

**Boards and Commissions Application**

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**Profile**

Please note, applications are continuously accepted to the City of San Jose Boards and Commissions. The Board or Commission you select may or may not indicate there is a vacancy. Your application will remain on file for one year from the date of submission. During the year, your application may be considered for unanticipated vacancies.

Additionally, applicants to the following commissions will be required to fill out a [Form 700](#) (California State required Statement of Economic Interest) within 30 days of appointment.

- Airport Commission
- Appeals Hearing Board
- Arena Authority
- Arts Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee (DCAC)
- Downtown Parking Board
- Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices (formerly Ethics Commission)
- Federated and Police & Fire Retirement Boards
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Housing & Community Development Commission
- Work2future (SVWIB) Board
- Planning Commission\*

Aanya

First Name

Mishra

Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95129

Postal Code

**Are you a resident of San Jose?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

What district do you live in? To verify, please click here:

[https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple)

[selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple) \*

☒ District 1

Mobile:

Primary Phone

Mobile:

Alternate Phone

**Length of Residency**

☒ 6 or more years

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Youth Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

[Redacted]

☒ [Redacted] ☐ [Redacted]

Question applies to Youth Commission

Birthdate

December 21, 2007

N/A  
Employer

N/A  
Job Title

Current Employer Address

N/A

Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Address of Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Spouse's Job Title

N/A

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

N/A

[Redacted]

Question applies to multiple boards

[REDACTED]

- ☒ [REDACTED]
- ☒ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- ☒ [REDACTED]

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## Interests & Experiences

**High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.**

Sophomore at Lynbrook High School. I completed Intro to Computer Science in my freshman year, where I learned Python and Java (August 2021 - June 2022). I am currently taking AP CS A. I plan on majoring in Computer Science. I completed a Data Analytics using Python course from UC San Diego, where I learned data visualization, data manipulation, data classification, and logistic regression (April 2022 - June 2022). I completed an Intro Graphic Design: Vector course from De Anza (June 2022 - August 2022). I completed an Honors SQL, Data Science, and Artificial Intelligence course, where I also explored machine learning (June 2022 - September 2022). In all the courses mentioned above, I got an A grade.

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**List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates.**

I am currently a member of Cupertino's Teen Advisory Council (for STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math): For Super Summer Science Search, I created several digital designs for posters, was a lead for a study session, and was one of the judges for their annual competition. For Gateway to Learning, I created pamphlets, volunteer forms, set up and led two booths. I currently maintain their website. OneStop Learning Center is a non-profit afternoon school program dedicated to providing an assortment of high-quality classes and activities for children. I organized and taught at a summer debate camp in June 2021. I was a Java instructor in August 2021. I taught a year-long debate class from September 2021 to May 2022. I taught math and science from July 2022 to August 2022. I am currently teaching math. I have completed around 190 hours of volunteer work at OneStop Learning Center.

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## Languages Spoken

English, Hindi, Spanish

## Special Awards or Recognitions Received

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Volunteer Awards: 1. I received a President's Gold Volunteer Service Award from OneStop Learning Center for completing over 100 hours of voluntary work this year. Hackathon: 1. My team and I won the AMD All Girls International Hackathon in December 2022. We designed an app that would make it easier to plan, execute, and share our travel experiences with others. 2. My team and I won first place at Girls ReCode Hacks in March 2023. We designed a website that allows women to anonymously reach out and receive support from their classmates/faculty about mistreatment, bias, and harm committed against them. 3. My team and I also won third place at MagicHacks in March 2023. Debate: 1. Finalist at California Middle School State Championship 2. Finalist at Democratized Debate 3. Semifinalist at multiple tournaments, including Western JV 4. Octofinalist at Stratford 5. Triple Octofinalist at Berkeley 6. 9th place in speaker awards category at the University of Pennsylvania 7. 10th place in speaker awards category at California Middle School State Championship Visual Arts: 1. I received first place in the category of Visual Arts in Lynbrook's PTSA Reflections 21-22. 2. My artwork moved up to the council level, where it received an honorable mention. Performing Arts: 1. Won first place in two Bollywood group dance competitions

## Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member.

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I want to be a part of the Youth Commission because it values responsibility, teamwork, empathy, inclusivity, and empowerment, which are the qualities I have demonstrated through various volunteer initiatives over the last few years. Policy-making is an ongoing process where the ideas for implementation come through the interaction between the government and the public. We, as the members of this Commission, can be the link between the two. We can prioritize issues and present the problems for consideration and possible action. The objectives that I would work towards as a member are the issues facing teens, particularly mental health, drug abuse, drunk driving, and bullying. As someone who has a vast interest in researching current events and learning about public policies, I believe I am an excellent fit. Also, this council can help me fulfill my dream of being a person who can influence and positively change our community.

## Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application

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The art prompt was "I Will Change The World By..." Time was running out. There were countless ways I could approach this topic, but I wanted something that would resonate with everyone. My mind raced to search for an answer. After deliberating over it for hours, I asked myself: could I change the world if I did not have self-esteem or did not believe in myself? The answer was "no." I immediately knew what I was going to do next. I flipped open my laptop and created a digital painting of a girl engulfed in darkness holding a glowing crimson heart, implying that the first step to changing the world is to love yourself the way you are. I received first place in the Visual Arts category in Lynbrook High School's PTSA Reflections 2021-2022 for this illustration. In October 2022, I was selected as a member of Lynbrook's Vertigo art team, where I got an opportunity to showcase several artworks. Dance was another passion I was excited to learn, motivated to try, and ambitious to perfect. I started learning Bharatanatyam, an Indian classical dance, at age five. It is one of the toughest dance forms and requires perseverance, agility, steadiness, and hours of practice. Despite increasing academic and extracurricular demands, I pursued learning this dance form. Now, as a co-captain and choreographer of a Bollywood dance team, I get to spread the joy and enthusiasm that dancing brings me. My creativity, perseverance, curiosity, and synergetic approach toward community engagement make me a strong candidate for San Jose's Youth Commission.

## Do you own property in the City of San José?

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☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

(This property is owned by my parents) [REDACTED]

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you currently experiencing homelessness or have you experienced it in the past?

☐ Yes ☒ No

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

N/A

Question applies to Youth Commission

• Please state your current responsibilities in other organizations and groups, as well as the time commitment associated with those responsibilities (including family responsibilities).

I teach math classes at OneStop Learning Center (1.5 hours/week). I am one of the eleven members of Cupertino's Teen Advisory Council (2 hours/week). I am a member of Vertigo's art team (the official literary magazine of Lynbrook High School that publishes creative writing and artwork). (30 minutes/week) I attend Bharatanatyam dance class at Abhinaya Dance Academy (3 hours/week). I am co-captain of my school's Bollywood dance group (1 hour/week). I am a member of Lynbrook High School's Public Forum Debate team. (1 hour/week).

Reference 1 Name

Lillian Yen (Director of OneStop Learning Center)

Aanya Mishra

### Reference 1 Address

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[REDACTED]

### Reference 1 Email address

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[REDACTED]

### Reference 1 Phone

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[REDACTED]

### Reference 2 Name

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Shana Howden (School Counselor)

### Reference 2 Address

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[REDACTED]

### Reference 2 Email address

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[REDACTED]

### Reference 2 Phone

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[REDACTED]

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## Supplemental Questions

Question applies to Youth Commission

**Please list your community involvement, including jobs and volunteer work.**

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Website Management: In seventh and eighth grade (2019-2021), I was in charge of updating and maintaining the Miller Middle School's Speech and Debate Club website. I updated the results on our website after every tournament. I am currently developing the website for the debate camp that I will be organizing this summer. Leadership: In eighth grade, I was selected to take a Leadership elective in my middle school. I planned several student-engaging events during the year, such as a Talent Show and Cooking Nights. These events were centered on bringing students together during distance learning. I have been doing competitive debate since 6th grade. I have reached elimination rounds in many tournaments, including being a finalist at two tournaments and a semifinalist at one tournament. I have used my debating experience and public speaking skills to teach elementary and middle schoolers. I am organizing a debate summer camp from June 20th to July 1st, 2022, where we expect to raise around \$3,500. Teaching Debate, Java, Science, and Math at One Stop Learning Center: I volunteered to teach at a debate summer camp from 6/14/21 to 6/25/21 for 6 hours every day. I put in 70 hours in total to create a curriculum for the students and teach Public Forum (PF) Debate. In addition, I volunteered to teach Java at a coding camp. I put in 20 hours preparing lessons, teaching students, and giving practice problems. Since September 2021, I have been teaching weekly debate/science/math lessons to students at One Stop Learning Center. I received the President's Gold Volunteer Service Award since I completed 100 hours of volunteer service for One Stop Learning Center within a year. By the end of March 2023, I will be completing another 100 hours of volunteer work.

