

**FW: special council meeting on December 5**

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 9:31 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

---

**From:** john salah <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 9:25 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** special council meeting on December 5

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[External Email]

I am voicing my opinion that we should VOTE for the vacant seats in district 8 and 10. Having an appointment does not represent the democratic system of government.

Please do not take away our vote.

John Salah

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## FW: In Support of Special Election - 12/5/2022 Special Council Meeting

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 8:13 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** Sandra Delvin <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Friday, December 02, 2022 7:53 PM

**To:** Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio  
<[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David <[REDACTED]> Carrasco,  
Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt  
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2  
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5  
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8  
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** In Support of Special Election - 12/5/2022 Special Council Meeting

[External Email]

Dear Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers:

I respectfully request that the registered voters in D8 and D10 be allowed to vote in a special election to fill the upcoming council vacancies.

**No other option is acceptable to me.**

My vote is priceless!

It was paid for by members of my family and others serving this country.

It is my right!

The precedent of a special election has been used since 1995. These special elections have produced diverse representation (Pat Dando, Madison Nguyen, Nora Campos, Kansen Chu and Manh Nguyen). Cindy Chavez was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in a special election. Madison Nguyen first Vietnamese-American elected to the city council. Pat Dando was so well respected that a statue of her is outside the Almaden Community Center. And Nora Campos was elected to state office.

This allows the citizens and residents in those districts a choice in their representation on the council.

The cost of the special election is low.

As noted in The Mercury News (<https://www.mercurynews.com/2022/12/01/editorial-san-jose-voters-should-get-to-pick-their-council-members/>)

“But we’re talking about the election of representatives to help manage a \$6 billion annual city budget. **Spending less than one-tenth of 1% of one year’s annual budget on an election is a small price for democracy.** “

If the Council does not have a budget contingency to cover one-tenth of 1% in the budget, then all the council members should be recalled for lack of financial responsibility.

The Mercury News also notes that the move to not have a special election is a power grab.

“A labor-backed majority of the San Jose City Council has set the stage for a power grab that would cut one-fifth of the city’s voters out of the process for picking their own council representatives. ... Make no mistake, with a current 6-5 [labor] majority on the council, the progressive labor faction has the votes to do [an appointment]”

and

“In the Nov. 8 election, voters in **both districts signaled their desire for moderate city leadership by backing Matt Mahan for mayor** over labor-stalwart Cindy Chavez. Our analysis of precinct results shows that **Mahan won 52% of the vote in District 8 and 63% of the vote in District 10.** “

and

“It would be a **gross injustice for the labor-majority on the council to ignore those results and disenfranchise voters** in the two districts by filling the vacancies in lieu of an election“

I have also attached to this email a copy of The Mercury News editorial and letters to the editor that appeared in The Mercury News on 12/2/2022 on this topic.

Respectfully,  
Sandra A. Delvin, PE

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## Letters: Democratic tradition Forget cost Affront to democracy Bad precedent Worth every dollar

Mercury News Letters to the Editor for Dec 4, 2022

By [LETTERS TO THE EDITOR](#) |

December 2, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

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*Submit your letter to the editor via [this form](#). Read more [Letters to the Editor](#).*

### S.J. must continue tradition of democracy

Re. "[Let voters choose replacements for San Jose council](#)," Page A6, Dec. 1:

Two vacancies were created on the San Jose City Council, leaving the residents of Districts 8 and 10 in limbo. In January, Sylvia Arenas vacates her council seat for county supervisor and Matt Mahan vacates his council seat for San Jose mayor.

The residents of those two districts deserve the opportunity to vote for their next representative. However, San Jose council members are being pressured to fill the seats through special appointments and not through the democratic process of special elections.

Historically, San Jose has held special elections to fill vacant seats. Nora Campos was elected as District 5 Councilmember in 2001, Madison Nguyen for District 7 in 2005, and Manh Nguyen for District 4 in 2015, among others. We must continue this long-standing tradition of democracy and allow the people, not the politicians, to decide. For those that argue about the costs involved, there is no price tag for democracy.

**Lisa Faria**

*Board President Santa Clara County Association of REALTORS®  
San Jose*

### Cost is not the issue for special election

As reported in the story "[San Jose mayor elect seeks special election to fill vacant council seats](#)," (Page A1, Nov. 29) the last special election to be held in the city was in 2015 and cost roughly \$1.2 million. Now it is projected to be a potential taxpayer cost of up to \$11 million.

In eight years, the projected cost of a special election has increased by nearly ten-fold. Where is the benefit in this cost increase that inflation can't begin to explain? The argument against a special election, because of the cost, is misguided. What needs to be addressed is the absurd cost, not the merits of a special election. The costs of these elections can be influenced in ways that the voters can't. And shouldn't be.

**Jim Mielke**

*San Jose*

### Appointments to council



The San Jose City Council will soon be down two members and is actually discussing appointing two replacements without a vote. I'm appalled. This is not democracy in action.

