
D3 Special election nomination process for interim council appointee

From Tina M <[REDACTED]>

Date Fri 1/10/2025 11:26 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>

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Hello Mayor and Council,

This letter is in support of having **David Pandori** appointed as our interim Council representative for District 3 until the final special election process later in the year is complete.

Thank you.

Be happy. Be well.

Tina Morrill
Vendome neighborhood
District 3

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FW: Council District 3 Appoitment

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/13/2025 2:54 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>


 1 attachment (40 KB)
25LMCCDanielle.pdf;

From: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2025 2:38 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Council District 3 Appoitment

Hi All,

Forwarding your way.

Best,
Leilani

On Sat, 11 Jan at 7:32 PM  wrote:

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Please distribute this letter to the Mayor and Councilmembers regarding the upcoming interim appointment to the District 3 Council seat. Let me know if this email is sufficient.

Thank you.
Margie Matthews



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Margie Matthews



January 13, 2025

Mayor and Councilmembers
City of San Jose
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers

I recommend the appointment of Danielle Christian as Interim Councilmember for City Council District 3. Danielle is a long time resident of San Jose having moved here 38 years ago to attend San Jose State University. She has lived in Council District 3 for 22 years and was active during that time in numerous community organizations while raising her children, including school, youth sports, and charitable events.

Professionally, Danielle has extensive knowledge of the policies and processes of local government. She has 30 years' experience working for the County of Santa Clara. In addition to administration, her time with the Board of Supervisors means she will be able to immediately provide constituent services.

An interim appointment will allow a long term resident to represent those who would otherwise go without a voice in city government. I was honored to accept such an appointment to Council District 4 in 2015. I can state that it was a demanding but rewarding assignment, one that focused on independent policy votes and uninterrupted constituent services.

Danielle Christian is up for this job. She would bring with her vast experience in local government, independence, and a proven devotion to her district.

Sincerely,

Margie Matthews, Former Councilmember
Council District 4

FW: City council public forum

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 1/14/2025 7:52 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

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

From: liliankoenig1 [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 7:43 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: City council public forum

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[You don't often get email from liliankoenig1@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

I have an opinion about who should be a representative and elected for D3. Irene Smith is a senior representative of senior issues/ such as housing. Dr. Smith/ lawyer/housing advocate/judge can and will bring sensible and sensitive issues to San Jose. Being a woman she also will join a council male majority which representation of women is necessary. Thanks Liliankoenig Sent from my iPhone

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FW: Interim D3 Councilmember

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Wed 1/15/2025 7:58 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Dee Barragan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 11:27 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; empowered3sj <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Interim D3 Councilmember

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Mayor and City Councilmembers:

Please appoint David Pandori as the interim councilmember for District 3. David is a former elected representative of the district, a retired Deputy District Attorney, a 40-year resident of the district, and has continued volunteering in the community and city government. David Pandori will immediately bring the experience and knowledge that the District needs and deserves.

Yours in community and safety,

Dee Barragan
District 3 Community Leader

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Fw: Interim City Council Appointment-District 3

From Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Thu 1/16/2025 3:37 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

1/28 Council, Item 3.5. Thank you!

Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas

City of San José | Office of the City Clerk

200 East Santa Clara St. – Tower 14th Fl.

San José, CA 95113-1905

Phone 408.535.1260 | Fax 408.292.6207

rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov

**Memos, items, and attachments must be submitted to rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov before 12PM on the Thursday before the intended Rules meeting* Holidays may impact this schedule; revised deadlines will be noticed as applicable.*

From: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Sent: Friday, January 10, 2025 1:10 PM

To: Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Interim City Council Appointment-District 3

From: Tod <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, January 10, 2025 12:45 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Interim City Council Appointment-District 3

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Dear Mayor and City Council,

It is very difficult to accept people from other districts making an appointment for our city council representation. I hope that the voices of the actual residents will be a major factor in your decision. With that, I ask that you appoint **David Pandori** as our interim Councilmember. His previous experience will lend itself to a temporary appointment and his concerns align with the values of District 3.

Thank you,

Tod Williams
D3 Resident

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Fw: Letter in support of David Pandori for interim D3 seat

From Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Thu 1/16/2025 3:38 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (16 KB)

David Pandori for D3.pdf;

1/28 Council, Item 3.5.

Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas

City of San José | Office of the City Clerk
200 East Santa Clara St. – Tower 14th Fl.
San José, CA 95113-1905
Phone 408.535.1260 | Fax 408.292.6207

rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov

***Memos, items, and attachments must be submitted to rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov before 12PM on the Thursday before the intended Rules meeting* Holidays may impact this schedule; revised deadlines will be noticed as applicable.**

From: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 23, 2024 12:00 PM

To: Rules and Open Government Committee Agendas <rulescommitteeagenda@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: FW: Letter in support of David Pandori for interim D3 seat

From: davide [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, December 23, 2024 11:50 AM

To: Kamei, Rosemary <Rosemary.Kamei@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Ortiz, Peter <Peter.Ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; Candelas, Domingo <Domingo.Candelas@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Letter in support of David Pandori for interim D3 seat

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All you leave behind are memories -- make them good ones

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December 23, 2024

San José City Council
200 E Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95112

Dear Councilmembers,

My name is Davide Vieira, and I am writing this letter in support of David Pandori for the interim position representing District 3.

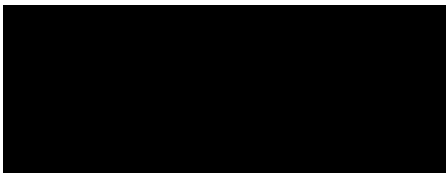
I have known David for decades. When he represented District 3 as our Councilmember, he went above and beyond in his dedication to his constituents. One story immediately comes to mind.

There was a dive bar on E Santa Clara St in our neighborhood that was a menace. There was as much or more happening outside the bar in the residential neighborhood as there was inside the bar. David was invited to spend a Saturday night inside the home of a nearby resident to personally witness the prostitution, drug sales, public drinking, urination and defecation.

After David saw what was happening around the bar, it was shut down permanently to the relief of our neighborhood.

I urge you to approve David Pandori as our District 3 interim councilmember. He has already demonstrated his ability to represent us. Please give him that opportunity again.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of Davide Vieira.