**In one paragraph, please explain your community interests.**

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One of my community interests is teaching debate. I have been doing competitive debates since 6th grade. As I researched current events, created arguments on the spot, and worked collaboratively with my partners, I developed a strong passion for it. In the summer of 2021, I volunteered to teach at a debate summer camp at One Stop Learning Center for two weeks. At the end of this summer camp, I was asked by the Director of One Stop Learning Center if I could teach a year-long weekly class because they had confidence in my leadership skills, and they knew I was reliable, responsible, and trustworthy. From September 2021 to May 2022, I taught weekly debate lessons to students. Some of the students in the class were younger compared to the rest. I made sure that I gave them extra time and attention so that they were not left behind. I created an environment where each student's ideas were valued and respected. To give them an experience of participating in a debate tournament, I held one and encouraged each student to participate in it. By the end of the class, students learned public speaking, collaboration, critical thinking, persuasion techniques, and research skills. In addition, I taught programming and dance to kids who share these interests.

**What do you feel are some of the problems facing the youth of San Jose?**

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Last year, my mother, who works in the City of San José, mentioned what she saw at the San José State University. There were around a thousand backpacks belonging to suicide attempt survivors or those lost to suicide. It contained their personal artifacts, stories, struggles, as well as what their families are currently going through. I was very moved, and I knew at that moment that each one of us had a responsibility to look out for others, support one another, and help each other connect to resources. This is important because suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students, and two-thirds of students with anxiety or depression don't seek treatment. I would work with the Commission to bring awareness about this issue and help prevent the loss of precious lives. A major problem facing the youth of San José is drug abuse. I have been doing competitive debate for five years, where I have researched and debated on many current issues. For every single topic, I had to analyze the evidence from both sides, which helped me better understand the issue and have an unbiased view. One of the topics I was given was related to drug use. It was an eye-opener for me, as it made me realize how prevalent this problem was among teens. 9 out of 10 people with addiction started in their teen years. I would work with the Commission to educate the youth about the harms of drug abuse. Another problem that the youth faces is alcoholism and drunk driving. Many schools are working toward bringing awareness to this issue. Through this Commission, I would like to work with the schools so that we can emphasize the importance of safe driving through educational skits and visual presentations. A ubiquitous problem our youth faces is poverty. We can assist in giving free classes to children in need. I have around 190 hours of teaching experience which will help me organize and facilitate classes for children.

**What do you feel the priorities of the Youth Commission should be?**

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The priorities of the Youth Commission should be to first help marginalized youth. Youth is a critical development period with long-lasting implications on a person's economic security, health, and well-being. Marginalized youth such as children of low-income parents, those aging out of foster care, those in the justice system, those with disabilities, those who dropped out of school, and those who bear responsibility for raising young children are most likely to face difficulty in a successful transition to adulthood. The pandemic has worsened the mental health of the youth. 44% of U.S. teens in 2022 report feeling sad and hopeless. We can only imagine how difficult the situation must be for the vulnerable and marginalized youth. While the local and state governments work on resolving the root level issues of poverty and homelessness, we teens could introduce a program that could allow a safe, secure, and readily accessible platform for teen interactions. Similar to the concept of a Pen Pal, we could pair teens with similar passions and interests. If in four years of our high school, one can positively impact the life of even one marginalized teen, that should be recognized and appropriately awarded.

**If applicable, have you ever attended or watched a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?**

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☒ Yes ☐ No

**Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?**

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☒ Yes ☐ No

**Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.**

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N/A

**Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, School, professional, social, Commissions, Boards, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment.**

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Before joining the debate club at my Middle School, I had ideas, opinions, biases, and was quick to jump to conclusions. As I started to prepare for the debate tournaments, things gradually began to change. I knew that a flip of a coin could decide which side I was arguing for. I had to research every topic extensively and prepare a detailed list of pros and cons. I had to think through how each sentence could be interpreted and used against me. This made me very cautious about weighing my words before saying them. Researching current events also made me realize how the century-old policies that when brought into effect made complete sense, grappled with validity in today's date, and had to be revised. How technology introduced an altogether different dimension to our world. Everything from the past had to be revisited to weave a technological aspect into it. The world is changing at an incredibly fast pace. As members of the Youth Commission, we have to help identify the problems and provide solutions that consider all of these aspects. I am an ethical and socially aware individual. Doing competitive speech and debate for 5 years has equipped me with research skills, public speaking skills, debating skills, and persuasive skills, which is why I would be a good fit for the Commission.

**What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?**

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I believe that the purpose of the Youth Commission is to empower socially aware teens like me to be civically engaged through local and city-wide events and initiatives. Since we are teenagers ourselves, we exactly know and empathize with the struggles and issues that teens face on a day-to-day basis. The expectation from us would be to identify teen-related problems, spread awareness about them, and provide innovative solutions to overcome them. The Youth Council would empower us to advise the City Council to act upon youth priorities through policy and budget recommendations. I attended the San Jose Youth Commission Budget Summit on February 26, 2023, at Kings Library. I had the opportunity to meet the current Youth Commission members and watch their presentations about the previous year's budget expenditure. I understood how each department spent its allocated money last year, including what went well and what the Youth Commission could improve on. I participated in the discussion regarding the Commission's priorities for next year and ranked the ten departments by how their budget should be allocated. Through the Budget Summit, I got a better understanding of how the Youth Commission works and how we, as teenagers, can get involved and make a difference in our community.



**Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Council should address.**

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1) Mental Health: the lockdowns during Covid-19 have adversely impacted the mental health of residents. The Commission should address this issue as otherwise, there would be long-lasting impacts resulting in undesirable consequences adversely impacting our community. 2) Homelessness: as per the 2022 Homeless Point-In-Time Count and Survey report, over 6,650 people are homeless in San José. The City is working towards providing affordable housing and improving the quality of life for unsheltered individuals, and creating healthy neighborhoods for all. We still have a long way to go. Unless we can integrate every single individual back into our society, we cannot call this work done. 3) Displacement: San José, compared to the national average, is 9.4 percent more expensive to live in. Even though San José is a tech hub, many people prefer to live in neighboring cities and commute to San José. Post-Covid, a lot of companies have started allowing their employees to work from home. This would result in more people moving out of the City. As a member of this Commission, we need to work together to improve the quality of life in San José and make it more attractive for all age groups so that we can avoid displacement.

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Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in your local District Specific Youth Advisory Council?**

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☒ No\,

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you answered Yes to the previous question, what are some projects you worked on in your Youth Advisory Council?**

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N/A

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in the Youth Commission's Special Events such as the Annual Budget Summit?**

---

☒ Yes

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you are not selected for your district's Commission seat, would you be interested in the Citywide Commissioner role?**

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☒ Yes

**Anything else you would like us to know?**

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I would be open to serving as a Youth Commissioner for any district in San Jose.

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(Optional) Please upload a resume.

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## Retirement Board Questions Only

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## Verification

**By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.**

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**I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.**

---

☒ I Agree \*

Boards and Commissions Application

Profile

Neyha  
First Name

Pradeepkumar  
Last Name

[Redacted]  
Email Address

Please note, applications are continuously accepted to the City of San Jose Boards and Commissions. The Board or Commission you select may or may not indicate there is a vacancy. Your application will remain on file for one year from the date of submission. During the year, your application may be considered for unanticipated vacancies.

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Youth Commission: Submitted

Are you a resident of San Jose?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Length of Residency

☒ 6 or more years

What district do you live in? To verify, please click here: <https://eservices.sccgov.org/rov/?tab=dt> \*

☒ District 2

[Redacted]  
Street Address

Suite or Apt

San Jose  
City

CA  
State

95138  
Postal Code

Mobile: [Redacted]  
Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

N/A  
Employer

N/A  
Job Title

Current Employer Address

N/A

Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Address of Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Spouse's Job Title

N/A

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

Question applies to Youth Commission

Birthdate

8/10/08

Question applies to multiple boards

[Redacted]

☒ [Redacted] ☐ [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

☒ [Redacted]

[Redacted]

☒ [Redacted]

Interests & Experiences

High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.

List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates

Languages Spoken

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Special Awards or Recognitions Received

---

Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member.