The City Council, across all districts, votes on issues that impact residents' everyday lives. If this happens it is not only an affront to democracy but will create a precedent for future similar actions. The current reasoning is time and money. What if that reasoning was used for any other seat that needs to be filled?

Help us get the word out. This is not okay and should not be tolerated by San Jose residents or anyone who is participating in a representative democracy.

**Natalie Lopez**

*San Jose*

## City would set precedent without council election

It is essential that voters have the opportunity to elect their representatives. It's a right we need to protect now and for the future.

Special elections have been used for decades to fill vacant positions. Special elections resulted in more diversity on the council (Pat Dando, Madison Nguyen, Nora Campos, Kansan Chu and Manh Nguyen). Cindy Chavez was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in a special election.

If the current council appoints instead of holding an election, it will create a dangerous new precedent that would be used to deny future generations – including my infant daughter – the right to vote. Any decision taken by the council tainted by disregard for the current precedent of special elections would lack legitimacy and undermine current and future rights.

I demand the right to vote not only for me, but for my daughter.

**Alexandra Froehlich Hankinson**

*San Jose*

## Special election worth every dollar spent

State Sen. Dave Cortese once wrote, "[BEWARE. Any movement in the direction of a quick appointment should be met with a huge public outcry That may well be the only thing that will stop it](#)"

A faction on San Jose's City Council would like to usurp the voting rights of residents of Districts 8 and 10 by appointing people to their vacated council seats. They argue that the low turnout and high costs of special elections justify appointments. We believe the thousands of voters of each district who will vote in a special election know better who should represent them than the 11 members of the City Council. As to the cost ... that is the cost of protecting our voting rights, and worth every dollar.

Article II of the California Constitution begins "all political power is inherent in the people." A special election leaves that power where it belongs. Let us vote

**Pat Waite**

*San Jose*

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**Letters To The Editor**

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## FW: Council Vacancies in D8 & D10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 8:21 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** Cheryl <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Sunday, December 04, 2022 11:26 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Council Vacancies in D8 & D10

[External Email]

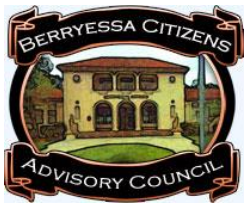
Please add attached PDF into "Letters from the Public".

Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council

Re: Support for a Special Election in Districts #8 and #10

Thank You.

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# Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council

November 21, 2022

Mayor Sam Liccardo and San José City Council  
San José City Hall  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San José, CA 95113

Re: Support for a Special Election in Districts #8 and #10

Honorable Mayor Liccardo and City Council Members,

The Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council (BCAC) Board wants to express its **STRONGEST support for appointment of Interim Council Members followed, with all due speed, by a Special Election** to replace District 10 Council Member Matt Mahan (San José Mayor Elect) and District 8 Council Member Sylvia Arenas (District 1 Santa Clara County Supervisor Elect). The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters should be tasked with delivering a Special Election Calendar designed to give candidates sufficient time to register and to conduct meaningful campaigns consistent with a timely election.

The appointment of interim Council Members ensures that these districts have representation, but not representation of their own choosing. Therefore to balance the need to fill these Council vacancies and to respect the will of the voters, we believe that interim appointment should be limited to

- Appointees, recognizing their custodial role, formally agree **not** to be candidates in the Special Election (an example here was set by Ms. Marjorie Matthews in February 2015 when, after Kansen Chu was elected to the California Assembly, she was appointed to represent our District #4) and
- Special Elections are held by June 2023 (7 months) – There is precedence here. The City of San José opted to hold a Special June 23, 2015 Election providing the voters of District #4 the opportunity to elect a replacement City Council Member.

A speedy special election respects the will of the voters and gives the elected councilmembers true authority. The 63,986 voters in District #8 and the 62,121 voters in District 10 deserve representation that is an expression of their will, not an arbitrary vote of City Council Members who represent the interests of other districts. While an “unplanned expense”, the City has an operating budget in excess of \$1B/year and can afford to fund a special election. A permanent appointment for the balance of a 4-year term is unacceptable and unnecessary.

Regards,

Linda Locke, President  
Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council

Cc All 10 Members of the San José City Council  
File

Founded in 1973, the Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council is a non-partisan neighborhood association representing the interests of citizens living and working in San Jose City Council District #4 and/or the Berryessa Union School District. BCAC meets at 7:00PM on the second Monday of each month at the Berryessa Community Center and everyone is welcome. Visit our web site at <https://berryessasj.wordpress.com/> or our Facebook page.

FW: CC Meeting 12-5-22 Item 22-1824 Filling Vacancies D8 & D10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 8:25 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** Glenna Howcroft <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 6:10 AM  
**To:** Agendadesk <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo  
<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3  
<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6  
<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9  
<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> Martha O'Connell <[REDACTED]> Hanh  
Nguyen <[REDACTED]> MINH Ly <[REDACTED]> Glenna Howcroft <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** CC Meeting 12-5-22 Item 22-1824 Filling Vacancies D8 & D10

[External Email]

Please see attached

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Mayor and Council,

I am being aware that the City Council is considering appointing new council members for these 2 seats without conducting a special election. Based on San Jose history, I am believing that when council seats became vacant, a special election was held to determine the will of the people of their representation.