Davide Vieira
Roosevelt Park/Little Portugal Neighborhood

FW: David Pandori for D-3 temp

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Fri 1/17/2025 10:33 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

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

From: Refugio Moreno <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2025 7:21 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: David Pandori for D-3 temp

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To the honorable Mayor, Matt Mahan and members of the San Jose City Council:

My name is Refugio Moreno and I have been a resident of D-3 since 1960. I am a founding member of the Guadalupe Washington Neighborhood Association. I'm writing this letter in support of David Pandori as temporary D-3 councilman. During the late 1980s and 1990s, our neighborhood was plagued with drive-by shootings, blight, and lack of public services. As president of the Washington Area Coalition, our group worked with Pandori and made tremendous progress in turning our neighborhood around. Some examples are as follows:

- 1) Several alleys that had become neighborhood dumps were closed.
- 2) Those alleys that could not be closed, were paved, along with additional lighting.
- 3) A yearly neighborhood dumpster day was started.
- 4) Our neighborhood received a new youth center and a new home for the Biblioteca Latina Americana.
- 5) Sacred Heart Community Services also received a new home at its current location on First @ Alma St., after years of struggling with inadequate leased facilities.

These are just some of accomplishments in our neighborhood made possible because of Pandori's leadership. Given his years of experience on the San Jose city council, I believe he is the best candidate for the job.

Thank you for your sincere consideration.

Refugio Moreno D-3 resident since 1960

Sent from my iPhone

FW: District 3 - Councilmember Interim Appointment

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Fri 1/17/2025 3:21 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Rich Crowley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2025 2:53 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; district5@sanjoseca.gov; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; district10@sanjoseca.gov
Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: District 3 - Councilmember Interim Appointment

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Mayor Mahan & All Councilmembers -

I want to thank you for doing the right thing by voting to hold a special election to fill the now vacant seat in Council District 3 and providing for an interim appointment to fully represent District 3 residents until that election is completed.

In this situation it is critical that the interim appointee be able to come up to speed almost immediately. This is why David Pandori stands out as the best person for that job. He has demonstrated his ability to serve through his 8 years as the D3 Councilmember in the past, in addition to a lifetime of passionately caring for all things and people in D3 and throughout the city. Nearly as important, he knows the ins & outs of San Jose politics which means that he will be ready to effectively serve from day one.

Finally, David is willing to serve without an eye on future personal political gain; therefore, giving him the ability to make the right decisions for his district every day he serves!

I encourage all of you to do the right thing again and select David Pandori as the District 3 interim Councilmember.

Thank you,

Rich Crowley

2024 Chair, D10 Leadership Coalition
Vice President - Citizen's for Fiscal Responsibility

Jamal Williams for District 3

From Julinda LeDee <[REDACTED]>
Date Sat 1/18/2025 4:16 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Jahmal Williams <jahmal.williams@sjsu.edu>

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Dear The City of San Jose,

I am writing to enthusiastically support the nomination of Jahmal Williams for District 3. Jahmal has not only embraced San Jose as his home but has also demonstrated a deep commitment to the well-being and advancement of its diverse communities. His dedication to addressing pressing issues such as the unhoused population, housing solutions, and the needs of children is evident through his tireless advocacy and community-focused initiatives.

Jahmal has been particularly impactful in his efforts to uplift the Black community, which has long been underserved and overlooked by many. His work embodies the principles of equity, inclusion, and progress, ensuring that no one is left behind as our city grows and evolves.

As an active and engaged member of San Jose, Jahmal consistently seeks practical, sustainable solutions that benefit all residents. His vision and leadership are exactly what District 3 needs to create a more equitable and united community.

It is time we prioritize leaders like Jahmal Williams, who are dedicated to fostering equality and opportunity for everyone in San Jose. I encourage you to support his nomination and help us move toward a brighter future for our city.

Sincerely,
Julinda LeDee

Articulation Specialist / CSEA Union Steward, San José City College

Motivational Speaker / Poetess, Speak for Impact

Commissioner, Santa Clara County Human Rights Commission

<https://speak-for-impact.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/@JulindaLeDee/featured>

Recommendation for Jahmal Williams as Interim D3 City Council member

From Mike Ohanyere <[REDACTED]>
Date Wed 1/22/2025 8:00 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

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Good morning,

When I first met Jahmal Williams in church, I met someone with a welcoming face and a nice smile. I moved to San Jose from South Florida in January 2023, and had hopes of finding a community. When thinking of the word 'community', many people have varying definitions and ways to create it, but personally, I find community on the basketball court. Being able to meet people on the basketball court has been my most successful way of creating friendships as an adult, and I was desperately longing for that environment being in a new state. Thankfully, upon my first introduction to Jahmal, he offered me a spot on his men's recreational basketball team, and I knew that this would be a great start in feeling at home again.

That ability to bring people together through a common interest however, is only one layer to the man that represents "Pushin' Forty", (the name of our men's rec league team, which brought in our first championship last year thanks to Jahmal's tenacious defense and clutch shooting). He really believes in this community, the people, the ability to unite, has a good ear to what this city needs, and will opportunities this city can create to foster growth in San Jose. He has many ideas to bring culture and community to the city, and I know he is a man with a plan: He created a chess club for beginners who want to learn how to play as well as experienced players. He collaborates with small businesses and plays a pivotal role in creating a job fair that showcases unique opportunities for employment. Most importantly, Jahmal manages to do it all while being a present and loving father to his two beautiful daughters. I could go on and on, but the one thing that remains constant is that Jahmal is a driving force for positive change in the San Jose community, and I know he is more than willing and able to take on the challenge of being your next city council member. He is not going to miss this next shot, just like he doesn't on the court.

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

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Agenda #3.5 Jahmal Williams for District 3 Councilmember Interim Appointment

From Meredith Curry [REDACTED]
Date Wed 1/22/2025 8:21 AM
To City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (205 KB)

Mer Curry Nunez Letter of Support_ Jahmal Williams SJ City Council D3 1.20.2025.pdf;

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To the honorable San José Mayor Matt Mahan and City Councilmembers,

My name is Meredith Curry Nuñez. I am a resident of District 5, but my professional work and personal volunteering span all of San José, including District 3. **I'm writing to support Jahmal Williams for the District 3 Councilmember Interim Appointment (Agenda #3.5).**

Please find my support letter attached to this email for the Tuesday, January 28 meeting.