---

Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application

---

Do you own property in the City of San José?

---

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

---

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

---

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?

---

☐ Yes ☐ No

---

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?

---

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

---

Question applies to Youth Commission

• **Please state your current responsibilities in other organizations and groups, as well as the time commitment associated with those responsibilities (including family responsibilities).**

Dance (1 hr on the weekend) School - Everyday

**Reference 1 Name**

**Reference 1 Address**

**Reference 1 Email address**

**Reference 1 Phone**

**Reference 2 Name**

**Reference 2 Address**

**Reference 2 Email address**

**Reference 2 Phone**

---

## Supplemental Questions

Question applies to Youth Commission

**Please list your community involvement, including jobs and volunteer work.**

Volunteer of the city of San Jose - park cleanups - food bank distribution.

Question applies to Youth Commission

**In one paragraph, please explain your community interests.**

A community is one that should bring together all residences, regardless of their differences. However in order for this to come into action, a community needs to feel like a safe place for everyone. My community interests include keeping public use areas clean and trash free such as parks. Additionally, another community interest should be allowing the residents of the community to find a common sense of identity.

Question applies to Youth Commission

**What do you feel are some of the problems facing the youth of San Jose?**

The main problem that I feel the youth of San Jose is facing has to be insecurities. Whether it comes to food, or just not being social enough. A problem that needs to be fixed is pertaining more towards the mental health of the youth of San Jose especially after the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted all of us. Mental health drives physical health in my opinion which is why it should be a matter that is looked at.

**What do you feel the priorities of the Youth Commission should be?**

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I strongly believe that the priorities of the youth commission should be having solutions to every problem that the youth of San Jose faces having to do with mental health. "An estimated 3.2 million adolescents aged 12 to 17 in the United States had at least one major depressive episode", and this number is rapidly increasing. The main goal of the youth commission of San Jose should be to reduce this number among us.

**If applicable, have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?**

---

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?**

---

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.**

---

Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, School, professional, social, Commissions, Boards, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment to the selected commission(s).

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**What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?**

---

**Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Commission should address.**

---

  

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Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in your local District Specific Youth Advisory Council?**

☒ No\,

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you answered Yes to the previous question, what are some projects you worked on in your Youth Advisory Council?**

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in the Youth Commission's Special Events such as the Annual Budget Summit?**

☒ No

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you are not selected for your district's Commission seat, would you be interested in the Citywide Commissioner role?**

☒ Yes

**Anything else you would like us to know?**

(Optional) Please upload a resume.

**Retirement Board Questions Only**

**Verification**



By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.

---

I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.

---

☒ I Agree \*

**Boards and Commissions Application**

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**Profile**

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- Arena Authority
- Arts Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee (DCAC)
- Downtown Parking Board
- Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices (formerly Ethics Commission)
- Federated and Police & Fire Retirement Boards
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Housing & Community Development Commission
- Work2future (SVWIB) Board
- Planning Commission\*

Andrew

First Name

Lieu

Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95122

Postal Code

**Are you a resident of San Jose?**☒ Yes ☐ No

What district do you live in? To verify, please click here:

[https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple)

[selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple) \*

☒ District 5

Mobile:

Primary Phone

Mobile:

Alternate Phone

**Length of Residency**☒ 6 or more years

Andrew Lieu

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Youth Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

[Redacted]

☒ [Redacted] ☐ [Redacted]

Question applies to Youth Commission

Birthdate

05/13/2007

N/A  
Employer

N/A  
Job Title

Current Employer Address

N/A

Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Address of Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Spouse's Job Title

N/A

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

[Redacted]

Question applies to multiple boards

[REDACTED]

☒ [REDACTED]

☒ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

☒ [REDACTED]

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## Interests & Experiences

High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.

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List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates.

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## Languages Spoken

---

## Special Awards or Recognitions Received

---

Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member.

---

Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application

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Do you own property in the City of San José?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

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☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you currently experiencing homelessness or have you experienced it in the past?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

Question applies to Youth Commission

• Please state your current responsibilities in other organizations and groups, as well as the time commitment associated with those responsibilities (including family responsibilities).

Upcoming Region 4 (Bay Area) President for the California Association Of Student Councils. (5 hours a week) Junior Year (23-24) School Student (10-15 hours per week, mainly on weekends) William C. Overfelt, Track and Field (spring) as well as Cross Country (fall) (10 hours a week) United Nations Association, Youth Member helping advocate and inform others of the work of the United Nations, co-host and attend meetings and events. (Less than 4 hours)

Reference 1 Name

Reference 1 Address

Reference 1 Email address

Reference 1 Phone

Reference 2 Name

## Reference 2 Address

---

## Reference 2 Email address

---

## Reference 2 Phone

---

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## Supplemental Questions

Question applies to Youth Commission

**Please list your community involvement, including jobs and volunteer work.**

---

Hillview Public Library Tutor (December 2019 - March 2020) Class Treasurer at William C. Overfelt High School (August 2021 - December 2021) Upcoming Region 4 (Bay Area) President for the California Association Of Student Councils (March 31st, 2023-Present) United Nations Association Of The United States Of America (April 2022 - Present) Youth Commissioner for the 5th San Jose City District (March 2022 - Present)

Question applies to Youth Commission

**In one paragraph, please explain your community interests.**

---

District 5 youth are interested in a variety of programs, the need for a clean public environment (free of graffiti), and the further continued support of the enrichment of their varied cultures. Programs that help students learn life-skill from outside of the classroom. A clean and safe environment with clean and well-lit (at night) parks, open green space, or some other form of community-designated place. Together with the need to encourage cultural expression through the arts and food, to name a few.

Question applies to Youth Commission

**What do you feel are some of the problems facing the youth of San Jose?**

---

Among many current issues, the lack of civic engagement stands out. In communities within District 5, voter turnout has been lower than in neighboring districts. Often, many aren't able to focus on learning about their civic duties and various responsibilities; this applies to youth (who are pre-registered or are able to vote when they turn 18) too. The city should work with and partner with CBOs or various non-profits that would come to individuals to provide clear, direct, and effective resources (perhaps it starts with city staff coming in and talking about civics in middle school) to youth early on about the importance of government so that they can become more informed to make their own decisions when it comes time to perform their duties, rather than relying only on their environment. If we don't get youth involved in the civil process, they are likely to ignore it in the future. A statistic from the election of 2022 was that only about 33% of registered voters turned out; this stat is likely to be lower in District 5. Second, the use of drugs among District 5 youth remains a problem. It is likely that students will say yes to Overfelt's question about whether or not they smelled vape on campus. Nicotine is a highly addictive drug. To combat these issues, the city should work closely to bring resources to or point various organizations toward these communities to assist those who want to quit. Fentanyl is another crisis among teenagers, and the city would provide funding in public spaces that are utilized by primary youth to have antagonists to Fentanyl in the event that a crisis may occur. District 5 has been underresourced for all residents, among them youth. The lack of quality programs, parks, recreation, and activities affects East Side youth negatively in the long term. It is vital that we, as the City of San Jose, make an effort to bring programs that are tailored to the community; these programs may include the expansion of sports leagues (to more than just baseball), expanding programs like Project Hope to a larger community instead of schools, offering mentorship opportunities beyond the classroom (careers and college), and updating or taking a look at programs that currently exist (like SJ Aspire) to improve them with feedback directly from youth. I hope to work closely with the current District 5 Administration on the City Council and City Staff to develop and propose solutions to these problems.

**What do you feel the priorities of the Youth Commission should be?**

---

In my opinion, the following should be prioritized. Raising awareness and taking action to promote sustainability, and hence Climate Change and a greener environment. The Youth Commission should commit to establishing relationships with various community members and stakeholders, including minority youth, in order for the Youth Commissioner's vote to be representative. Providing support for restorative techniques and programs. To work directly with teens to foster civic participation, so that the diverse voices of San Jose can be heard.

**If applicable, have you ever attended or watched a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?**

---

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?**

---

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.**

---

Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, School, professional, social, Commissions, Boards, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment.

---

**What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?**

---

**Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Council should address.**

---

---

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in your local District Specific Youth Advisory Council?**

---

- ☒ No
- ☒ Not sure\,

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you answered Yes to the previous question, what are some projects you worked on in your Youth Advisory Council?**

---

Chair of District 5 Youth Advisory Council (2022-23): Oversaw: Hillview Library Renovation, CM Interview Article, Research Policy Project, Rejuvenation Project. Thank You American Day, Black April Event, and Tet Festival Organizing (Youngest) Member

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in the Youth Commission's Special Events such as the Annual Budget Summit?**

---

- ☒ Yes

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you are not selected for your district's Commission seat, would you be interested in the Citywide Commissioner role?**

---

- ☒ Yes

**Anything else you would like us to know?**

---

---

(Optional) Please upload a resume.