Please respect the history and let us vote

Respectfully,

Hanh Nguyen

Appointing 2 council members to serve the remaining 2 years of terms without special election is unprecedented. Let us vote

Truly yours,

Minh Ly

FW: CC. Meeting 12-5-22 Item 22-1824 Filling Vacancies D8 &D10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 9:11 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

**From:** Glenna Howcroft <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 9:10 AM

**To:** Agendadesk <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo  
<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3  
<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6  
<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9  
<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> Hanh Nguyen <[REDACTED]> Martha O'Connell  
<[REDACTED]> Glenna Howcroft <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** CC. Meeting 12-5-22 Item 22-1824 Filling Vacancies D8 &D10

[External Email]

Please see attached

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To Major and Council,

Xin cho phép chúng tôi được có quyền bầu chọn người đại diện cho chúng tôi.

Tran trong,

Dam Truong

Hay de chúng tôi có quyền lựa chọn người đại diện bằng cách bầu cử.

Tran trong,

Hue Nguyen

this much money to conduct a special election that would only be resolved at around the same time the fundraising period for the upcoming regular election begins.

Conducting elections with limited modalities and at off times is a tried-and-true voter suppression strategy. We urge you not to take this path, and instead appoint members who are representative of the interests and needs of the whole district, rather than allowing a small, non-representative subset of members to choose the representatives that suit them. All more representative electorate would then have the chance to express their preference in the upcoming regular election.

Regards,



Bill James  
Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair

## FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 9:56 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 9:43 AM

**To:** Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio  
<[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David <[REDACTED]> Carrasco,  
Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt  
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2  
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5  
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8  
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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[External Email]

Dear Mayor, City Counselor Members, Clerk and City Staff;

Thank you for all that you do to serve our city of San Jose and support each of us that have made this great place our home.

In the spirit of maintaining the integrity of the democracy we live in, I request that there be a special election held to fill the current vacancies in District 10 and 8. I am firmly against these positions just being appointed.

Thank you again,  
Stephanie Chase  
Almaden Valley, SJ. District 10

Sent from my iPhone

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## FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 9:57 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: carol herzog <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 9:52 AM

To: Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio

<[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David

<[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev

<[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]>

Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]> City Clerk

<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3

<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6

<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9

<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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The citizens in San Jose need to be allowed to vote to fill the 2 empty council seats. The city council should not be allowed to appoint the replacements.

Thanks

Carol Herzog

Sent from my iPhone

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## FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 9:57 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** Tammi Smorynski <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 9:57 AM

**To:** Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio  
<[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David <[REDACTED]> Carrasco,  
Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt  
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2  
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5  
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8  
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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I am requesting that the San Jose City Council create an expedited process for a Special Election to fill the vacancies in the D8 & D10 Council positions. I oppose the current 2022 Council appointing individuals to the D8 & D10 Council positions without a vote of the citizens of these districts.

Thanks. Tammi  
In District 10

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## FW: Please allow an election for District 8 & 10 Representatives

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 9:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** David Yost <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 9:57 AM

**To:** Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio  
<[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David <[REDACTED]> Carrasco,  
Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt  
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2  
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5  
<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8  
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Re: Please allow an election for District 8 & 10 Representatives

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[External Email]

Forgot to include my name: David Yost  
& my zip: 95120 (Almaden)

On Mon, Dec 5, 2022 at 9:55 AM David Yost <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Please allow an election for District 8 & 10 Representatives.

Let Democracy work

-Dave

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## FW: Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 9:59 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** Carolyn Bauer <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 9:58 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

[External Email]

San Jose City Clerk Toni Taber,

I disagree with the reasons WHY many organizations say 'low voter turnout' is bad and wastes money. I have voted every election for every position and on every item. I would rather have less voters who are informed & care vote, rather than push numbers. With mail in ballots in different languages, there are very few reasons not to vote.

1. DMV registered you incorrectly when you checked a box, so you know you don't qualify to vote.
2. You happen to be out of the State during the month
3. You don't care enough.

If it's number 3, I don't want you to vote so screw any reasons about low voter turnout.

With that said, I also know that it is the district's directly affected whose voice all of you should listen to first.

My voice, which is that of 4 voting residents in our household, along with all other voices outside districts 8 & 10 living in San Jose should be next to take into consideration because as a collective, you are 'our' council and we should be coming together (voting) to do what is best for the future of San Jose, NOT what large donors of either sides state.

Yes, having a representative chosen BY the PEOPLE they represent is the FAIREST way to replace the candidate who is moving on AND COST should NOT be considered when it comes to FAIRNESS of representation, however it is always part of the consideration so consider these.