With gratitude,
Meredith Curry Nuñez

Meredith Curry Nuñez
Executive Director, Consultant, Civic Leader, and Social Justice Advocate
Pronouns: she/her/hers
Let's Connect on [LinkedIn](#)
[East Side Hall of Fame 2023](#)
I'm on Ohlone land. [Where are you?](#)
#norcalpromisecoalition, #nccpc, #lessdebtmoredegrees

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January 22, 2025

Mayor and City Councilmembers
City of San José
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Agenda #3.5 Jahmal Williams for District 3 Councilmember Interim Appointment

To the honorable San José Mayor Matt Mahan and City Councilmembers,

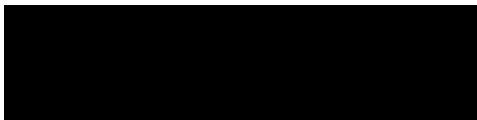
My name is Meredith Curry Nuñez. I am a resident of District 5, but my professional work and personal volunteering span all of San José, including District 3. **I'm writing to support Jahmal Williams for the District 3 Councilmember Interim Appointment (Agenda #3.5).**

As a resident of East San José, a nonprofit and community leader, and an advocate for our county, I have witnessed firsthand Jahmal's leadership, passion, expertise, and expansive impact in and around the city. Jahmal has been a committed leader of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet of Silicon Valley (BLKC) for years, and I have seen his dedication, resourcefulness, and staunch commitment to this community because of my role as a member of the Planning Committee. Jahmal is the Director of Advocacy for Racial Justice at San Jose State University, and I have had the privilege of partnering with him on multiple projects and events. He has transformed San José and the Silicon Valley, from students to families to community organizations.

Jahmal will be a trusted public servant as the Interim District 3 Councilmember, leveraging his full suite of gifts, skills, and networks on planning, community building, and thought-partnering with the city and other stakeholders. Our city deserves leaders like Jahmal Williams, who are already active, revered, and valued in this community, and can thrive under pressure. He has proven experience advancing sustainable, practical, community-informed solutions that benefit all residents while also tackling the needs of the most underserved.

Please consider appointing Jahmal as the District 3 interim councilmember, to fill the vacant term. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,



Meredith Curry Nuñez
Founder & Principal Consultant
AdvancED Consulting, LLC

Support of Candidate Jahmal C. Williams (District 3)

From White, Khalid <[REDACTED]>
Date Wed 1/22/2025 3:04 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

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Dear City Clerk,

I am writing this note in support of Mr. Jahmal Williams for San Jose City Council District 3 Representative. I have known Jahmal for several years and worked alongside him in several community-focused capacities. He has always availed himself to be a servant-leader, responsible, personable, community focused, and a dedicated champion for those who are overlooked and underserved. And those are the kinds of qualities and attributes that San Jose's District 3 needs and rightfully deserves.

Please be assured, I wholeheartedly support Mr. Jahmal Williams for San Jose's City Council District 3.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Dr. Khalid White
[REDACTED]

Khalid A. White, Ed.D.
He/Him/His
"Education. Empowerment. Equity."
[Learn about African American Studies at SJCC!](#)

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FW: Letter in support of Bob Staedler for interim D3 council member

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Fri 1/24/2025 9:03 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; Elections <elections@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (23 KB)

Bob Staedler.pdf;

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

From: Laura Winter [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 9:02 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Letter in support of Bob Staedler for interim D3 council member

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

Dear Ms. Taber,

Attached please find my letter of support for San Jose Council District 3 interim council member candidate Bob Staedler to be distributed to Mayor Mahan and the members of the city council.

Regards,

Laura Winter

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Laura Winter



January 24, 2025

The Honorable Matt Mahan, Mayor, City of San Jose and Members of the
City Council
200 E Santa Clara Street
San Jose, California 95113

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the City Council,

I am writing in support of Bob Staedler to be appointed interim council member for District 3. I have had the distinct pleasure of working with him since 2019 in a professional capacity as he is currently a consultant for a San Jose-based non-profit corporation for which I serve as co-president.


Bob has demonstrated to me how incredible his knowledge and care is of all of San Jose. His years of living in District 3 combined with his tenure in the Redevelopment Agency and in his current position as a land use consultant have given him broad and deep insights into our city. Although acutely aware of the challenges faced by District 3 and San Jose as a whole, he is an unfailingly proud resident and is committed to making San Jose the best it can be. Bob is an outspoken advocate for good governance and fiscal responsibility and is a skilled negotiator. He takes nothing at face value and engages in thorough research on every subject in front of him. Bob commits to stakeholder engagement and looks for opportunities to reach conclusions that benefit all. His opinions and advice are based on discovering facts, his convictions are strong, honest, and would serve San Jose well in this position of leadership.

Sincerely,

Laura Winter

Letter in Support of Jahmal Williams

From Taranjit Kaur [REDACTED]
Date Fri 1/24/2025 2:36 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (40 KB)
Jahmal Williams for City Council .pdf;

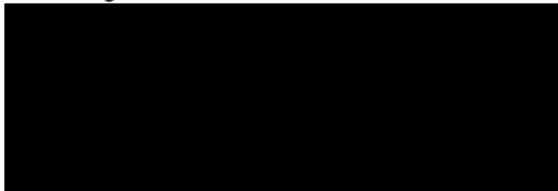
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Hello, attached is my letter in support of Jahmal Williams who is seeking to be appointed to represent District 3 as the Interim Councilmember. Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

Taranjit "TJ" Kaur



This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

If you were to ask me about a community member who has had a profound effect on my life, the first person I think about is Jahmal. I met Jahmal when I was an undergraduate student at SJSU in 2015. I remember thinking, he's different and a breath of fresh air, our campus hadn't had very many young Black men as staff members at that time. In the Fall of 2015, I began working at a student success center on campus and had the opportunity to have Jahmal as my supervisor when he was the Tutor Coordinator at Peer Connections.

When Jahmal became my supervisor it completely changed the way I viewed myself, my relationships, and the world around me. He was a listening ear and provided me the space to talk about my challenges and obstacles in a judgment-free environment. We would spend hours talking about challenges around the world, issues within our communities, and topics centering around self-awareness. In each conversation, his aim was always to hear my thought process and provide me with something to think about.

When I doubted myself or was unsure of decisions he spoke life into me; he provided me the confidence to pursue a path after graduation I would otherwise have been too timid to try. I became a teacher on the East Side of San Jose after graduation and I aimed to portray the same understanding and empathy in my classroom that Jahmal had graciously shown me.

One of the greatest honors I have had has been seeing Jahmal grow as a person. When I first met Jahmal he was fairly new to San Jose and did not have any kids. It has been amazing to see how many different avenues of community Jahmal has become involved in just a short amount of time. He has advised student organizations, been on various planning committees, is an active member of his church, and excelled in his career; all while balancing being a present father and husband.