---

**Retirement Board Questions Only**



---

## Verification

By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.

---

I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.

---

☒ I Agree \*

**Boards and Commissions Application**

---

**Profile**

Please note, applications are continuously accepted to the City of San Jose Boards and Commissions. The Board or Commission you select may or may not indicate there is a vacancy. Your application will remain on file for one year from the date of submission. During the year, your application may be considered for unanticipated vacancies.

Additionally, applicants to the following commissions will be required to fill out a [Form 700](#) (California State required Statement of Economic Interest) within 30 days of appointment.

- Airport Commission
- Appeals Hearing Board
- Arena Authority
- Arts Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee (DCAC)
- Downtown Parking Board
- Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices (formerly Ethics Commission)
- Federated and Police & Fire Retirement Boards
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Housing & Community Development Commission
- Work2future (SVWIB) Board
- Planning Commission\*

Amiya

First Name

Bansal

Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95125

Postal Code

**Are you a resident of San Jose?**☒ Yes ☐ No**What district do you live in? To verify, please click here:****[https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple)****[selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple) \***☒ District 6

Mobile:

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

**Length of Residency**☒ 6 or more years

Amiya Bansal

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Youth Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Question applies to Youth Commission

Birthdate

10/03/2007

54 357 285 383" data-label="Text">

Not Employed  
Employer

High School Student  
Job Title

Current Employer Address

N/A

Current Employer of Spouse

Not Married

Address of Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Spouse's Job Title

N/A

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

[Redacted]

Question applies to multiple boards

[REDACTED]

- ☒ [REDACTED]
- ☒ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- ☒ [REDACTED]

---

## Interests & Experiences

**High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.**

Notre Dame San Jose Sophomore

---

**List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates.**

District 6 Youth Commissioner and Communications Director 1st Term.

---

## Languages Spoken

English, with knowledge of Hindi and Spanish

---

## Special Awards or Recognitions Received

---

**Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member.**

---

**Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application**

I have been a District 6 Youth Commissioner and Communications Director for the past year and would love to continue this esteemed position!

---

**Do you own property in the City of San José?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**If yes, please list the addresses here.**

---

**Do you rent property in the City of San José?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

Amiya Bansal

If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you currently experiencing homelessness or have you experienced it in the past?

☐ Yes ☐ No

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

Question applies to Youth Commission

• Please state your current responsibilities in other organizations and groups, as well as the time commitment associated with those responsibilities (including family responsibilities).

Apart from my school & homework commitments, I spend about 2-3 hours every week supporting Remake Our World (a global non-profit working in the area of climate justice and women's rights), and another 5 hours doing Taekwondo every week. My responsibilities at home are more limited to helping my Mom and Dad on an as-needed basis. I am committed to making time for this opportunity as I am really passionate about this topic.

Reference 1 Name

Manju Bansal (Dad)

Reference 1 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Email address

[REDACTED]

### Reference 1 Phone

---

[REDACTED]

### Reference 2 Name

---

Sheila Santwani (Mom)

### Reference 2 Address

---

[REDACTED]

### Reference 2 Email address

---

[REDACTED]

### Reference 2 Phone

---

[REDACTED]

---

## Supplemental Questions

Question applies to Youth Commission

### Please list your community involvement, including jobs and volunteer work.

---

I am a Student Ambassador for Remake Our World, which is a global non-profit organization working in the area of climate justice and women's rights). You can learn more at <https://remake.world/> I served as the District 6 Youth Commissioner and Communications Director for the San Jose Youth Commission.

Question applies to Youth Commission

### In one paragraph, please explain your community interests.

---

I am super passionate about social justice and sustainability, and in my head, these topics are connected. These are also topics where people must come together to accomplish our common goal. As a young person of color, I want to make sure that I do my best to stay involved with my community and work with local policymakers to find solutions to these pressing problems, which is why this opportunity is of particular interest to me.

Question applies to Youth Commission

### What do you feel are some of the problems facing the youth of San Jose?

---

1. Lack of opportunity to participate in the tech economy - The overall economy of the Bay Area is booming but lots of under-privileged youth do not have access to the right education that would make them be employed by these large companies. We cannot solve our biggest challenges like climate change without using technology at all levels, and educating our youth is super critical for that. 2. Social inequality - We live in an affluent area but that also has some of the highest levels of homelessness and substance abuse. We have to create programs that can help minimize these gaps, especially as we are now competing in a global economy and cannot afford to leave our youth behind.

**What do you feel the priorities of the Youth Commission should be?**

---

1. Creating an even playing field for youth from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. We can do this by reducing the barriers in technical / STEM education and by creating more opportunities for internships at our local companies. 2. We live in a very diverse and multi lingual community, and it is vital that we are able to bring people together in a way that connects us all with our shared goals and not be distracted by our differences. The Youth Commission can play an important role in this because every youth that feels like they belong in our City will be a lifelong positive contributor to our City.

**If applicable, have you ever attended or watched a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?**

---

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?**

---

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.**

---

My experience serving as the D6 Youth Commissioner has been amazing so far. I have been able to hear the voice of our youth and work toward a better society. Our monthly meetings allow me to gain a deeper understanding of present issues and work with other commissioners to find solutions. Being the first Communications Director has allowed me to help increase youth engagement and get to know my peers on a deeper level.

**Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, School, professional, social, Commissions, Boards, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment.**

---

As the District 6 Youth Commissioner, I have created a diverse Youth Advisory Council with 5+ members working to serve the youth of our community. I am also the first/only Communications Director within our Commission and made our first official Instagram account/social media presence. I have attended and spoken at different Summits including Budget Summit and Civics Summit. I have also spoken at almost all official Youth Commission meetings as the D6 Commissioner. I have attended the YAC Social to meet other passionate teenagers in NorCal.

**What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?**

---

The purpose of the Commission as I have experienced first hand is to tackle the issues that youth in our city face and make an overall safer and better environment for teens.

**Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Council should address.**

---

  

---

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in your local District Specific Youth Advisory Council?**

---

☒ Yes

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you answered Yes to the previous question, what are some projects you worked on in your Youth Advisory Council?**

---

I was the District 6 Youth Commissioner and my Youth Advisory Council helped with research for Budget Summit, Policy Proposals, and increasing youth engagement.

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in the Youth Commission's Special Events such as the Annual Budget Summit?**

---

☒ Yes

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you are not selected for your district's Commission seat, would you be interested in the Citywide Commissioner role?**

---

☒ Yes

**Anything else you would like us to know?**

---

I am an independent thinking and very persevering individual who wants to make a difference in our world. I have a brother who is autistic and that drives me even more to helping people who may not be as fortunate as I am. I maintain a 4.6 GPA currently in my high school and am currently working towards my 2nd degree black belt in Taekwondo.

---

(Optional) Please upload a resume.



---

## Retirement Board Questions Only

---

### Verification

By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.

---

I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.

---

☒ I Agree \*

**Boards and Commissions Application**

---

**Profile**

Please note, applications are continuously accepted to the City of San Jose Boards and Commissions. The Board or Commission you select may or may not indicate there is a vacancy. Your application will remain on file for one year from the date of submission. During the year, your application may be considered for unanticipated vacancies.

Additionally, applicants to the following commissions will be required to fill out a [Form 700](#) (California State required Statement of Economic Interest) within 30 days of appointment.