Perhaps the City Charter should be changed to allow the outgoing 'elected' representative to appoint their own replacement who would usually align with the goals of the elected. Otherwise, only an Election will truly be a FAIR representative. So in the future, if you want to 'save money' have the candidate choose their replacement.

At this point, if we were truly going to open the Southside police station with this money, the council would have done that. This money would go for more officers but only to hire, not to retain and we got extra Covid money the past few years. This is money that truly should go for all these 'other areas' but has not.

Personally, you all have a tough choice and if I lived in Districts 8 or 10, I would be screaming to let 'me' vote for my representative because elections for my representative, for MY VOTE, should MATTER more than money. Even though others may find that statement difficult to understand, placing values on people voting is what SBLC states they want, so what better way to PROVE they care, then to increase votes in districts 8 and 10. Let them choose- Thank You.

Carolyn Bauer



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**FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10**

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 10:00 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: James Watson <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 10:00 AM

To: Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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Dear Pam Foley,

I am writing to urge you to vote not to appoint members for these districts but instead hold a special election. This is the American way. For and by the people!

Regards,

Jim Watson  
District 7 resident

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## FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 10:37 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: Jack Boyer <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 10:05 AM

To: Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]>

Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]>

Jimenez, Sergio

<[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]>

Cohen, David

<[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]>

Davis, Dev

<[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]>

Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]>

Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]>

Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]>

City Clerk

<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]>

District2 <[REDACTED]>

District3

<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]>

District5 <[REDACTED]>

District 6

<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]>

District8 <[REDACTED]>

District9

<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Boyer Jack <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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[External Email]

From: Jack Boyer, resident of District 10 since 1974

Dear San Jose City Council members,

Regarding the filling of the currently vacant seats for Districts 8 and 10, I deem it absolutely essential that the individual residents of this District should vote for their candidate of choice, not selected by any governing individual or group, for example, the Mayor, current City Council Members, etc.

Sincerely,

Jack C. Boyer

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**FW: Please fill the Council vacancies for District 8 and District 10 by appointment**

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 10:37 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

---

**From:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 10:07 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Fw: Please fill the Council vacancies for District 8 and District 10 by appointment

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**From:** Salimah Valiani <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Sunday, December 4, 2022 10:43 PM

**To:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Please fill the Council vacancies for District 8 and District 10 by appointment

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[External Email]

Please fill the Council vacancies for District 8 and District 10 by appointment, to approve a thorough and transparent process to fill the vacancies for the duration of the term and to focus city time and resources on what's important: good jobs, safe communities, clean streets, and neighborhood investments.

Thank you,

Salimah Valiani  
Resident of San Jose and Citizen

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## FW: Filling two vacancies on the Council

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 10:37 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

---

**From:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 10:07 AM

**To:** Reed, Jim <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Fw: Filling two vacancies on the Council

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**From:** Richard Konda <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 5, 2022 8:42 AM

**To:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District2

<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District8

<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District4

<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Filling two vacancies on the Council

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and members of the San Jose City Council:

Please use the appointment process to fill the District 8 and District 10 vacancies on the City Council. Using this process will ensure that both District 8 and District 10 will be represented and able to vote on upcoming important policy decisions.

The cost of a special election is too high when the budget for the next year is very uncertain. With a new mayoral administration beginning next year, having a council that represents all of the 10 districts is essential.

Sincerely,

----

**Richard Konda (he/him/his)**

Executive Director

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 10:38 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: Jo Kawanami <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 10:08 AM

To: Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]>

Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]>

Jimenez, Sergio

<[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]>

Cohen, David

<[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]>

Davis, Dev

<[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]>

Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]>

Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]>

Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]>

City Clerk

<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]>

District2 <[REDACTED]>

District3

<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]>

District5 <[REDACTED]>

District 6

<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]>

District8 <[REDACTED]>

District9

<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]]

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<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

[External Email]

Dear Sam Liccardo,

I believe it is the right of the voters to elect and fill the empty council seats. Please do not appoint anyone that we have not approved!

Thank you,

Josephine Kawanami

Sent from my iPad

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Fw: Email Addresses For Mayor and Council

Glenna Howcroft <[REDACTED]>

Sat 12/3/2022 9:12 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo  
<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2  
<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5  
<[REDACTED]> District6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8  
<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District10  
<[REDACTED]> Taber, Toni  
<[REDACTED]> Tim and Joanie <[REDACTED]> Glenna Howcroft <[REDACTED]>

[External Email]

I am forwarding these emails to be included in Dec 5,2022 Council meeting Item 22-1824

Thank you,  
Glenna Howcroft

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** OLIVE COULTHART <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** Glenna Howcroft <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 2, 2022 at 03:47:35 PM PST  
**Subject:** Re: Email Addresses For Mayor and Council

To all San Jose government officials involved in the appointment of the two vacant council seats,

It's time to hold a special ELECTION for the two vacant council seats. Folks who hold ELECTED positions should be ELECTED.