You can see the pride Jahmal carries in being a dad. He ensures he not only enrolls his children in extracurricular activities but is very much present during their participation. Any time I catch up with Jahmal he is always so excited to show how his eldest daughter Noelle is growing up so fast and developing new hobbies and talents.

There is so much I could go on about when it comes to Jahmal. There are not enough words that can express the impact he has had on so many students' lives during his time at SJSU. He has the ability to connect with others and lead in a manner where everyone around him feels valued, heard, and safe. There is no one I can think of who would be a better fit to represent people other than Jahmal. I believe he will be an excellent candidate for the Interim D3 Council member position here in San Jose.

In Solidarity,

Taranjit TJ Kaur

Jahmal Williams for D3 Councilmember

From akemi flynn <[REDACTED]>
Date Sun 1/26/2025 10:46 PM
To City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc jahmal.williams [REDACTED]

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers -

I am writing to urge you to appoint Jahmal Williams to be the Interim Councilmember for District 3. As a 10-year resident of District 3 and 30+ year active member of the San Jose community, I am confident that Jahmal Williams is the leader and representative that District 3 needs and deserves at this time.

I have had the opportunity to work with Jahmal Williams in a variety of ways over the past several years through his leadership roles as the Director of DEI Partners at University-Community Liaison at SJSU, as Co-Chair of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet, and as Co-Chair of REAL: Racial Equity Action Leadership Coalition.

Jahmal is respected by people from many different parts of our community for his thoughtful leadership, including his demonstrated commitment to:

- listening to diverse perspectives
- asking questions to help people and groups explore issues more deeply
- challenging the status quo
- balancing both inviting input and moving to decisions for the best interest of the community
- commitment to learning for himself and for community building
- keeping a sense of humor and patience while also holding the seriousness of issues impacting the community

Jahmal is a leader who is often sought out for his thoughtful perspective and commitment to groups he represents as well as his ability to navigate challenging situations and complex issues while remaining grounded in his values for equity and community well-being.

I am confident that you will benefit from having Jahmal Williams as your colleague on the City Council and District 3 residents will be well-served with him as our representative.

Thank you for your consideration,
Akemi Flynn
District 3 Resident

FW: 3.5 Interim Appointment to Council District 3

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:48 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Matt Savage <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 5:43 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Re: 3.5 Interim Appointment to Council District 3

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)
Resending due to a formatting error:

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council Members,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for the appointment of Danielle Christian to the District 3 seat on the City Council. As a longtime downtown resident who has raised her family here and a proud graduate of San Jose State University, Danielle is deeply rooted in our community.

Danielle's extensive experience in public service is truly commendable. Over the past thirty years with the County of Santa Clara, she has taken on numerous leadership roles across various departments. This has equipped her with a wealth of civic knowledge and a genuine commitment to delivering exemplary services to residents.

I had the pleasure of working alongside Danielle during my time as a health policy aide. Throughout the pandemic, she was instrumental in assisting me as I navigated the complexities of county bureaucracy to provide critical services and support to our community, always responding to residents' concerns with compassion and diligence. Her interactions with the public have consistently shown her dedication to public service, and I have no doubt she will bring that same level of excellence to the City Council.

With her in-depth understanding of public policy and local government processes, combined with her intimate knowledge of the downtown community, Danielle will undoubtedly enhance constituent services and address the needs of our residents effectively.

I sincerely hope you will consider giving Danielle this opportunity to serve her community and continue making a positive impact.

Warm regards,
Matt Savage

[REDACTED]

On Jan 24, 2025, at 5:23 PM, Matt Savage [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council Members, I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for the appointment of Danielle Christian to the District 3 seat on the City Council. As a longtime downtown resident who has raised her family here and a proud graduate of San Jose State University, Danielle is deeply rooted in our community. Danielle's extensive experience in public service is truly commendable. Over the past thirty years with the County of Santa Clara, she has taken on numerous leadership roles across various departments. This has equipped her with a wealth of civic knowledge and a genuine commitment to delivering exemplary services to residents. I had the pleasure of working alongside Danielle during my time as a health policy aide. Throughout the pandemic, she was instrumental in assisting me as I navigated the complexities of county bureaucracy to provide critical services and support to our community, always responding to residents' concerns with compassion and diligence. Her interactions with the public have consistently shown her dedication to public service, and I have no doubt she will bring that same level of excellence to the City Council. With her in-depth understanding of public policy and local government processes, combined with her intimate knowledge of the downtown community, Danielle will undoubtedly enhance constituent services and address the needs of our residents effectively. I sincerely hope you will consider giving Danielle this opportunity to serve her community and continue making a positive impact. Warm regards, Matt Savage
[REDACTED] San Jose

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FW: Item 3.5 - Letter of Support for Danielle Christian

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:49 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Martha Wapenski [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 25, 2025 10:45 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Item 3.5 - Letter of Support for Danielle Christian

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You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)
January 25, 2025

Dear Members of the San Jose City Council,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for **Danielle Christian** to fill the interim appointment for District 3. Having worked closely with Danielle for decades, she is a dedicated and trustworthy leader who will serve the District 3 community with integrity and care.

Danielle is deeply committed to fiscal responsibility, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used wisely to meet the needs of our community while safeguarding the city's financial stability during this difficult budget time. Equally important, Danielle prioritizes making sure people have a voice in government, consistently taking the time to listen to diverse perspectives and valuing the input of all community members. Her approachable nature and strong communication skills enable her to foster meaningful dialogue, and ensure that every community member feels heard and respected.

When addressing complex challenges, I have witnessed firsthand Danielle's ability to bring people together, find common ground, and work collaboratively. These skills will help her to achieve results that make sense for District 3 and the city at large. Her proven consensus-building skills and steadfast commitment to serving others make her an outstanding choice for the interim appointment.

I wholeheartedly encourage you to appoint Danielle to this role.

Sincerely,
Martha Wapenski
Resident of Council District 6

FW: Agenda Item Number 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:49 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Kathy Vita [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 25, 2025 6:57 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5

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I am writing in support of Danielle Christian to be the temporary appointee for District 3's council seat. Danielle has been a wonderful neighbor for 22 years. Besides serving our local government for 30 years, she is a graduate of San Jose State, knowledgeable, cares about District Three, and can support its diverse neighborhoods. I think we in the District, and the City of San Jose, would benefit from her appointment to District 3's council seat.