- Airport Commission
- Appeals Hearing Board
- Arena Authority
- Arts Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee (DCAC)
- Downtown Parking Board
- Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices (formerly Ethics Commission)
- Federated and Police & Fire Retirement Boards
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Housing & Community Development Commission
- Work2future (SVWIB) Board
- Planning Commission\*

Megan

First Name

Luong

Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95122

Postal Code

**Are you a resident of San Jose?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

**What district do you live in? To verify, please click here:**

[https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple)

[selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple) \*

☒ District 7

Mobile:

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

**Length of Residency**

☒ 6 or more years

Megan Luong

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Youth Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

☒

☐

Question applies to Youth Commission

Birthdate

03/23/2006

none

Employer

none

Job Title

Current Employer Address

none

Current Employer of Spouse

none

Address of Current Employer of Spouse

none

Spouse's Job Title

none

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

Question applies to multiple boards

[REDACTED]

- ☒ [REDACTED]
- ☒ [REDACTED]
- ☒ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- ☒ [REDACTED]

---

## Interests & Experiences

**High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.**

Notre Dame High School San Jose, graduating class of 2024

---

**List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates.**

Vietnam Project Division Lead & International and Local Project Area Representative in Rotary Club  
International District 5170 Student Volunteer in Breakthrough Silicon Valley

---

## Languages Spoken

Vietnamese, Chinese, English

---

## Special Awards or Recognitions Received

National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) Scholarship Recipient University Preparatory  
Academy Social Studies Department Award x3 National Honor Society California Scholarship Federation  
Student Honor Society

---

**Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member.**

As a Vietnamese American teen living in East San Jose, one of the most underserved areas in the Bay Area, I am eager to join the Youth Commission to improve the lives of young people in my community. I strongly believe that youth should have a voice in decisions that impact our lives, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds like myself. I want to become a member of this board to ultimately provide that voice. Specific objectives that I would work towards include improving educational and mental health resources, raising awareness on intimate partner violence, and stopping substance abuse.

---

**Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application**

---

**Do you own property in the City of San José?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

Megan Luong

If yes, please list the addresses here.

---

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

---

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?

---

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you currently experiencing homelessness or have you experienced it in the past?

---

☐ Yes ☒ No

---

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?

---

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

---

Question applies to Youth Commission

• Please state your current responsibilities in other organizations and groups, as well as the time commitment associated with those responsibilities (including family responsibilities).

---

I am currently committed to tutoring once a week at Breakthrough Silicon Valley. I also oversee ongoing community service projects in Interact Rotary District 5170, however this does not have a set time commitment. Considering family responsibilities as well, my overall responsibilities do not demand a lot of time. If I receive the opportunity to be apart of the San Jose Youth Commission, it would be my number 1 priority.

---

Reference 1 Name

---

Vanessa Valdez Cruz

Megan Luong

### Reference 1 Address

---

[REDACTED]

### Reference 1 Email address

---

[REDACTED]

### Reference 1 Phone

---

[REDACTED]

### Reference 2 Name

---

### Reference 2 Address

---

### Reference 2 Email address

---

### Reference 2 Phone

---

---

## Supplemental Questions

Question applies to Youth Commission

### **Please list your community involvement, including jobs and volunteer work.**

---

I have extensively worked with the local chapters of Rotary International to promote international connections and service above self. As Area Representative of Area 7, which includes the greater San Jose area, I am responsible for overseeing 12 high school Interact chapters, planning fundraising events, attending conferences and presenting our cause, and working closely with our 2023 partner organizations. All our fundraising efforts go towards providing education scholarships to at-risk Vietnamese youth. I collaboratively started a translative media platform, called Scribe it Forward, directed at immigrant communities, especially the Vietnamese diaspora, to fight political, health, and economic misinformation by ensuring equitable access to diverse and reliable news sources. I helped design websites, research and translate articles about US and global policy, and oversaw all social media pages. Through Breakthrough Silicon Valley, I tutored underserved students from low-income families in my nearby community at the school district I used to attend, Franklin-Mckinley School District, which includes some of the most underfunded East San Jose schools.

Question applies to Youth Commission

### **In one paragraph, please explain your community interests.**

---

To me, a strong community is more than just a place to live - it's a place where people come together to support one another, no matter their background or circumstances. It's a place where you feel safe and valued, and where you know that you have access to the resources and opportunities you need to thrive. A strong community is also one where people are actively engaged in making it better for everyone. Whether it's volunteering at a local food bank or participating in community events, everyone can make a positive impact. As a member of the Youth Commission, I am excited about the opportunity to help strengthen our community by promoting inclusivity, support, and connection. By working together, we can build a community where everyone feels a sense of belonging and is empowered to succeed.

Question applies to Youth Commission

---

**What do you feel are some of the problems facing the youth of San Jose?**

---

In East San Jose, I have witnessed firsthand the challenges faced by my primarily Southeast Asian, Hispanic, and Pacific Islander community, including low education outcomes, generational trauma, and issues such as substance abuse and intimate partner abuse violence. I am passionate about raising awareness and creating positive change on these wide ranging issues. I am especially passionate about education inequity and mental health advocacy because of the experience I have gained tutoring in Breakthrough. The students I tutor often face obstacles like problems at home, mental health problems, and lack of quality resources. Joining the Youth Commission is an opportunity for me to be part of the solution by addressing this.

Question applies to Youth Commission

---

**What do you feel the priorities of the Youth Commission should be?**

---

I think the Youth Commission must address the array of problems that youth face in accessing learning and mental health resources. For example, I think more money could be allocated to promote the role of local Teen Centers, which have the power to provide a safe space for recreation and growth. Secondly, the Youth Commission should focus on encouraging young people to participate in local government and community organizations by providing resources such as voter registration drives, and opportunities to volunteer with NGOs. Lastly, the objectives I have aforementioned, intimate partner violence, substance abuse, and generational trauma are all extremely important priorities, and I hope to increase access to resources that educate and help youth navigate these issues.

---

**If applicable, have you ever attended or watched a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?**

---

☒ Yes ☐ No

---

**Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?**

---

☒ Yes ☐ No

---

**Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.**

---

This would be my first experience in a role that allows me to advise or direct policy in anyway.

---

**Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, School, professional, social, Commissions, Boards, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment.**

---

View resume attached!

---

**What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?**

---

The purpose of a youth commission for a city is to serve as a representative body for young people within the community. The main aim of the youth commission is to provide a platform for the youth to express their opinions and concerns to municipal officials, and to actively participate in the creation of policies and programs that affect them. This can include developing and managing programs that enhance the lives of young people in the community, advising local government officials and policymakers on issues affecting youth, organizing public events that promote positive youth development and community health, and overall, be a strengthening factor in the community.

Megan Luong

**Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Council should address.**

---

1. Homelessness : San Jose city has a growing population of homeless individuals, and the council needs to address this issue. To tackle this problem, the council can work with nonprofit organizations, provide funding to public services, and create job training or educational assistance programs. 2. Affordable Housing: The lack of affordable housing is one of the most pressing issues facing San Jose residents. Many individuals and families are struggling to find housing that they can afford, which is leading to homelessness and displacement. 3. Transportation issues: San Jose faces significant transportation challenges, including traffic congestion, inadequate public transit, and unsafe walking and biking conditions. The council could address these issues by investing in public transportation infrastructure, promoting alternative modes of transportation like walking and biking, and implementing policies to reduce vehicle use and emissions.

---

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in your local District Specific Youth Advisory Council?**

---

☒ No\,

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you answered Yes to the previous question, what are some projects you worked on in your Youth Advisory Council?**

---

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in the Youth Commission's Special Events such as the Annual Budget Summit?**

---

☒ No



Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you are not selected for your district's Commission seat, would you be interested in the Citywide Commissioner role?**

---

☒ Yes

**Anything else you would like us to know?**

---

---

(Optional) Please upload a resume.

---

## **Retirement Board Questions Only**

---

## **Verification**

**By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.**

---

**I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.**

---

☒ I Agree \*

**Boards and Commissions Application**

---

**Profile**

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- Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices (formerly Ethics Commission)
- Federated and Police & Fire Retirement Boards
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Housing & Community Development Commission
- Work2future (SVWIB) Board
- Planning Commission\*

Agam

First Name

Singh

Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95124

Postal Code

**Are you a resident of San Jose?**☒ Yes ☐ No

What district do you live in? To verify, please click here:

[https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple)

[selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple) \*

☒ District 9

Mobile:

Primary Phone

Home:

Alternate Phone

**Length of Residency**☒ 6 or more years

Agam Singh

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Youth Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

[Redacted]

☒ [Redacted] ☐ [Redacted]

Question applies to Youth Commission

Birthdate

03/20/2007

N/A  
Employer

N/A  
Job Title

Current Employer Address

N/A

Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Address of Current Employer of Spouse

N/A

Spouse's Job Title

N/A

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

N/A

[Redacted]

Question applies to multiple boards

[REDACTED]

☒ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

☒ [REDACTED]

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## Interests & Experiences

**High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.**

Completed middle school and entering high school.