If you appoint the two council positions, you will make those two people incumbents for the next ELECTION. By making them incumbents you will be giving those two appointed people an unfair advantage because they were never ELECTED in the first place. Incumbents almost always have the advantage in ELECTIONS. So by appointing the two council seats you are acting in a VERY UNdemocratic manner.

Conclusion: Hole a special ELECTION and carry-out your duties in the democratic way. Let's have our ELECTED officials actually be ELECTED.

Thank you. Olive Coulthart

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

P.S. Add your email address if you want a copy

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**FW: We deserve an election to decide who fills the council seat!**

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 11:55 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

---

**From:** Margaret Yost <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 11:40 AM

**To:** Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio  
<[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David <[REDACTED]> Carrasco,  
Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt  
<Matt [REDACTED] City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** We deserve an election to decide who fills the council seat!

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

We feel strongly that even though it costs money, there should be an election to fill the council seats!! Politicians should not be deciding.

Margaret Yost

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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## FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 11:52 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: Christy Kempski <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 11:52 AM

To: Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio

<[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David

<[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev

<[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]>

Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]> City Clerk

<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3

<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6

<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9

<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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[External Email]

Hello,

Please allow us to vote for these vacancies. These positions impact budgets for our animal shelter and I would like a say in who fills them.

Thank you for your consideration,

Christy Kempski  
San Jose resident

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## Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10, In favor of 'Special Election'

Brenda Dohmen <[REDACTED]>

Sat 12/3/2022 1:34 PM

To: Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio  
<[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David  
<[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev  
<[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley,  
Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1  
<[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4  
<[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7  
<[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]>

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at  
<https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

[External Email]

After this most recent election it is unrealistic to even consider that our current San Jose City Council and Mayor can come together to appoint council members to replace the vacant seats in District 8 & 10. Why should we trust you to do this for us? I could go on all day long with the ineptness and hypocrisy down at city hall, but taking away our fundamental right to vote and at the same time setting a new precedent for future vacant seat appointments is a new low for our city and our country. Welcome to China where they escort representatives out of the chamber who speak out with the slightest opposition to one-party rule. You're not representing us now! You represent big money and special interest groups. This is obvious when hired or paid professional special interest lobbyists and association members show up on hot issues to speak in opposition to what members of the community actually want. Our voices are silenced. It's obvious when you ignore input from city commissions and the real members of the community that matter, your neighborhood members. My vote is priceless! Make a special election happen. It would be unforgivable for you to appoint someone to represent us. Respectfully,  
Brenda Dohmen  
San Jose Voter

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FW: Sharon Schuetze 95127 - 12/5/22 22-1824 Filling Vacancies - Special Election

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 11:48 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: District 5 United <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 7:40 AM

To: [REDACTED] District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4  
<[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7  
<[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10  
<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo  
<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Sharon Schuetze 95127 - 12/5/22 22-1824 Filling Vacancies - Special Election

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[External Email]

Dear City Council,

I am writing regarding the topic of filling vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10.

I ask that you use the following process: Special Election

The people should be given a choice of their Council Members, not be chosen.

Sharon Schuetze  
95127

--

This mail was sent on behalf of a San Jose resident via District 5 United <https://www.district5united.org> Community Working Together

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**Fw: Santa Clara County Democratic Party letter supporting an appointment process to fill vacancies**

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 11:35 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

**Office of the City Clerk | City of San José**

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14<sup>th</sup> Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

---

**From:** Bill James <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 5, 2022 11:11 AM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2

<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5

<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8

<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Santa Clara County Democratic Party letter supporting an appointment process to fill vacancies

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[External Email]

Dear City Clerk, Mayor, and Council Members,

I am enclosed a revised version of the letter submitted earlier today supporting an appointment process to fill the vacancies from District 8 and 10.

The attached version corrects a typographical error.

Regards, Bill James

Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair

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Santa Clara County Democratic Party  
2901 Moorpark Ave, Suite 110  
San Jose, California 95128

December 5, 2022

[REDACTED]

Mayor Liccardo and Members of the San José City Council  
San José City Hall

Re: Agenda Item 22-1824 re Council Vacancies

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council,

We urge you to adopt a fair, transparent, inclusive, and expeditious process to *appoint members to represent Districts 8 and 10 until the next regular election*. Appointing members who do not have to immediately run in a special election is the surest way to maintain constituent services for residents of Districts 8 and 10 and ensure they have a voice in the budget process.

Historically, voter turnout in special elections is very low, as much as half the turnout in midterm elections and a third the turnout in a presidential election. Based on turnout in the recent midterm elections for San José City Council, turnout could be as low as 20%, or lower, which would result in a candidate being elected with support from barely 10% of the voters in their district. Research shows that communities of color, young people, and workers would be among those greatly underrepresented in such a low participation election. That's not true democracy.