Sincerely,
Kathy Vita

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FW: Agenda Item Number 3.5 - support for Danielle Christian

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:49 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: William OConnell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 25, 2025 11:32 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5 - support for Danielle Christian

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Greetings,

I have known Danielle Christian since she became my across-the-street neighbor 22 years ago here in the Naglee Park Neighborhood.

I strongly recommend her for the position of Interim Council Person for District 3. Having worked in local government for 30 years, I am very impressed with Danielle's commitment to and involvement within our community – participating in Naglee Park Neighborhood events and volunteering at schools attended by her children.

In a recent conversation with Danielle, she assured me that she would engage with the many diverse neighborhoods within District 3. She has demonstrated over time that she is current on civic issues – especially as they impact our district.

Danielle Christian's commitment and female perspective would be a high quality addition to San Jose City Council. Again, I strongly recommend her for the position of interim Council Person for District 3.

Respectfully,
Donna O'Connell
[REDACTED]

FW: Agenda Item Number 3.5 - Support for Danielle Christian

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:50 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Liz Cabral [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 26, 2025 4:40 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5 - Support for Danielle Christian

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)
To whom it may concern,

I am sending this email in support of Danielle Christian for the interim appointment of District Three Councilperson. I have known Danielle for over 6 years, both as a District Three neighbor and through our work together on various school committees. Danielle has many qualifications for this role, having lived in District Three for 22 years and worked in local government for 30 years. This gives her both a great understanding of the District's needs and practical and extensive experience. I've worked on at least three different committees with Danielle for large school events, including ones she has acted as Chairperson on. I have found Danielle to be collaborative, responsive, and hard working in these roles, ensuring everyone gets a voice and that the projects move forward smoothly toward completion. I hope you will strongly consider Danielle for this appointment; I feel she is an excellent candidate and would represent District Three well.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Cabral
[REDACTED]

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FW: Agenda Item Number 3.5 - Support for Danielle Christian

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:50 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: C Hyde - [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 26, 2025 4:49 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5 - Support for Danielle Christian

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To: Mayor Matt Mahan and San Jose Councilmembers

I would like to communicate my strong support for the appointment of Danielle Christian to fill the vacant District Three City Council Seat.

I have known Danielle Christian for almost 30 years, first working with her at the County as Board Aides. Over the years, I have also had the pleasure of working with her in my role in the offices of other elected officials and currently as Policy Director at Community Health Partnership.

Danielle would make an ideal interim Council representative for District Three because she cares about the community and puts in the work. I have always known Danielle to be responsive, transparent, resourceful, and accessible. These are the qualities needed for the City Council to re-establish the trust and confidence of District Three residents.

Furthermore, the residents of District Three deserve a council member who can hit the ground running. They have been without true representation for far too long and cannot afford an appointed council member who takes months to get up to speed on how local government actually works.

And finally, District Three has a diverse demographic who will be under tremendous stress from the actions of the new President. Danielle brings a wealth of knowledge concerning state and federal policies and legislation that would be invaluable in supporting the needs and interests of immigrant communities in District Three and throughout San Jose.

Danielle is a problem solver who can work collaboratively with a diverse group of stakeholders. I believe that she, above other candidates, can bring strong and effective representation on behalf of the residents and businesses of San Jose's District Three.

Sincerely,
—
Cathryn Hyde

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

D3 Councilmember Appointment Recommendation Letter Jahmal Williams

From Karlen Kirkland <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 8:01 AM
To City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

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On Behalf of Jahmal Cornell Williams,

I first met Jahmal Williams as a student at SJSU in 2019, he was running the Black Leadership and Opportunity Center, a space for black students to find community, academic support, and resources the school provided. Jahmal set the culture and standard for that space. He would challenge students to a game of chess, remember everyone's name, and find little ways to provide guidance to those who need. With his attitude and professionalism, he quickly rose in SJSU leadership. Even those he rose above the Block, he always prioritized supporting events for minority students and activism on campus.

Throughout the years, I had the blessing of getting to know his family, join in on sports, attend church with him, and grab lunch to learn from his endless wisdom. He's a committed family man that lives in San Jose and his wife works in San Jose as the director of [REDACTED]. Jahmal is a remarkable father of two and a person of deep integrity and compassion. Through his involvement in the church, he has consistently demonstrated a commitment to uplifting others, offering support to those in need, and working toward the betterment of our community. He approaches challenges with both humility and determination, ensuring that every decision he makes is grounded in fairness and understanding.


What sets Jahmal apart is his ability to truly listen to others, valuing diverse perspectives and fostering a sense of unity. His vision for San Jose reflects the qualities that we need in leadership—an unwavering commitment to justice, equality, and progress. I have no doubt that his strong values, coupled with his ability to build bridges across communities, will make him an outstanding representative for our district. He is your man for Interim City Council, I never met anyone like Jahmal before, at true servant to his community.

Regards, Karlen Kirkland & Bianca Avanzo Kirkland

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Jahmal Williams Recommendation

From Shelley Chaney Floyd Jr <[REDACTED]>
Date Sat 1/25/2025 9:00 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (64 KB)
Jahmal Williams SJ City Council.pdf;

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Please accept my recommendation for Jahmal Williams for City council attached
Thanks

--

Shelley Floyd, Jr., Assoc. Broker

[REDACTED]
President

<http://www.livethedreamnetwork.org/>
[REDACTED]

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Shelley Floyd Jr

[REDACTED]
San Jose, CA 95134
[REDACTED]

January 25, 2025

San Jose City Council
San Jose, CA

Dear Members of the San Jose City Council,

It is my great privilege, in my personal capacity, to recommend Jahmal Williams to represent District 3 on the San Jose City Council for the remainder of this term and beyond. His potential to serve as an example, a leader, and a true resource for our community is immeasurable.

I have had the honor of witnessing Jahmal's leadership for many years in his role as President of the Black Kitchen Cabinet, a non-profit organization that thrived under his guidance and evolved into a strong and vital voice for our community. Jahmal has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the future of San Jose and is consistently available to assist our marginalized neighbors.

He is a skilled communicator with a cooperative, non-partisan approach and an admirable willingness to listen to the perspectives of others. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Jahmal is a devoted husband and father, and his character is a testament to the values he upholds in both his personal and public life.

Jahmal Williams would undoubtedly be a tremendous asset to the San Jose City Council and the broader community. I sincerely hope you seize this opportunity to welcome him as a representative of District 3. Thank you for considering this strong recommendation.