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**List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates.**

District 9 Youth Commissioner (2021-2023)

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## Languages Spoken

English, Punjabi

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## Special Awards or Recognitions Received

Presidential Volunteer Service Award - Silver Level, Order of Distinguished Service (From Noddin Elementary School), Black Belt in Karate, 1st Place Winner of National Basketball Tournament in 2019, Member of California Junior Scholarship Fund (CJSF)

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**Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member.**

I want to become re-elected District 9 Youth Commissioner because I have many ideas that I want to continue to vocalize and solve in the city. My largest priority and biggest passion, if not evidenced by my application already, is to continue to investigate and create solutions to the digital divide, as this still poses one of the greatest challenges today. This will be done through policy proposals, educational fairs, and collaborations with San Jose Digital Inclusion, big tech (using the groundwork laid by my previous YAC), and any other strong technological advocates. Although I have already developed a number of policy recommendations to be presented in the upcoming fiscal year, I think that any kind of reform requires a persistent push and a serious effort. I will make sure to bring this push and effort with my appointment as Commissioner. With so many problems both imminent and already present in the youth community of San Jose, fast action is a must. And as Commissioner, I will make sure to dedicate my time, passion, and willpower to prevent such issues from growing, and will try my best to dissipate any arising issues within the youth of our city.

**Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application**

I was the district 9 Youth Commissioner from 2021-2023, and got selected for Leigh High School's ASB Leadership for the year of 2021-2022. Wrote and passed a policy recommendation that was approved by the Youth Commission, and is on agenda to be reviewed by the City Council while in the YAC. During my commissioner term, I have written 2 policies which are being passed through the city council, and have 3 more in my drafts. Also, I have helped prepare numerous slides and presentations in front of the youth regarding our budget and I helped set up for both YAC summits as well. Additionally, there were various events such as Viva Calles, etc., that I helped with.

**Do you own property in the City of San José?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**If yes, please list the addresses here.**

[REDACTED]

**Do you rent property in the City of San José?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to multiple boards

**Are you currently experiencing homelessness or have you experienced it in the past?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.**

Previous Youth Commissioner from 2021-2023.

Question applies to Youth Commission

• **Please state your current responsibilities in other organizations and groups, as well as the time commitment associated with those responsibilities (including family responsibilities).**

Homework Tutor for middle school: after school from 3-4:30 Badminton: Varying days from 3-5 After school clubs: 4:30-6

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**Reference 1 Name**

Melissa Fales

**Reference 1 Address**

[REDACTED]

**Reference 1 Email address**

**Reference 1 Phone**

[REDACTED]

**Reference 2 Name**

Catie Wilcox

**Reference 2 Address**

[REDACTED]

**Reference 2 Email address**

**Reference 2 Phone**

[REDACTED]

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**Supplemental Questions**

Question applies to Youth Commission

**Please list your community involvement, including jobs and volunteer work.**

-District 9 Youth Commissioner 2021-2023 -Teacher at Sunday School at the Guru Nanak Khalsa School in the San Jose Gurdwara. Teaching how to fluently read, write, and speak Punjabi, and the history, traditions, and significance of Sikhism -Served as the Co-Chair of the District 9 Youth Advisory Council 2020-2021 -Served as the ASB Representative at Union Middle School for the 7th grade class (2019-2020) -Helped make and sell bracelets to raise money to donate to the Sankara Eye Foundation in India. Raised a grand total of 70 dollars -Co-founded Northern India Chapter of Lighting for Literacy, a Los Gatos Rotary sponsored program which installs solar-powered LED lights in impoverished areas of the world to help students receive an adequate light source during their academic endeavors -Sold popcorn as a fundraiser to help fund our school programs. We raised a total of 2000 dollars to be allocated towards funding programs throughout our whole school

**In one paragraph, please explain your community interests.**

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Many young people are inspired and eager to take on leadership roles in the future, thus it is crucial that they are given the skills necessary to do so. So, I'd like to see more leadership-related events in the community, including seminars where city council members come and discuss their leadership experiences. These seminars may also feature keynote addresses from distinguished speakers, partnerships with organizations that focus on leadership development and neighborhood associations, as well as brief talks by the San Jose Youth Commission on how to become more civically active in the community. Given that young people are our city's future, leadership is unquestionably one of the most valuable skills they can possess. Using the acquired leadership abilities and characteristics, these youth can have an even greater impact on the city.

**What do you feel are some of the problems facing the youth of San Jose?**

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The largest problem I believe that the youth faces today is the digital divide. The digital divide refers to the gap between those able to benefit from the digital age by obtaining adequate access to technology, and those who are not. In other words, it means that the people that are able to afford more resources are able to learn and grow much more efficiently, while those with less are not so much. In this day and age, we are completely reliant on technology as our supplement for education. Because we are in the time-period of COVID-19, we have transitioned completely to technology with the extensive introduction of distance learning. And looking into the future, the majority of activities, both personal and professional, will gradually be shifted towards the online setting. Though this may sound appealing to most, this automatically creates a divide in all society. Because the financially sound are able to afford technological resources to aid the growth of their intellectual abilities through education, they are put at an advantage over those who cannot afford such devices. And these are the generations that are the future leaders, entrepreneurs, and change makers of tomorrow. If the youth of today are not sufficiently educated and provided the needed resources, the lives of the future will be impacted negatively severely.

**What do you feel the priorities of the Youth Commission should be?**

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Based on my answer to the preceding question, the commission should give high priority to closing the digital divide. The use of technology in education and the workplace has grown exponentially over the last several years. Students might develop both intellectually and monetarily through it. Yet in an era of escalating academic competitiveness, those who can afford the necessary equipment and resources are able to excel, while others who cannot do so. Almost 95,000 people in the City of San Jose still lack proper access to technology, despite this sharp increase in its use. I learned through speaking with the former D9 Youth Commissioner, Avi Singh, that he was similarly fervently committed to closing the Digital Divide. He established several initiatives, one of which collaborates with Big Tech to give impoverished children anonymous equipment donations. Even though this program is just getting started, I definitely hope to continue it. Also, while in his YAC, he offered numerous suggestions for policy changes related to the Digital Divide. On these concepts, I intend to develop policies as well. In conclusion, education is the most important thing to youth, as it is what shapes their future ahead. And because of the large effect education has on youth, if adequate technological resources are not provided, their futures are at stake.

**If applicable, have you ever attended or watched a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?**

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☒ Yes ☐ No

**Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?**

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☒ Yes ☐ No

**Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.**

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N/A

**Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, School, professional, social, Commissions, Boards, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment.**

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Firstly, responsibility. I am the Youth Commissioner of district 9, which is an organization that makes programs and policies for the youth of San Jose. As commissioner, I manage almost half a dozen events, many meetings, and some policy recommendations. Another trait I see in myself is public speaking. Being the co-chair of the YAC, I am in charge of running meetings, and creating new ideas/events and policies. I have also finalized and presented these ideas in front of city officials such as district councilmen and women. I have also been an ASB Representative for my class in Union Middle School. As an ASB Representative, I have presented several ideas for our school to the Union School District board. Additionally, I see listening and decision making in myself. I play on a travel basketball team, and have played on the UMS school basketball team as well. In this sport, I have to listen to and react upon callouts that the coach gives us, and make a series of quick decisions. Lastly, I see discipline. As a black belt in martial arts, obtaining such a rank was not easy. Taking over 6 years of my life, this was easily one of the most strenuous accomplishments I have had. And because of this, in the bigger picture, I have learned the real value of discipline, and the various positives it can amount to in life overall. These characteristics now define who I am. They gave me the confidence I needed to pursue a leadership position. And as a result of my increased self-assurance, I joined groups like the YAC that emphasize the use of leadership to generate fresh concepts for the benefit of all young people. I'm willing to put this confidence to use in more ways than one. I want to raise the bar so that more young and a wider range of youth are influenced favorably.

**What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?**

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In simple words, the Youth Commission works on a few motives: increasing civic engagement, motivating youth to use their voice in city government, and having a hand in creating a better, safe, and more sustainable San Jose. In a more elaborate description, the Youth Commission is the connection between the growing youth in San Jose and the San Jose City Board. This connection proves to be vital because the youth of today are the change-makers of tomorrow. And in a society where exceptional leadership is essential, it is more important than ever that all youth are provided with the appropriate resources and support for proper growth. Here is where the Youth Commission comes into play. Firstly, the Youth Commission spearheads the efforts of developing, presenting, and instituting policy recommendations. Policy recommendations are extremely important because they are a medium through which the youth of San Jose contribute to changing their atmosphere. Policies bring the direct change that they want to bring to the city. The Youth Commission also hosts events and fundraisers, and also brainstorm ideas that benefit the youth in our city. Some events that have been hosted before include, Viva Calles, and the Sharks event at the Camden Community Center. These events are what connects the city to the youth and inspire the youth to be more civically engaged, one of the main motives of the Commission.



**Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Council should address.**

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Three of the largest issues facing the youth of the city are the digital divide, environmental pollution, and youth homelessness. The digital divide refers to the disparity between those able to afford adequate access to technology as compared to those who cannot. As I stated before, the last few years have seen exponential growth in the use of technology, both educationally and professionally, especially due to COVID-19. As everything in the future is shifting towards the digital ecosystem, technology is becoming more and more an inborn right, and it is our duty to fulfil that right. Next, pollution. Iqair.com states: " In 2018, San Jose AQI was 52 ("moderate") exceeding both US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards and the WHO annual target for PM2.5 by 2.4 µg/m3" The effect the particulate PM2.5 has on the bodies of youth is comparable to second-hand smoking. If youth are exposed to such high-levels of carcinogens this early on in their lifetime, they are bound to develop a lung disease in the near future. And considering that the majority of youth are very active (take part in various sports), the negative effects of this particulate are only magnified. It is important for the commission to take immediate action in addressing climate change, as in a research detailed by researchers, after 7 years, climate change will be irreversible. Lastly, there is youth homelessness. Though there were a considerable amount of homeless youth pre-pandemic, COVID-19 has created, and will create, an even larger youth homeless population due to the vast negative financial implications that will follow post-pandemic. Even though many memorandums were passed by the City to delay rent to avoid evictions, the downfall of the economy after these memorandums lose validity is imminent. Unfortunately, this means that many more youth will be homeless. As repeated many times before, youth are required to have their basic needs, such as housing and technology, to be adequately met so they can prosper in the future. And since the Youth Commission focuses on creating a better environment for all youth in San Jose, I feel that youth homelessness should be a top 3 priority.

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Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in your local District Specific Youth Advisory Council?**

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☒ Yes\,

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you answered Yes to the previous question, what are some projects you worked on in your Youth Advisory Council?**

2 policy proposals, as well as create various fundraisers for disaster relief under Commissioner Avi.

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in the Youth Commission's Special Events such as the Annual Budget Summit?**

☒ Yes

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you are not selected for your district's Commission seat, would you be interested in the Citywide Commissioner role?**

☒ Yes

**Anything else you would like us to know?**

Not really :->

(Optional) Please upload a resume.

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## Retirement Board Questions Only

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## Verification

**By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.**

**I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.**

☒ I Agree \*

**Boards and Commissions Application**

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**Profile**

Please note, applications are continuously accepted to the City of San Jose Boards and Commissions. The Board or Commission you select may or may not indicate there is a vacancy. Your application will remain on file for one year from the date of submission. During the year, your application may be considered for unanticipated vacancies.

Additionally, applicants to the following commissions will be required to fill out a [Form 700](#) (California State required Statement of Economic Interest) within 30 days of appointment.

- Airport Commission
- Appeals Hearing Board
- Arena Authority
- Arts Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee (DCAC)
- Downtown Parking Board
- Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices (formerly Ethics Commission)
- Federated and Police & Fire Retirement Boards
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Housing & Community Development Commission
- Work2future (SVWIB) Board
- Planning Commission\*

Nolan

First Name

Mascarenhas

Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95118

Postal Code

**Are you a resident of San Jose?**☒ Yes ☐ No

What district do you live in? To verify, please click here:

[https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple)

[selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple](https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=dt&electionId=133&distance=5&navtab=vc&asm=simple) \*

☒ District 10

Home:

Primary Phone

Home:

Alternate Phone

**Length of Residency**☒ 6 or more years

Nolan Mascarenhas

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Youth Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

[Redacted]

☒ [Redacted] ☐ [Redacted]

Question applies to Youth Commission

Birthdate

04/04/2007

54 357 285 383" data-label="Text">

Branham High School  
Employer

Student- Sophomore  
Job Title

Current Employer Address

[Redacted]

Current Employer of Spouse

Not Applicable

Address of Current Employer of Spouse

Not Applicable

Spouse's Job Title

Not Applicable

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

[Redacted]

Question applies to multiple boards

[REDACTED]

- ☒ [REDACTED]
- ☒ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- ☒ [REDACTED]

---

## Interests & Experiences

High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.

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List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates.

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## Languages Spoken

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## Special Awards or Recognitions Received

---

Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member.

---

Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application

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Do you own property in the City of San José?

- ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

My parents own and its the same my address above

---

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

- ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you currently experiencing homelessness or have you experienced it in the past?

☐ Yes ☒ No

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

Question applies to Youth Commission

• Please state your current responsibilities in other organizations and groups, as well as the time commitment associated with those responsibilities (including family responsibilities).

- I am currently serving on the District 10 Youth Advisory Council as the Vice President and spend approximately 4 hours per week - 1/brainstorming and defining policies, 2/assisting council members, committees to organize and volunteer at various events, and 3/operationalizing the youth coalition team. - I also serve on the Junior Board for a non-profit organization Learn To Be(LTB), and spend 2-3 hours a week engaging and promoting the tutoring community and tutoring math to underprivileged and foster care students. - I am a member of The Knowledge Society(TKS), a platform for the next generation of innovators and researchers working towards solving real-world problems globally. I spend 4-5 hours each week working on projects, hackathons, and challenges and the program ends in June'23. - Lastly, I am co-leading a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Student Visionaries of the Year campaign running for 7 weeks ending on March 18th'2023. We are working towards supporting the research and advocacy pillars to help raise awareness for cancer research.

Reference 1 Name

Ashley Elias

Reference 1 Address

Learn to Be Non-profit Senior Program Director

Nolan Mascarenhas

**Reference 1 Email address**

[REDACTED]

**Reference 1 Phone**

**Reference 2 Name**

Alexander Lee

**Reference 2 Address**

Current District 10 Youth Commissioner

**Reference 2 Email address**

[REDACTED]

**Reference 2 Phone**

[REDACTED]

**Supplemental Questions**

**Please list your community involvement, including jobs and volunteer work.**

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1/ I've been part of the District 10 Youth Advisory council for the past two years since 2021. I've grown from my first role as the Technology Director, creating the first website for a wider youth outreach to now, where I serve as the Vice President leading the coalition in the process of policy/memorandum creation, collecting feedback and providing resources, and facilitating events. This unparalleled experience has provided me with a platform to express my opinion and ideas for my city San Jose, and influence the future by getting involved in my community and collaborating with community-minded peers to drive change in creating the inclusive and sustainable future of tomorrow. 2/ I'm also on the Junior board of a non-profit organization Learn to Be (LTB) which aims to increase the accessibility for education to low-income, foster care, and underprivileged communities. Coming from a broken family at a very young age, I personally connect with these children and this organization's mission. I have been volunteering on this platform for the past three years by tutoring math and reading, and have been able to experience first-hand joy on a kid's face when they get a problem right. This has propelled me to become part of their 2023 Junior Board and has taught me about the journey of non-profit organizations, social entrepreneurship, driven me to increase tutor engagement, and helped me improve the overall quality of tutors' and tutees' experience on the platform. 3/ Additionally, with my passion for sports and being part of my JV basketball and Varsity badminton team at school in 2021-2022, over the summer I volunteer as a summer-league basketball coach in my community's local YMCA for children ages 5-6 and 9-10. Every Tuesday and Thursday with a self-trained list of drills and trained as ten little kids learned the techniques in their own goofy way. Sharing my passion and joy with others is a priceless experience, and I treasure my coaching sessions. 4/ Lastly, I'm a co-leader in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Student Visionaries of the Year campaign, with the goal of raising \$25,000 to promote the cancer research pillar. I led my team through an outreach strategy, workshops, and goal-planning meetings to raise the funds by contacting local businesses, family members, and friends. Having had multiple surgeries myself, I can easily relate to patients and their families who have been diagnosed with cancer. Being able to promote LLS' noble cause was a great opportunity to not only get involved in my community to promote cancer research but also help find a cure for those affected by it. My community involvement and leadership positions in the Youth coalition, LTB Junior Board, LLS campaign Co-Lead, and coaching kids in YMCA have helped me gain skills in teamwork, problem-solving, networking, and communication across a spectrum of generations. Most of all these experiences have helped me share and develop my leadership skills, give back to my community, and make an impact on others' lives.