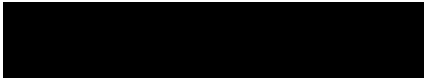
Special elections would likely require a runoff, which would not be completed until the time the fundraising period for the regular election would begin. It doesn't serve the residents of Districts 8 and 10, or the best interests of the entire community, to remain in a continuous state of campaigning for the next two years, instead of allowing the City Council to focus on the many unmet needs and challenges we face.

Finally, a special election conducted without undue restrictions, such as not providing for residents to vote in person if they so choose, would cost upwards of \$10 million. No member should vote to conduct a special election unless they identify the corresponding \$1 million in services they would cut to residents of their district. At a time of budget shortfalls, it doesn't make sense to spend

this much money to conduct a special election that would only be resolved at around the same time the fundraising period for the upcoming regular election begins.

Conducting elections with limited modalities and at off times is a tried-and-true voter suppression strategy. We urge you not to take this path, and instead appoint members who are representative of the interests and needs of the whole district, rather than allowing a small, non-representative subset of members to choose the representatives that suit them. A more representative electorate would then have the chance to express their preference in the upcoming regular election.

Regards,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Bill James.

Bill James  
Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair



## Fw: Filling Council Vacancies in 8 & 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 11:34 AM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

### Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14<sup>th</sup> Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

---

**From:** District 10 <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 5, 2022 11:29 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev

<[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam

<[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2

<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5

<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8

<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> Liccardo, Sam

<[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen,

David <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Re: Filling Council Vacancies in 8 & 10

Dear Randi,

Thank you for reaching out to our office about the process for filling the council vacancies. We appreciate your support of common sense solutions – the people should choose their elected leaders, not the politicians.

**Today at 5:00pm, Council will decide whether or not to hold a special election to fill the vacancies in Districts 8 and 10. We hope you can join us this evening to voice your support of having an election. Please share this with your network.**

**The meeting starts promptly at 5:00 pm today, December 5th. [Learn how to get involved by clicking this link.](#)**

We have always filled vacant seats with a vote of the people. Recently our president talked about how Democracy was on the ballot – and asked us to vote to stand up for our democratic institutions. We have just been through a contentious Mayoral campaign. Now is the time to unite around our shared principles. And no principle is more crucial to San Jose than the foundational value that the people should choose their leaders – not the politicians. There is no greater denial of democracy than simply refusing to have an election.

Let's make sure the council hears our voices – we want the people to decide, not the politicians!

**Gema Escorcía**

Operations Lead & Council Aid

On Sat, 3 Dec at 12:21 AM , Rmark9039 <[REDACTED]> wrote:

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[External Email]

Council Members Jimenez, Arenas and Davis,

Your recommendation to let 6 of the 2023 councilmembers decide who will be appointed to two vacant council seats is despicable.

It does not represent the people. If you wanted everyone to work together, you would recommend that a unanimous vote is needed to appoint the new council members next year.

Arenas and Davis ran for office during their term. Now you're concerned about other council members running for office during their terms. Complete hypocrisy on your part.

You say you will "handle this in a thoughtful manner." More hypocrisy when you want 6 of the council members to pick the new ones.

You say "It is important to note that mayor-elect Mahan will have a say in who is selected to represent District 10." More hypocrisy. It's only 6 of the council members who would choose the newly appointed members.

You say "not allow politicians to play kingmaker via campaign committees" and worried about "IE's buying an election." More hypocrisy. Where was your outcry when the 49ers spent \$720,000 on your Chavez' campaign? Now YOU want to play kingmaker with only 6 council votes?

You say "who sits on the Council, likely for the next 5+ years". YOU want to play kingmaker for 5+ years on two seats. That is not an interim appointment! You want to hand-pick for 5+ years. Why didn't you recommend someone who doesn't want to run for re-election? More hypocrisy.

You say "We must demand better from our politicians and our news sources." More hypocrisy. YOU are the politicians and YOU control the news sources.

You say "Elections which we are sure residents are tired of." Who put you in charge of deciding when residents are tired of elections?

Why didn't you mention the cost estimate that costs half as much if we do all-mail elections?

The people of San Jose will not forget this divisive, corrupt, hypocritical power-play. You are liars and you are stealing two council seats because you know that Labor wouldn't win in D10 and maybe not in D8. The Labor-business divide is not dead. YOU are perpetuating it! The people see what you are doing.

Randi Markwood

San Jose resident

## FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 12:47 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: Kay Blom <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 12:01 PM

To: Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio

<[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David

<[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev

<[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]>

Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]> City Clerk

<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3

<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6

<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9

<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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Decisions like this should be done by letting the people vote!

Thank you!

Kay Blom

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FW: Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 1:21 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, December 5, 2022 1:10 PM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

[External Email]

San Jose City Clerk Toni Taber,

I am writing in support of the City Council appointing new members of council to fill Districts 8 and 10 - specifically the memo from Councilmembers Davis, Arenas and Jimenez.