Sincerely

Shelley Floyd Jr President, [REDACTED]

Agenda Item 3.5, 25-059, Interim Appointment to Council District 3 - Letter in support of Jahmal Williams

From Mark Scott Greene [REDACTED]

Date Sun 1/26/2025 10:51 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (121 KB)

Mark Greene_Letter in Support of Jahmal Williams - Interim Appointment to Council District 3 .pdf;

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Hello,

Please see attached. Thank you.

--

Mark Scott Greene, J.D.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong support for Jahmal Williams for the position on the San Jose City Council, District #3.

I have worked in the areas of equity and civil rights for almost a decade in San Jose and appreciate the importance of understanding the diverse perspectives of the various communities in our City, the challenges they face and matters that are most important to them.

I've had the privilege of knowing Jahmal for over 5 years in his personal and professional capacities. I can say unequivocally that he possesses the leadership qualities, dedication and connection to the community, and the values and integrity that will make him not only an asset to the City Council but a voice for his constituents.

I have witnessed first-hand his tireless commitment to community involvement and how deeply he cares about the well-being of others, especially those in marginalized and underrepresented communities. Jahmal's endless list of involvement in community events, volunteer efforts, leadership roles in local organizations, or simply lending a hand to others in need, is a true testament to the individual he is and the leader he is certain to be for District 3. Jahmal is passionate about equity and all its facets and is certain to advocate for an inclusive community for everyone.

Jahmal has a unique ability to lead, while also encouraging others to take leadership opportunities and make an impact to their community. I have personally spoken with an individual who have said that Jahmal encouraged them to not drop out of college, supported them through graduation, and then helped them obtain meaningful employment in a community focused role.

Through a personal anecdote, I attest to Jahmal's encouragement and support. When I first moved to San Jose over 8 years ago, it did not feel like home. I often felt isolated and struggled to find a supportive community. When I met Jahmal through a community organization event, he without hesitation invited me to lunch and asked genuine questions about my goals personally and professionally. He identified solutions in improving my experience in San Jose, and then connected me to those resources. Because of Jahmal, I have sought opportunities to involve myself in and give back to community, and this effect is not isolated to me but to many San Jose residents.

Lastly, I've also had the privilege of witnessing Jahmal in his role as a husband, parent, and friend. He manages to seamlessly prioritize the demands of family life without compromising his commitment to service.

I wholeheartedly endorse Jahmal Williams. He is the voice for the voiceless and represents many constituent groups in many spaces. His leadership, passion for equity, and unwavering commitment to our community are recognized and appreciated by many, and I have no doubt

that he will continue to advocate for fair and positive change to help build a brighter future for all of us.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Mark Greene.

Mark Greene

Please note, this letter is a personal endorsement, and the views expressed are my own, and do not reflect the views of my employer.

RE: Jahmal Williams D3 Councilmember - Letter of Support

From Michael Dao [REDACTED]

Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:06 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (154 KB)

Jahmal Williams D3 Councilmember - Letter of Support.pdf;

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Hello,

Please see the attached letter of support for Jahmal Williams' candidacy to be the interim District 3 Councilmember for the City of San José.

Sincerely,

Michael Dao

--

Michael S. Dao, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor & Associate Chair
Department of Kinesiology
Director, [Human Rights Institute](#)
San José State University

For anyone interested in receiving more information about the SJSU Human Rights Institute, please complete this [form](#).

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January 24, 2025, 2024

RE: Letter of Support – Jahmal Williams Candidacy for District 3 Councilmember

Dear San José City Council Members,

Please accept this letter as my full support of Jahmal Williams' candidacy to be the interim San José City District 3 Councilmember. I have known Jahmal Williams for five years as a friend and a colleague. We both work at San José State University (SJSU) and in my working relationship with him he has shown me nothing less than a commitment to addressing issues related to social justice and equity, being in community with others in San José, and ensuring that the most marginalized communities are heard. Moreover, as a friend, Jahmal has treated me with love and care, ensuring that I am seen for who I am. I can think of no one else better suited to be the interim District 3 councilmember. In what follows, I speak to the attributes that make him such.

First, I want to acknowledge that while I work with Jahmal at SJSU, I was born and raised in San José. As such, I have seen the drastic changes to the downtown core. I know that downtown is an epicenter of businesses and people. It is a place where San José is constantly changing. We need someone who understands that this change is happening, while also not forgetting the people that live in the surrounding neighborhoods. His attention to intersectional issues such as social and racial inequality. As District 3 may encounter more challenges over the next couple of months he will be the right candidate to steady the ship. Jahmal will be a leader in advocating for change that benefits everyone and leaves no community behind. I have seen him on campus stand up in front of a crowded room, with no fear, and comment on one of the most pressing issues this past year (e.g., Palestine). His leadership, his voice, and his authenticity are sorely needed in San José, especially in District 3.

Second, as a colleague at SJSU, Jahmal has been my confidant and mentor. In his roles in the Office of Government Relations and Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion he has assisted me as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology and the current Director of the Human Rights Institute (HRI). For example, in August 2022 he facilitated a meeting between SJSU faculty and staff, and leaders from the Vietnamese American Services Center (VASC). Because of this meeting, I have been able to collaborate with leadership from VASC to work on community based participatory research on topics related to health and wellness. Thus, his relational character highlights the ability to collaborate and bring people together. We need someone to bridge communities together in San José. As the interim District 3 council member, he will facilitate these relationships across neighborhoods, businesses and the university.

Third and finally, Jahmal's already community involvement and commitments bears no comparison to others. Jahmal moved to San José almost ten years ago, and over the course of this time he has integrated in many different communities. He serves as the co-chair of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet of Silicon Valley, in 2022 was one of ten people selected to represent the City of San José at the Young Americans Leadership Program hosted by Harvard Business School and has been a member of the Racial Equity Action Leadership group formed by Sacred Heart Community Service. He is simply committed to being in community and working with others to advocate for positive social change.

It is my pleasure to endorse and provide my full support of Jahmal Williams. Both as a colleague, and more importantly as a friend, I know he will do right in his interim time as District 3 Councilmember.



Michael S. Dao, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor & Associate Chair
Department of Kinesiology
Director, Human Rights Institute
San José State University

Letter of Recommendation for Jahmal Williams (for appointment to D3 SJ City Council seat)

From William Armaline [REDACTED]

Date Sun 1/26/2025 3:03 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (138 KB)

WArmaline_Recommendation_JWilliamsForSJCityCouncilD3Seat_01-26-25.pdf;

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SJ Mayor, Council Members and Staff,

I'm a District 3 resident, and I'd like to submit the letter of recommendation for Jahmal Williams attached to the Council.