**In one paragraph, please explain your community interests.**

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My first passion lies in supporting, developing, influencing, and empowering the youth of tomorrow. Through my life's own experiences, I can personally connect to many challenges the children of today face and understand how it impacts them. The majority of my childhood was spent in a divorced family adjusting and switching between houses to dealing with chronic health issues/surgeries have made me realize how important it is to have a strong foundation and support system as a kid. This is why I chose to tutor kids from foster care and underprivileged homes, coach younger kids at my local YMCA, represent the youth through my District 10 Coalition, and become an advocate for the LLS cancer research campaign. My second passion revolves around building a sustainable environment starting with our city of San Jose. After experiencing extreme weather conditions with the scorching heat wave last summer, followed by extreme drought and heavy winter floods, I decided to take on the initiative of leading policy-writing surrounding sustainability initiatives in the District 10 Youth Advisory council. The two sustainability policies I have worked on focus on 1/ Implementing sustainability education programs for three cohorts: up-skilling the existing workforce, developing youth-focused green skill programs, and enabling low-income families for green skill jobs 2/ Developing Urban Green spaces as part of the urban constructions and master plans in the densely populated and limited space we live here in San Jose. Lastly, my belief is similar to the one my school upholds "equity over equality". My interest and desire are that everyone should be presented with the same opportunities regardless of background making them accessible to everyone.



## **What do you feel are some of the problems facing the youth of San Jose?**

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Post-pandemic and in these macroeconomic times, the challenges faced by today's youth are: 1/ Behavioral: "17% of teens in Santa Clara County have considered suicide in the past year. This is 4-5 times above the national average. 1 in 3 teens have tried vaping in Santa Clara County." How can we get to the root cause of these issues? From both my personal experiences and interactions with my peers, we youth are pressured to live up to expectations, deal with an identity crisis and acceptance, and juggle our workloads to just name a few. When overwhelmed with all these pressures, we try to escape and when it becomes too overwhelming, thoughts of suicide enter the picture. We try to hide it, run away from it, and ignore it. We hide it by inhaling flavored air which gives us the illusion that everything is alright. This just numbs the pain but doesn't truly go away. While many schools have mental health counselors, this isn't enough because talking to someone for 20 minutes won't make up for the days, months, and years that the youth are burdened. The answer to me is clear: there is a lack of outlets and resources available and provided to youth in SJ. 2/ Inflation and homelessness: Since the pandemic, inflation has hit a 40-yr high impacting the San Jose youth with future uncertainty. SJ is the No.1 US city in youth homelessness and as per San Jose spotlight data tops the list of 100 major cities with the highest number of homeless young adults per capita. Further rising prices, surging rents will further force the youth to cut costs on various fronts like food, and activities and might also force them/their families out of the area due to the high cost of living. This is just the tip of the iceberg that will spiral out of control. Without a good support system, the increasing wealth gap will make it challenging for the youth who might have to slow down their financial start as they enter adulthood with fewer job opportunities, struggles from debt, and hunger. We need to find ways to provide resources like affordable housing, incentivize, and prepare the youth of tomorrow to develop side hustles, and job shadowing opportunities, teach them to be their own CFOs by enabling them with early financial education and budgeting tools, and even consider funding their entrepreneurship initiatives to encourage them. 3/ Lack of Youth Involvement: The City of San Jose has 27 boards and commissions which carry out initiatives to help improve the well-being of our city. However, despite the ability to do so, the only commission that currently has youth members is the Youth Commission. This is a major problem, as we are excluding a major demographic and stakeholder from the decisions that are being made by these commissions. Many of the resolutions that are designed and put into place by the city affect youth in more ways than one, and without gathering their input throughout the brainstorming and implementation stages, we are depriving our community of valuable insight. Adding on to this, some of these decisions may impact youth in negative ways, which could easily be prevented by youth representation across the city. Increased youth representation on these boards would greatly help increase diversity and provide a new perspective, one that is direly needed not only to help make San Jose more inclusive but equipped for the next generation (which is the youth) to take over.

**What do you feel the priorities of the Youth Commission should be?**

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1/ The Youth Commission is a panel representing “all” youth’s opinions, passions, and perspectives to influence and drive the San Jose city initiatives. So first and foremost, I believe, to achieve these goals, one of the main priorities of the Youth Commission is “youth outreach” -1/ where we influence and recruit as many youths as possible to join us in creating an inclusive and diversified youth commission and advisory board through various channels 2/ provide unbiased access to the available resources to help the youth based on their needs and dreams through campaigns and programs. 2/ Secondly, every year as global and economic conditions change, San Jose city devices a robust set of initiatives to address the needs of the community. I believe “we” as the youth commission, should align our work to advocate, recalibrate, enhance, and review those focus areas and initiatives not just from a youth perspective, but how it impacts the whole community from a present and future angle. From sustainability efforts, safety regulations, or implementing new programs to increase awareness of the issues facing the people of San Jose, the Youth Commission should drive change and reform based on the beliefs that represent the “entirety” of San Jose. 3/ Lastly, we represent the “voice of the youth”! Hence, we should work through different forums to gather the youth perspectives through discussions, pushing out surveys, leveraging our local networks through our school, our activities, etc. to seek the input and views of youth and members of the community. This feeds as an input mechanism through memorandums and policies we create and present to articulate ourselves to members of the city council. Additionally, as youth we play an important role by initiating, participating, and organizing recurring events such as summits, town halls, or feedback forums which are open to all youth.

**If applicable, have you ever attended or watched a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?**

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☒ Yes ☐ No

**Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?**

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☐ Yes ☐ No

**Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.**

---

**Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, School, professional, social, Commissions, Boards, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment.**

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**What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?**

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**Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Council should address.**

---

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in your local District Specific Youth Advisory Council?**

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☒ Yes\,

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you answered Yes to the previous question, what are some projects you worked on in your Youth Advisory Council?**

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Currently, I am the Vice President of the District 10 Youth Advisory Council and have been serving on this committee for 2 years. In the first year, I started as the Technology Director building the first youth coalition website for wider outreach and also maintaining the SJ city's website for outlining the organizations and events. I held multiple office hours to train many SJ city council members on how to maintain the website and debug issues. My second year as the Vice President has given me the foundation to empower and steadily grow the youth coalition District 10 members. Compared to last year, this year we were able to tap into more youth through our wider outreach across various schools and the website to grow the coalition by 20%. I organized sessions for the youth to understand the lifecycle of the policies through experienced speakers and proposed two memorandums from our district and helped to draft two policies - 1/ Implementing sustainability education programs for three cohorts: up-skilling the existing workforce, developing youth-focused green skill programs, and enabling low-income families for green skill jobs 2/ Developing Urban Green spaces as a part of the urban constructions and master plans in the densely populated and limited space we live here in San Jose. I have expanded my network among various council member and participated in organizing events and increasing youth participation. I have also volunteered to organize multiple events – Winter Walk & Resource Fair for 50+, AVCA Community Association Budget talk, and shadowed council members throughout the events to gain more experience. I also have a plan to help with city trash pick up (next weekend) and working on expanding the roll-rock initiative at my school in 2023-24.

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If applicable, have you ever participated in the Youth Commission's Special Events such as the Annual Budget Summit?**

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☒ Yes

Question applies to Youth Commission

**If you are not selected for your district's Commission seat, would you be interested in the Citywide Commissioner role?**

---

☒ Yes

**Anything else you would like us to know?**

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I have participated in the Youth Commission's Special Events such as the Annual Budget Summit, Annual Youth Town Halls, and District 5's Policy Summit. They were incredibly insightful events as I was able to interact with other district YAC members, in addition to being able to collaborate and discuss reform at a city level to accommodate youth. As a group we ranked which departments (Environmental, Housing, Parks Rec Neighborhood, Police, Economic and Cultural affairs etc.) should receive certain amounts of funding in accordance with their impact on youth, which helped me gain a better understanding of different people's thought processes, as well as the nuanced angles in how the city departments affect youth even in day to day life. Additionally, during the District 5 Policy Summit, I was able to formulate and present our idea of repurposing Youth in Government Day to District 1 and District 5's council members, which was a great opportunity. I helped the District 10's youth coalition to create the environmental services presentation, which included information on the current budget, and initiatives that are employed in San Jose with waste management. I look forward to attending and organizing more events in the future!

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(Optional) Please upload a resume.

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**Retirement Board Questions Only**

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**Verification**

By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.

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I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.

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☒ I Agree \*