According to the City Charter, the City Council has the discretion to appoint someone to fill the two vacancies for the remainder of the term. This option would require no city funding and create an opportunity for a genuinely representative electorate to select their next councilmember. The alternative, a special election, could cost \$7-11 million dollars, have extremely low, consequently unrepresentative, voter turnout and will not yield a councilmember until August of next year, months before the 2024 election cycle begins, according to the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters.

As a San José resident, it's clear to me that our city is currently at a critical juncture, in dire need of resources for public safety, parks, and vital infrastructure — every dollar that is unwisely spent means there is less, much needed, funding towards addressing our current housing crisis, and need for public safety and regional economic development. These are urgent issues that impact each and everyone that lives and works in San José. We need our local leaders to focus on funding and implementing solutions that make it possible for each of us to have a roof over our heads, feel safe in our neighborhoods and parks, and have access to critical infrastructure and care.

I stand alongside a broad coalition of partners from labor, community and multi ethnic organizations in supporting a process that would lead to genuine representation and afford for an electorate reflective of our community. I ask the San José City Council to put their constituents first and adopt a fair, transparent, inclusive, and expeditious process to appoint members to represent Districts 8 and 10 until the next regular election in 2024.

[REDACTED]

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## Fw: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 1:32 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

### Office of the City Clerk | City of San José

200 E. Santa Clara St., Tower 14<sup>th</sup> Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

Main: 408-535-1260

Fax: 408-292-6207

How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)

---

**From:** Theo Klopper <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 5, 2022 1:15 PM

**To:** Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio

<[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David <[REDACTED]> Carrasco,

Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya

<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt

<Matt <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2

<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5

<[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8

<[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

[External Email]

Greetings.

I agree with what the SJ Mercury News wrote on this subject.

1. Let the public decide and vote on the two soon to be vacant SJ City council members' seats.
2. Keep cost down by mail-only voting.

Thanks and regards.

Theo Klopper.

Sent from my iPhone

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FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 1:50 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: Lucienne Klopper <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 1:46 PM

To: Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District 10  
<[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4  
<[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6 <[REDACTED]> District7  
<[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9 <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Folev, Pam <[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]>  
Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia  
<[REDACTED]>

Subject: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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[External Email]

Greetings.

I agree with what the SJ Mercury News wrote on this subject.

1. Let the public decide and vote on the two soon to be vacant SJ City council members' seats.
2. Keep cost down by mail-only voting.

Thank you with kind regards,

Lucienne Klopper

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## FW: Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 2:07 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

---

**From:** Jose Posadas <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 2:00 PM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

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[External Email]

As one of the 23 members of the Charter Review Commission from 2021 we submitted various recommendations to the Council on ways to make the City more representative, more responsive, accessible and reflective of the diverse community at-large. One of the guiding thoughts throughout the year-long process was to increase participation by both citizens and non-citizens alike.

To that end, one of the recommendations became Measure B which was passed nearly unanimously by the Council based on the argument that increasing voter participation is a desired outcome. That measure was passed by voters in this past June Primary Election.

Another recommendation, in the form of Measure I was also placed on the ballot by the Council and among one its goals was increased participation in our city commissions by non-citizens, an attempt to get more residents to have a say in their local government. That measure was also passed by voters in the November General Election.

San Jose continues to be a progressive city, a city with an entrepreneurial mindset when it comes to increasing civic participation for all its residents.

We, thankfully, are not like some groups in national politics who attempt to disenfranchise voters, for example in states such as Georgia. Yet, despite efforts by some of those groups, the State of Georgia is reporting record setting early-voting turnouts in their special run-off election taking place tomorrow.

I believe San Jose can do the same in our own local special elections and can work to help turn out voters using existing resources, partnering with non-partisan organizations, and promoting civic participation at every city-held community meeting, planning workshop and council-sponsored event.

At every such opportunity there should be efforts towards voter registration, updating of voter information, pre-registration of qualifying teens, and literature on upcoming ballot issues. I personally have had the opportunity to speak in front of thousands of new citizens during their swearing-in ceremonies on the importance of civic participation and on voting specifically. I welcome any invitation to do so in the city I have called home ever since immigrating here from Mexico as an infant.

As a Latino, as an immigrant who became a naturalized citizen, as a progressive democrat, and unionist I am supportive of efforts to engage underrepresented, diverse communities into the political process – the more we are engaged the more our voices are heard.

Voting is like exercising a muscle – you get stronger only when you flex it.

Jose Posadas, District 3 resident



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## FW: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 2:08 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

-----Original Message-----

From: Gina Whitney <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 2:00 PM

To: Liccardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie <[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio

<[REDACTED]> Perez, Raul <[REDACTED]> Cohen, David

<[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena <[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev

<[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya <[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]>

Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan, Matt <[REDACTED]> City Clerk

<[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3

<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6

<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9

<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

[External Email]

Please let us vote for our new city council rep.

