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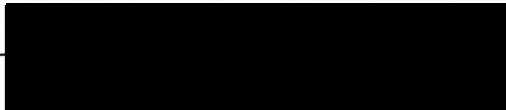
## CITY OF SAN JOSE

### Naming of City-Owned Facilities NOMINATION FORM

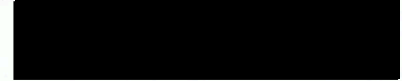
Person Submitting Nomination:

Matt Mahan

Address:



Daytime Phone:



Name Proposed for Facility: Janet Gray Hayes Rotunda

Location of Facility: 200 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose, California 95113, between 4th and 6th Streets  
(Include street address, cross street)

Nature of Facility to be Named: (Describe use, clientele and any special geographic or historic characteristics)

The City Hall Rotunda is a landmark building that serves as a hub of civic and cultural activity. The Rotunda is one of the most recognizable and modern pieces of architecture at San José City Hall. Its iconic glass dome and walls, which open to City Hall Plaza, represent open and accessible government.

Is this site/structure of potential historic significance?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, please submit parcel number and a summary of bibliographical resources.

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Submit Nomination to: City Clerk, San José City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95113

#### FOR CITY CLERK'S USE ONLY

Referred to the following Commission or Committee:

Airport ☐ Arts ☐ Child Care ☐ Disability Advisory ☐ Historic Landmarks ☐  
Library ☐ Parking Advisory ☐ Parks & Recreation ☐ Senior Citizens ☐ Youth ☐  
Other \_\_\_\_\_



## **REQUEST TO NAME THE SAN JOSE CITY HALL ROTUNDA THE JANET GRAY HAYES ROTUNDA**

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In 1974 Ms. Hayes successfully campaigned for mayor on the promise to "make San Jose better before making it bigger." Her agenda of managed growth led to the adoption of San Jose's first modern general plan, which reigned in urban sprawl and focused on improving neighborhoods.

After her election, a bewildered newspaper reporter asked how to address her, having referred to every prior mayor as "Mr. Mayor." Janet Gray laughed and said just call me "Madam Mayor." She was elected overwhelmingly in a hotly contested election four years later, with wide support throughout San Jose. Yet an Associated Press Headline crudely described the triumph: "San Jose Woman Mayor Keeps Job."

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## CITY OF SAN JOSÉ

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Person Submitting Nomination: Sam Liccardo

Address: [REDACTED]

Daytime Phone: [REDACTED]

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## CITY OF SAN JOSE

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Person Submitting Nomination: Chuck Reed

Address: [REDACTED]

Daytime Phone: [REDACTED]

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## CITY OF SAN JOSÉ

### Naming of City-Owned Facilities NOMINATION FORM

Person Submitting Nomination: Tom McEnery

Address: [REDACTED]

Daytime Phone: [REDACTED]

Name Proposed for Facility: Janet Gray Hayes Rotunda

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## CITY OF SAN JOSÉ

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Person Submitting Nomination:

BLANCA ALVARADO

Address:

Daytime Phone:

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Person Submitting Nomination: Cindy Chavez

Address: [REDACTED]

Daytime Phone: [REDACTED]

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**Appropriateness of Name to Facility:** (Briefly characterize the nominated individual, group, event or feature. Describe why naming would be appropriate. If the facility is proposed to be named after an individual, attach no more than one page outlining a brief biography and significant contributions to the community.)

Mayor Janet Gray Hayes biggest impact was on government itself. Her name should be attached to an icon of San Jose government - the Rotunda. 2024 marks the 50th anniversary of her election as the first woman mayor of San Jose and the first woman mayor of a major American city. She opened the door for women leaders. She supported the change to district

Submit Nomination to: City Clerk, San José City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95113

#### FOR CITY CLERK'S USE ONLY

Referred to the following Commission or Committee:

Airport

☐

Arts

☐

Child Care

☐

Disability Advisory

☐

Historic Landmarks

☐

Library

☐

Parking Advisory

☐

Parks & Recreation

☐

Senior Citizens

☐

Youth

☐

Other



**Nature of Facility to be Named:** The City Hall Rotunda is a landmark building that serves as a hub of civic and cultural activity. The Rotunda is one of the most recognizable and modern pieces of architecture at San José City Hall. Its iconic glass dome and walls, which open to City Hall Plaza, represent open and accessible government.

**Appropriateness of Name to Facility:** Mayor Janet Gray Hayes biggest impact was on government itself. Her name should be attached to an icon of San Jose government - the Rotunda. 2024 marks the 50th anniversary of her election as the first woman mayor of San Jose and the first woman mayor of a major American city. She opened the door for women leaders. She supported the change to district elections, ensuring better representation of San Jose's diverse neighborhoods. With her leadership, San Jose adopted a modern general plan, which reigned in urban sprawl and focused on making San Jose better, not just bigger.

2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the election of Janet Gray Hayes as San Jose's pioneering and inspiring first woman mayor and the first female mayor of a major American city. Mayor Hayes was a dedicated public servant, community activist, caring wife and mother, and one of Santa Clara County's most respected public figures.

Ms. Hayes was born to John Paul Frazee, Jr., and Lucile Charman Gray Frazee in Rushville, Indiana, a small farming community. Her childhood home was a block from the railroad track. Throughout the Depression, daily itinerant or homeless visitors to the Frazee home seemed to know that her mother would give them a sandwich, if asked. Ms. Hayes inherited her parents' warmth. Her life in Rushville instilled in her a compassion for the needy and a lifelong interest in social change.

Ms. Hayes graduated with honors from Indiana University and received a master's degree in social service administration from the University of Chicago. There she met Kenneth Hayes, a University of Chicago medical student from Berkeley, California. They married in 1950 and settled in San Jose.

Ms. Hayes' introduction to civic affairs came in 1959, when she appeared before the all-male city council to request a traffic light for a dangerous intersection near the elementary school her two oldest children attended. The council promised action, but no traffic light was installed. Ms. Hayes felt her concerns had not been taken seriously because she was a pregnant housewife. It was then that she began her life as a community activist while raising four children. She was elected President of the League of Women Voters of the San Francisco Bay Area and of Central Santa Clara Valley. Her community work led to her appointment as the first woman President of the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, before being elected to the San Jose City Council in 1971.

In 1974, Ms. Hayes successfully campaigned for mayor on the promise to "make San Jose better before making it bigger." Her agenda of managed growth led to the adoption of San Jose's first modern general plan, which reigned in urban sprawl and focused on improving neighborhoods.

After her election, a bewildered newspaper reporter asked how to address her, having referred to every prior mayor as "Mr. Mayor." Janet Gray laughed and said just call me "Madam Mayor." She easily won re-election in a hotly contested race four years later, with widespread support throughout San Jose.



Despite her impressive victory, an Associated Press Headline dismissively described the triumph: "San Jose Woman Mayor Keeps Job."

"Janet Gray," as she was known by friends and colleagues, mentored other women, supporting the appointment of Iola Williams, the first Black female councilmember, Susan Hammer who later became the second women mayor of San Jose, and Zoe Lofgren, who was later elected as a County Supervisor and then to Congress. She championed "comparable worth" pay for undervalued and underpaid female city employees. Her work and leadership brought national recognition to San Jose and Santa Clara County as the feminist capital of America

During her first term, in a post-Watergate era where voters nationwide demanded honest and transparent government, Mayor Hayes steered the city through a corrupt political period. The then four-member male majority of the council made city decisions behind closed doors and dubbed themselves the "Fearsome Foursome." With Mayor Hayes's leadership, two of those councilmembers were defeated at the polls and the third resigned. A new era of open government began in its wake.

Mayor Hayes supported and endorsed "Measure F" in 1978 to create district council seats. She believed in equity and the need to give a voice to all of San Jose's diverse neighborhoods. The first district elections brought a majority of women to the city council and the first Mexican American female member, Blanca Alvarado, who later became Vice Mayor and a County Supervisor. The advent of district elections has brought a continuing wave of diverse representation in city government.

After retiring from public office, Mayor Hayes remained active in civic affairs. In 1983, she became President of the Board of Directors for the San Jose Museum of Art, just when the museum was on the verge of bankruptcy. With help from the museum's staff and other Board members, Mayor Hayes brought the Anne Frank exhibit to the museum, which broke all attendance and revenue records and was instrumental in rescuing the museum. Today, the museum boasts an impressive art collection and a talented, professional staff.

Mayor Hayes passed away on April 21, 2014. Her legacy of an honest, open, and representative San Jose government lives on.





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07/11/24  
2024 AUG -2 AM 11:18

## CITY OF SAN JOSÉ

### Naming of City-Owned Facilities NOMINATION FORM

Person Submitting Nomination: San Jose City Council Member Ken Yeager (ret.)

Address: [REDACTED]

Daytime Phone: [REDACTED]

Name Proposed for Facility: Janet Gray Hayes Rotunda

Location of Facility: 200 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose, California 95113, between 4th and 6th Streets  
(Include street address, cross street)

Nature of Facility to be Named: (Describe use, clientele and any special geographic or historic characteristics)

The City Hall Rotunda is a landmark building that serves as a hub of civic and cultural activity. The Rotunda is one of the most recognizable and modern pieces of architecture at San José City Hall. Its iconic glass dome and walls, which open to City Hall Plaza, represent open and accessible government.

Is this site/structure of potential historic significance?

Yes

☐

No

☒

If yes, please submit parcel number and a summary of bibliographical resources.

Appropriateness of Name to Facility: (Briefly characterize the nominated individual, group, event or feature. Describe why naming would be appropriate. If the facility is proposed to be named after an individual, attach no more than one page outlining a brief biography and significant contributions to the community.)

Mayor Janet Gray Hayes biggest impact was on government itself. Her name should be attached to an icon of San Jose government - the Rotunda. 2024 marks the 50th anniversary of her election as the first woman mayor of San Jose and the first woman mayor of a major American city. She opened the door for women leaders. She supported the change to district elections, ensuring better representation of San Jose's diverse neighborhoods. With her leadership, San Jose adopted a modern general plan, which reigned in urban sprawl and focused on making San Jose better, not just bigger.

Submit Nomination to: City Clerk, San José City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95113

FOR CITY CLERK'S USE ONLY

Referred to the following Commission or Committee:

Airport ☐

Arts ☐

Child Care ☐

Disability Advisory ☐

Historic Landmarks ☐

Library ☐

Parking Advisory ☐

Parks & Recreation ☐

Senior Citizens ☐

Youth ☐

Other







## **REQUEST TO NAME THE SAN JOSE CITY HALL ROTUNDA THE JANET GRAY HAYES ROTUNDA**

2024 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the election of Janet Gray Hayes as San Jose's pioneering and inspiring first woman mayor and the first mayor of a major American city. Mayor Hayes was a dedicated public servant, community activist, caring wife and mother, and one of Santa Clara County's most respected public figures.

Ms. Hayes was born to John Paul Frazee, Jr., and Lucile Charman Gray Frazee in Rushville, Indiana, a farming community. Her childhood home was a block from the railroad track. Throughout the Depression, daily itinerant or homeless visitors to the Frazee home seemed to know that her mother would give them a sandwich, if asked. Ms. Hayes inherited her parents' warmth. Her life in Rushville instilled in her a compassion for the needy and a lifelong interest in social change.

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Ms. Hayes' introduction to civic affairs came in 1959, when she appeared before the all-male city council to request a traffic light for a dangerous intersection near the elementary school her two oldest children attended. The council promised action, but no traffic light was installed. Ms. Hayes felt her concerns had not been taken seriously because she was a pregnant housewife. It was then that she began her life as a community activist while raising four children. She was elected President of the League of Women Voters of the San Francisco Bay Area and of Central Santa Clara Valley. Her community work led to her appointment as the first woman President of the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, before being elected to the San Jose City Council in 1971.

In 1974 Ms. Hayes successfully campaigned for mayor on the promise to "make San Jose better before making it bigger." Her agenda of managed growth led to the adoption of San Jose's first modern general plan, which reigned in urban sprawl and focused on improving neighborhoods.

After her election, a bewildered newspaper reporter asked how to address her, having referred to every prior mayor as "Mr. Mayor." Janet Gray laughed and said just call me "Madam Mayor." She was elected overwhelmingly in a hotly contested election four years later, with wide support throughout San Jose. Yet an Associated Press Headline crudely described the triumph: "San Jose Woman Mayor Keeps Job."

"Janet Gray", as she was known by friends and colleagues, mentored other women, supporting the appointment of Lola Williams, the first Black female councilmember, Susan Hammer who later became the second women mayor of San Jose, and Zoe Lofgren, who was later elected as a County Supervisor and then to Congress. She championed "comparable worth" pay for undervalued and underpaid female city employees. Her work and leadership brought national recognition to San Jose and Santa Clara County as the feminist capital of America.

During her first term, in a post-Watergate era where voters nationwide wanted far better government, Mayor Hayes steered the city through a corrupt political period. A four-member male majority of the council made city decisions behind closed doors, dubbing themselves the "Fearsome Foursome." With Mayor Hayes leadership, two were defeated at the polls and the third resigned. A new era of open government began in its wake.

Mayor Hayes supported and endorsed "Measure F" in 1978 to create district council seats. Mayor Hayes believed in equity and the need to give a voice to all of San Jose's diverse neighborhoods. The first district elections brought a majority of women to the city council and the first Mexican American female member, Blanca Alvarado, who later became Vice Mayor and a County Supervisor. The advent of district elections has brought a continuing wave of diverse representation in city government.

After retiring from public office, Mayor Hayes stayed actively involved in civic affairs. In 1983, she became President of the Board of Directors for the San Jose Museum of Art, just when the museum was on the verge of bankruptcy. With help from the museum's staff and other Board members, Mayor Hayes brought the Anne Frank exhibit to the museum, which broke all attendance and revenue records and was instrumental in rescuing the museum. Today, the museum boasts an impressive art collection and a talented, professional staff.

Mayor Hayes passed away in 2014. Her legacy of an open and representative San Jose government lives on.





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San Jose City Clerk  
OTW  
2021 AUG -2 AM 11:19

## CITY OF SAN JOSÉ

### Naming of City-Owned Facilities NOMINATION FORM

Person Submitting Nomination: Terry Christensen

Address: [REDACTED]

Daytime Phone: [REDACTED]

Name Proposed for Facility: Janet Gray Hayes Rotunda

Location of Facility: 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113, between 4th and 6th Streets  
(Include street address, cross street)

Nature of Facility to be Named: (Describe use, clientele and any special geographic or historic characteristics)

The City Hall Rotunda is a hub of civic and cultural activity which brings a cross-section of citizens of San Jose to City Hall for a wide range of events. It's modern architecture and openness are a symbol for our citizen-friendly city government.

Is this site/structure of potential historic significance?

Yes

☐

No

☒

If yes, please submit parcel number and a summary of bibliographical resources.

**Appropriateness of Name to Facility:** (Briefly characterize the nominated individual, group, event or feature. Describe why naming would be appropriate. If the facility is proposed to be named after an individual, attach no more than one page outlining a brief biography and significant contributions to the community.)

See attached one-page document by Terry Christensen citing reasons to honor Janet Gray Hayes by naming the Rotunda for her in recognition of her many contributions to the City of San Jose.

Submit Nomination to: City Clerk, San José City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95113

#### FOR CITY CLERK'S USE ONLY

Referred to the following Commission or Committee:

Airport ☐

Arts ☐

Child Care ☐

Disability Advisory ☐

Historic Landmarks ☐

Library ☐

Parking Advisory ☐

Parks & Recreation ☐

Senior Citizens ☐

Youth ☐

Other



## NAMING THE CITY HALL ROTUNDA IN HONOR OF MAYOR JANET GRAY HAYES

Nomination by Terry Christensen

Janet Gray Hayes is renowned as the first woman to be elected mayor of a major American city and the first of many women leaders who made San Jose the Feminist Capital of the United States. She also helped shift San Jose away from sprawling, poorly planned growth to more responsibly managed growth, a battle she and her allies would fight constantly during her time in office. And she did much more:

- At a time when the community—especially the Eastside and the minority community—repeatedly protested police brutality, Janet Gray, in response, was instrumental in hiring Police Chief Joseph McNamara, a reformer who introduced the concept of community policing to San Jose.
- With Susie Wilson, her chief ally on the city council, she pushed the police department to hire its first women officers.
- Later, when women city workers went on strike to demand comparable worth pay (equal salaries for women in jobs with responsibilities similar to employment classifications dominated by men), Hayes, with council allies, supported the women workers in resolving the strike and the issue—setting a precedent that spread to other local governments across the nation.
- She also led a restructuring of Redevelopment Agency funding without which the Arena, the Children's Discovery Museum, the Tech Museum, the Fairmont, the California Theater and other downtown facilities might never have materialized.

But her greatest accomplishment was helping to open up San Jose government and politics to new generations of leaders. Hayes ran for mayor in 1974, challenging a pro-growth conservative backed by the old guard leadership of the 1950s and 1960s. She was supported by neighborhood activists, environmentalists, liberals, the city's emerging women's groups as well as the minority community (she won the Eastside), which hoped for police reforms.

Once in office, Hayes opened up not only City Hall but also her own home to these groups and mentored a new generation of leaders (I was one!). She appointed the new leaders to commissions and her own staff and endorsed others (many of whom were women) when they ran for office.

Hayes, her council allies and the city manager also nurtured a new generation of city leaders through two new city programs. Projects 75 brought citizens together to plan capital or infrastructure improvements for their neighborhoods, while General Plan 76 gave them a say in long-range land-use planning through the drafting of the city's first true general plan. Both were organized by "planning areas" which paralleled what would become city council districts in 1980. By drawing community members into the decision-making process, Hayes and the council introduced activists to one another and helped build district identities, as well as generating a citywide network of leaders.

These endeavors gave impetus to the movement to elect council members by district rather than at-large. Eastside activists had been agitating for district elections through the 1970s as part of the protests about police-community relations. Now neighborhood groups throughout the city began to support the change along with environmentalists, women's groups and eventually labor unions. Hayes and the council responded by appointing a charter review commission that ultimately recommended the reform. Hayes and her allies voted to put the reform, which she supported, on the 1978 ballot and it passed.

When the new districted council was elected in 1980, a majority were women, including a Latina and an African American, and several were neighborhood leaders. Mayor Hayes welcomed them to the council dais and facilitated the transition to a new and improved form of representation for the citizens of San Jose.

For all her personal and policy achievements, the greatest achievement of Janet Gray Hayes was transforming San Jose politics by opening it up to a new generation of leaders.