Many thanks!

peace. b.

--

William T. Armaline
Professor, Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences [SISS]
San Jose State University

[Order our new book now](#) from Routledge Press: ***Human Rights Praxis and the Struggle for Survival***.

Check out the **San Jo Lo Down [SJLD] Podcast** on our [website](#), [Instagram](#), and [Spotify](#). Please listen, follow, leave a review, and [donate](#)!

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Undergraduate Programs

January 26, 2025

BA, Sociology

BA, Social Science,
Preparation for Teaching
• Single Subject
• Multiple Subject

City Council District 3 Seat Appointment
Letter of Recommendation:
Jahmal Williams

Minor Programs:

• Asian American Studies
• Sociology of Education
• Women, Gender, &
Sexuality Studies

Mayor Mahan and San José City Council Members:

It is my absolute pleasure to recommend Jahmal Williams for appointment to the open District 3 San José City Council Seat. I am a District 3 resident and have known Jahmal as a neighbor, colleague at SJSU, and friend for many years. I have rarely met someone so appropriate for public service and fully endorse the appointment of Jahmal Williams to the open District 3 seat.

Credential and Graduate
Programs

MA, Sociology

Teacher Credential
Program

Specifically, I would like to highlight the following in my recommendation:

- 1) Jahmal's had a very successful career in student services and academic leadership at SJSU. His work leaves lasting legacies on campus (such as the BLOC – or Black Leadership and Opportunity Center), and he is universally respected by students and colleagues for his clear dedication.
- 2) Jahmal is very much engaged in the San José community. He is active in his church, neighborhood, and as Co-Chair of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet and member of any number of other organizations supporting the Black and local community. He has recently taken an interest in public service, but *he comes to politics without troublesome ties to finance, real estate/development, corporations, or other corrupting interests.*
- 3) People often describe Jahmal as a “connector,” who can successfully bring people together in any number of ways. This strikes me as absolutely accurate, and his positive demeanor helps to draw people in.
- 4) Jahmal is a good man and father of the finest interpersonal character. He treats his kids, family, and friends with kindness and compassion, and welcomes others into his home and his life. Jahmal is honest, with a clear and consistent moral compass that would serve the Council and the City well.


Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time via email concerning this recommendation.

Sincerely,

William Armaline, Ph.D.
Professor, Sociology

FW: January 28, 2025 Agenda Item 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 7:50 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (71 KB)

Bob Staedler D3 appointee letter of support.pdf;

From: kathy sutherland · [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 26, 2025 12:33 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: January 28, 2025 Agenda Item 3.5

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Dear Toni,
Please see the attached letter in support of Bob Staedler.
Thank you,
Kathy

[Kathy Sutherland](#)
[REDACTED]

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

January 26, 2025

Mayor Matt Mahan
Vice-Mayor Pam Foley
Councilmember Rosemary Kamei
Councilmember Pamela Campos
Councilmember David Cohen
Councilmember Peter Ortiz
Councilmember Michael Mulcahy
Councilmember Bien Doan
Councilmember Domingo Candelas
Councilmember George Casey

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

The most qualified person to serve as the appointed Councilmember for District 3 is Bob Staedler. Bob is prepared to serve District 3 now. He already tracks City Council and Council Committee agendas. He has a deep understanding of how the City makes decisions and decades of institutional knowledges about how past Council decisions were made. Bob also has a deep professional understanding of land use and the impact the development of Diridon Station and BART will have on the City. From his Redevelopment days, he values and understands how to collaborate with neighborhood leaders and City staff. He knows the Mayor, City Councilmembers, city staff leadership, neighborhood leaders, lobbyists, non-profit leaders, political leaders, business leaders, union leaders, and reporters. This is not to say he has their support – nor should he. But the appointee needs to understand the priorities of everyone from day one.

I have lived in the Diridon Station area for more than 44 years. I understand politics, neighborhoods and most importantly – development. In 2019, I helped lead a group of neighborhood leaders in the Diridon station area. We hired Bob to help guide us through the changes proposed by the Google development and expansion of the downtown core. As a group, we used our personal funds to pay Bob's greatly reduced fees. We did not have corporate money or grant funding. We wrote personal checks. This is how much we valued his advice.


I know what it takes to be a candidate who wants to serve the residents of District 3. In 2014, I was a candidate. I have complete faith in Bob and his ability to work with everyone and I know that no other candidate can match his depth and breadth and institutional knowledge of District 3.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathy Sutherland
Delmas Park Resident

Letter of Support for Interim D3 Vacancy

From Derek Grasty [REDACTED]
Date Mon 1/27/2025 10:43 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (52 KB)
Jahmal Williams Letter of Support.pdf;

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

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

To Whom it may concern,

Please accept my letter of support (attached) for Mr. Jahmal Williams, for Interim District 3 City Councilmember. Thank you.

Regards,
Wm. Derek Grasty

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

January 27, 2024

To: Mayor Matt Mahan and San José City Council
200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95113

Re: Interim District 3 City Council vacancy

Dear. Mayor Mahan and San José City Councilmembers,

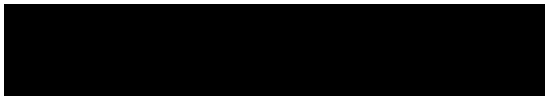
It gives me great pleasure to give my support in recommending Mr. Jahmal Williams for San José interim District 3 city councilmember.

Mr. Williams has demonstrated his sincere commitment and dedication to the city of San José in various ways. He is a director at San José State University, serves on the board of directors of SOMOS: Mayfair; and also leads as chairperson for the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet.

District 3 residents need a responsive leader who understands their needs and concerns. Mr. Williams is well-prepared to handle those matters. He a good listener, a problem-solver, and able to tackle difficult situations with calm, collaboration and consensus.

Jamal is a husband, father, and fully committed to serving all segments of the community, including those underserved and underrepresented. For these reasons and others, I implore your strong consideration for Mr. Jahmal Williams as interim District 3 city councilmember.

Respectfully,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Wm. Derek Grasty.

Wm. Derek Grasty

Board Trustee, Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District
Member, 100 Black Men of Silicon Valley, Inc.
President, Bella Madeira HOA and Mutual Water Co.
Santa Clara County School Board Asso., Legislative Action Committee
La Raza Community Round Table de California
APISBMA (Asian Pacific Islander School Board Members Association)
et. al.

(Affiliations and memberships listed for context, not specific endorsements by the organizations.)