Gina Whitney  
New district 10

Sent from my iPhone

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## Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

Detection Post <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 2:23 PM

To: City Clerk <[REDACTED]> Llicardo, Sam <[REDACTED]> Jones, Chappie  
<[REDACTED]> Jimenez, Sergio <[REDACTED]> Peralez, Raul  
<[REDACTED]> Cohen, David <[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> Davis, Dev <[REDACTED]> Esparza, Maya  
<[REDACTED]> Arenas, Sylvia <[REDACTED]> Foley, Pam <[REDACTED]> Mahan,  
Matt <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2 <[REDACTED]> District3  
<[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District5 <[REDACTED]> District 6  
<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]>

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[External Email]

Dear Council,

Please do not fill the vacancy in District 10 by a council appointment vote. This is my district and I want to vote for the best candidate. An appointed actor does not know how I want to be represented. I feel strongly that I should pick who may represent my district, not someone or a group of council members who don't even reside in my district. Please do not usurp my rights in a democratic government.

Please, LET ME VOTE

Michael M. Van Damme

[REDACTED]  
San Jose City Council District 10

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## FW: 12/5 Special Meeting - Comment Letter

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 2:57 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 5, 2022 2:55 PM

**To:** The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOff[REDACTED]> Carrasco, Magdalena  
<[REDACTED]> District 10 <[REDACTED]> District1 <[REDACTED]> District2  
<[REDACTED]> District3 <[REDACTED]> District4 <[REDACTED]> District 6  
<[REDACTED]> District7 <[REDACTED]> District8 <[REDACTED]> District9

**Cc:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** 12/5 Special Meeting - Comment Letter

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

Please find attached my comment letter for today's special council meeting on council vacancies. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this matter.

Sincerely,

**Jesus Flores**

President & CEO

Latino Business Foundation SV

[www.lbfsv.org](http://www.lbfsv.org)

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December 5, 2022

Honorable Mayor and City Council  
City of San Jose  
200 E. Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones, and Councilmembers Carrasco, Mahan, Jimenez, Arenas, Cohen, Davis, Foley, Peralez, and Esparza,

**RE: 12/5 Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies on Council Districts 8 and 10**

On behalf of our base, small and micro businesses primarily minority owned throughout the Silicon Valley, we write to urge council to use an appointment process, as allowed per city charter, to fill in upcoming council vacancies in council districts 8 and 10. As a small and microbusiness advocacy organization, we are always looking to support our members through turbulent economic times as well as provide resources to increase civic participation among our membership, especially given the fact that our members are businesses that are owned by and employ thousands of residents of our community. We are coming off a midterm election with very low turnout among specific demographics in particular BIPOC communities. We must continue to advocate for a just democracy with opportunities for everyone to participate in their civic duties and special elections are famously known for very low voter turnouts which will have an effect on genuine representation.

Additionally, we must be aware of our current fiscal climate and how we properly utilize our city's resources. **It has been mentioned that a special election could cost up to 11 million dollars, that's 11 million dollars that the city can use towards supporting economic development, public safety, and other issues impacting our community.**

We are in ardent support of a genuine democracy, allowing appointed council members to finish out unexpired terms and allow for elections in a regularly timed cycle should be the preferred option **so that our entire community will be best positioned to turn out to the polls to select their representatives.**

We look forward to working with everyone on numerous city matters in an expeditious manner, the appointment process allows us that opportunity. Thank you for your attention to this matter and for the opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,

**Jesus Flores**, President and CEO  
Latino Business Foundation of Silicon Valley

## FW: Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Mon 12/5/2022 3:27 PM

To: Agendadesk <[REDACTED]>

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**From:** Brad De Young <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2022 3:27 PM

**To:** City Clerk <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Special Meeting on Filling Vacancies in Council Districts 8 and 10

[External Email]

San Jose City Clerk Toni Taber,

I am writing in support of the City Council appointing new members of council to fill Districts 8 and 10. According to the City Charter, the City Council has the discretion to appoint someone to fill the two vacancies for the remainder of the term. This option would require no city funding and create an opportunity for a genuinely representative electorate to select their next councilmember. The alternative, a special election, could cost \$7-11 million dollars, have extremely low, consequently unrepresentative, voter turnout and will not yield a councilmember until August of next year, months before the 2024 election cycle begins, according to the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters.

As a San José resident, it's clear to me that our city is currently at a critical juncture, in dire need of resources for public safety, parks, and vital infrastructure — every dollar that is unwisely spent means there is less, much needed, funding towards addressing our current housing crisis, and need for public safety and regional economic development. These are urgent issues that impact each and everyone that lives and works in San José. We need our local leaders to focus on funding and implementing solutions that make it possible for each of us to have a roof over our heads, feel safe in our neighborhoods and parks, and have access to critical infrastructure and care.

I stand alongside a broad coalition of partners from labor, community and multi ethnic organizations in supporting a process that would lead to genuine representation and afford for an electorate reflective of our community. I ask the San José City Council to put their constituents first and adopt a fair, transparent, inclusive, and expeditious process to appoint members to represent Districts 8 and 10 until the next regular election in 2024.

Brad De Young



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