapter of NAIOP overseeing the Commercial Real Estate Industry in addition to serving on various boards and committees serving the south bay region.

Erik Schoennauer is a land use consultant with The Schoennauer Company. Erik is a fifth-generation San Jose resident and lives in downtown San Jose with his wife, Lisa, and twin daughters. He draws upon 18 years of experience in local land use and redevelopment processes, public/media relations, community outreach, and political consulting. Prior to his work as a land use consultant, he worked 2 years with former San Jose Mayor Tom McEnery, 4 years with the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, and 5 years as Chief of Staff and Political Director for former San Jose Vice Mayor Pat Dando. Erik has served with the Project Area Committee for the City of San Jose's Strong Neighborhood Initiative (SNI); the 13th Street SNI Neighborhood Advisory Committee; Hensley Historic District Board (Vice Chair); and Vendome Neighborhood Association. Erik received a Bachelors degree in Political Science from Stanford University.

Judy Stabile is a former San Jose City Councilwoman for District 2 and is currently retired. She is also a former and current Historic Landmarks Commissioner and a former President of the San Jose/Santa Clara League of Women Voters. Judy has been involved with a number of non-profits including the San Jose Historical Museum Association, the San Jose Downtown Association, the Preservation Action Council, Industry Initiatives for Science and Math Education, the National Recycling Council, and Friends of the Guadalupe River Park and Gardens. Twenty-five years ago, she served on the Horizon 2000 General Plan update, which left her with a continuing interest in land use planning. Judy has lived in San Jose for 35 years, first in Blossom Valley and for the last 13 years in downtown San Jose.

Neil Struthers is the Chief Executive Officer of the Santa Clara & San Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council. Neil has been a resident of San Jose for 40 years and is married to Nora Campos. He is a white-water rafting/kayaking and motorcycle enthusiast. He has been involved with the political and organizational process of working toward the future of working families in Santa Clara and San Benito Counties. This involvement is demonstrated in his participation in numerous labor organizations as well as his current participation as a Board Member of Joint Venture Silicon Valley, San Jose Convention and Visitors Bureau, Executive Board Glaziers Local Union 1621, and Governor's appointee to California Apprenticeship Council. Previously Neil was a Board Member for San Jose Conservation Corps, San Jose Workforce Investment Board, Bay Area Coordinators Association, South Bay Apprenticeship Coordinators Association, Housing Trust Fund, Housing Action Coalition, Workforce Strategic Advisory Committee for the Digital Divide JVSV, Green Building Committee City San Jose, Glaziers JATC Apprenticeship Instructor, and Director of Apprenticeship for Glaziers Local 1621.

Alofa Talivaa has been a San Jose resident for 27 years. Her affiliations include member of the Housing Commission, the San Jose 2040 General Plan Update Task Force, the Mayor's Budget Deficit Group, the Independent Police Auditor Advisory Committee, the East Valley/680 SNI/NAC (President), and the Sierra Neighborhood Association (President).

Michael Van Every currently serves as Executive Vice President for Republic Urban Properties. He has played a special role in shaping Silicon Valley land use policy in both the public and private sectors. Michael has over 15 years of land development experience working with major home builders in Northern California while working closely with local governments to create master planned and urban mixed use communities. He is actively involved in a number

of community and non-profit organizations including Home Builders Association of Northern California (Board Member and Officer); San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce (Member); Inn Vision (Board Member); Central YMCA; City Year San Jose; and The Role Model Program. Michael holds a BA in Journalism from CSU at Fresno and is a graduate of San Jose Chamber of Commerce Leadership program. He resides in San Jose with his wife, Jennifer, and son, Jacob.

Jim Zito has been employed at Applied Biosystems, Inc. since 1986 and is currently a Senior Program Manager for Global Services. He has been a San Jose resident since 1984 and presently resides in District 8. Jim has 3 children, one each in high school, middle school, and preschool. Jim earned a BS degree in Computer Science from State University of New York at Stony Brook; an MBA from University of Phoenix; and a Certificate in Technical Support Management from San Jose State University Professional Development Center and Office of International and Extended Studies. He currently serves on the San Jose City Planning Commission, and has been Vice Chairman. He has served on the Planning/Parks & Recreation Commission Joint Parks Maintenance Funding Subcommittee (Chair); District 8 Community Round Table (President); Evergreen Valley HS Education Foundation (Vice President); Evergreen East Hills Vision Project Task Force; Evergreen Elementary School District Boundary Committee; and ESUHSD Academic Master Plan Committee.