FW: Agenda Item Number 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 11:26 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: victoria noperi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 11:19 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5

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Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I am a resident of the South University Neighborhood of District Three and I am writing in support of Danielle Christian for the interim appointment to the District Three seat. I met Danielle ten years ago when our children were students together at Lowell Elementary. She and other moms worked together on many school projects such as the ABC Reader Program and the Paws for a Cause Walk-A-Thon. She was a great team player who was interested in helping the school put programs in place and raise funds. Since she worked for the County, other parents would often ask her questions about local government services and she never hesitated to help connect people to city, county, or community services.

During the pandemic, I reached out to her for help with a family violence situation. She helped connect me with the San Jose Police Department and Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence. She also attended court with me three times to support me in getting a restraining order. It was comforting to have a friend with me during that time in my life.

Danielle shows people kindness and compassion and cares about the thoughts and needs of others. She will advocate for District Three residents and work hard on their behalf. I ask you to appoint her to the City Council.

Sincerely,

Victoria Noperi

Support letter for Jahmal Williams for District 3 City Council Member

From Deanna Peck - [REDACTED]
Date Mon 1/27/2025 11:33 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc jahmal.williams@gmail.com <jahmal.williams@gmail.com>

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

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

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to be writing this letter in support of Jahmal Williams for District 3 City Council Member. I first met Jahmal when he was hired to initiate our Early Support program at San Jose State University in 2014. Since then, I've seen Jahmal in a number of different situations around the university and have had numerous personal conversations with him about the downtown community. He was very intentional about choosing homes in the area. As a resident of downtown San Jose for over the last 25 years, this is very important to me.

While I cannot speak for SJSU as an institution, I can say that Jahmal is one of those rare individuals where it feels like almost everyone who has the opportunity to interact with him speaks about him in high regards and respects him. Jahmal really listens to people and collaborates to make things happen. I have seen him essentially build up at least 4 different programs in the last 10 years. These programs always found a way to support students who are marginalized and use their own strengths and talents to create a better environment. He inspired people to excel and be the best they could be for themselves and for their communities. He was able to relate to students, colleagues, and upper administration.

One of the aspects that I most appreciated was that when he had a vision, he made it happen. An example of this is when he convinced us to begin an Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP). This is something that he had experienced and saw the usefulness of it while he was in college and he knew that it opened up doors for students who may not normally have these opportunities. He did the networking and the work to persuade people that this would be a good thing at SJSU. It started out small with a cohort of 12 students and 10 faculty and last I heard it is now up to serving 70 students and 35 faculty mentors.

Besides building programs that Jahmal is familiar with, he can build a program that he doesn't initially know a lot about. He did that with our Early Support program. When Jahmal was first hired, he was asked to research and develop a way to be more proactive in supporting our students. He reviewed a number of programs across the country and read the research on what was happening and then put together recommendations about what should happen. Ultimately, these recommendations were accepted and the first SJSU Early Support program was born.

Jahmal has been an asset in many other ways. Particularly with how flexible he has been and what he is willing to do to make the environment around him work. While he was setting up the Early Support Program and UROP, we had some challenges with staff turnover. Jahmal was asked to take on roles and responsibilities in addition to the two main programs that he was overseeing. He did so without hesitancy because he knew this was the best way to support the students and to be a team player so that we were all sharing in the burden. It has always been amazing to me that while he was doing all of this at work, Jahmal continued to be involved in his local community sitting on various boards and working to not only enhance SJSU, but also San Jose by being involved with local businesses and supporting their development.

As you can probably see in these words, I have the utmost respect for Jahmal and I know that he can accomplish so much if given the opportunity. I would be proud to call him my City Council Member.

Sincerely,
Dr. Deanna Peck

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In support of Jahmal Cornell Williams for Interim D3 Councilmember Appointment

From Alerie Flandez <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/27/2025 12:48 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

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City of San Jose Council Members and Mayor Mahan:

I'm writing this as a district three resident to pledge my full support for his appointment as an interim San Jose council member. I've known Jahmal for five years as a colleague and community leader. His success in government relations in higher education necessitates collaboration, communication, and community building. He knows how to make meaningful connections with nonprofits and government offices that are built on trust. This interim role, however brief it will be, needs someone who can continue ushering in the renewed life of Downtown San Jose, while keeping an eye on safety and wellbeing of all district three constituents.

Again, as a constituent of this district, I think Jahmal Williams is the best candidate for this interim position.

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D3 Finalist Jahmal C. Williams

From Carli Lowe 

Date Mon 1/27/2025 2:01 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

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Dear City Council Members,

I have worked with Jahmal C. Williams at SJSU since I arrived on campus in 2019. I have come to know him as a thoughtful, kind, and principled leader who I absolutely rely on for anything from advocacy, to creative ideas, to making connections with communities. He has the temperament and experience to positively impact the district and the city more broadly, even in the short timeframe of this appointment.

When I am embarking on a new project, Jahmal is often the first person I reach out to because he will listen closely to my goals and then find connections between what I am doing and other projects within and beyond campus. He has become known throughout SJSU and the city more broadly as someone who identifies and builds meaningful partnerships, not for himself, but for the advancement of the communities he serves.

I do not know anyone better suited to serve on the City Council.

Sincerely,
Carli Lowe

Carli Lowe, MLIS (Pronouns: she/her/hers)



[Learn more about Records Management](#)

Re: Support of Jahmal Williams for District 3 Appointment (Corrected)

From Sabrina-Mone Lamontagne <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 2:02 PM
To City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

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Dear Mayor Mahan and San Jose City Councilmembers,

My name is Sabrina-Moné Lamontagne. I work in District 3. I am writing this letter to support Jahmal Williams for the District 3 Councilmember Interim Appointment. Jahmal is a respected and qualified leader in the San Jose community. I've had the privilege of working with Jahmal in several capacities through our work in the community. He is a great collaborator and thrives under pressure.

He would be invaluable to the City Council and the City of San Jose in this interim period.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Sabrina-Mone Lamontagne

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FW: Agenda Item Number 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 2:21 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Adriana Santin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 2:04 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [learn why this is important](#)
Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I am a resident of the Olinder neighborhood of District Three, and I am writing in support of Danielle Christian for the interim appointment to the District Three seat. I met Danielle ten years ago when our children were students together at Lowell Elementary. She and other moms worked together on many school projects such as the ABC Reader Program and the Paws for a Cause Walk-A-Thon. She was a great team player who was interested in helping the school put programs in place and raise funds. