

As a candidate for District 8 vacant seat, I am reaching out and would like to extend an invite for any questions you might have regarding my passion and qualifications to serve alongside with you and other Councilmembers. There are several candidates seeking the opportunity to serve. Since timing for the process is limited to select candidates and the appointment. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and share my background with you. Why should you consider me as the best candidate, a next councilmember to serve the District, the City?

As a former Planning Commissioner, Vice-Chair and Chair, I am very familiar with tasks involved, the intricacies in building the community and the City. I understand the challenges that the City faces to achieve the City growth plans, that must also meet the needs of the community. Every decision needs to have a balance between jobs, housings, and the financial impact to the City. I understand the General Plan 2040 policies. I have served as a General Plan Task Force Member during my tenure. The experience has helped me accumulated valuable skillset, knowledge and a solid foundation to be a Councilmember, representing the District.

There were a number of projects that required the Planning Commission's knowledge and expertise prior making recommendation the councilmembers. I recalled one of the very first projects where I had to make important a decision, the Newby Island Landfill application. I abstained my vote due to lack of data and requested further studies that took over 2 years to complete, before a unanimous recommendation for approval. On different occasions, I stand behind the residents, and recommended certain projects be declined as it has more impact to the community, the life of residents than the financial benefits that that it would bring. During my service to the city, I also had the privilege spending many hours in the Council Chamber listening to many residents' concerns on issues that would impact the quality of life. I also had the honor of making the recommendations on a few other milestones to bring future major employers to the city including the Google Campus, the Apple San Jose future campus, the Communication Hill development, the Asana Homes with a park and commercial businesses, and other major projects that brought jobs and housing to the city. I personally believe in a "win-win" solution for the residents, our workforce, local businesses, and the City. To achieve growth, we need to consider both the needs of the community, the businesses, and the City financial needs. I am a strong believer in being transparent in communication and the collaboration of the leadership team. Needless to say, I understand the citywide challenges including affordable housing, homelessness, and neighborhood safety. I had recommended for a number of homeless shelters, half-way homes and affordable housing projects throughout the City, during my tenure.

As an Evergreen resident for over 24 years, I am very passionate about the community. I have always been active contributing member in the community. I had served as a Chairman of the School Site Council, Chairman of the Evergreen School District Advisory Committee, PTA Member for over 10 years. A West Coast Aquatics Swim Team Parent/Volunteer. Both my children attended the Evergreen Elementary School District and graduated from the Evergreen High School. I am also a long-time member of the Norwood Neighborhood Association. One the very few active neighborhood associations in the City. We meet monthly and have help bridged the communication gap between the community, city official and our law enforcement agency, to communicate and understand issues around the district. Over the years we have also completed many community annual events. We have led efforts to educate the neighborhood of issues that would impact the communities such as school district boundary, zoning and land-use decision.

Not only that I am a resident, I am also a small business owner, physically located within the District for over 10 years. I believe in supporting/growing local businesses and local workforce. I care about the residents' wants, needs and well-being. I am proud to say that I am an East-Side resident. Prior to becoming an Evergreen resident, I have resided in District 7, District 5, I am an immigrant and a San Jose resident for over 40 years. I am passionate about the city, the community, especially the district I call home. Evergreen is one of the most diverse District with more than 50% Asian residents (ref: City demographic data). It would be my honor and privilege to be the voice that represents the District. During my professional career over the past 20 years, I have held various directorship and leadership positions in a number of professional trade-organization at the local, state and national level. I was the founder of the Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA), the Silicon Valley Chapter, a National Treasurer/Secretary. I have also served as the Director at the Santa Clara Association of REALTORS (SCCAOR), and the California Association of REALTORS, (C.A.R.). In these leadership roles, I often met with our state, and federal lawmakers to lobby for homeowners, property rights. I had the honor to host event with one of the City first Asian-American Mayor, the honorable Mr. Norman Mineta. Mr. Mineta had encouraged and motivated me to pursue my passion as civil servant, over the past years.

I strongly believe in giving back to the community and helping others. I am currently a Mediator (volunteer), helping people resolve their conflicts through an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process. I help resolve conflict with Unlawful Detainer, Small Claim, Civil Harassment lawsuits at the Santa Clara County Superior Court. I work alongside with partnership with Project Sentinel, City of San Jose Housing Department/Rent Stabilization Program, Sacred Heart staffs, to assist residents facing evictions, Rental Assistance. I had been a volunteer at the Urban Land Institute (ULI), helping high school, college students, planning officials learn modeling, urban planning process.

Prior to becoming a small business owner, I spent 10+ years of my professional career in the High-Tech companies ranging from startup to Fortune 500 company (NASA, Lockheed, 3Com), where I held various positions in Engineering, Marketing, Sales & Management.

I am a Mountain View (Awalt) H.S. and San Jose State University Alumni. I hold a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering. I am also bilingual in English-Vietnamese.

I hope this brief introduction would help you understand my passion to serve, and how my experiences as a civil servant would benefit the community. I am committed to serving the community, the City. I am committed to working alongside with you to find solutions to our city current challenges. It would be a privilege and an honor to be appointed.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and answers any questions you might have regarding my candidacy. I can be reached at 408.425.5304 or phamnn@gmail.com. Thank you for your time.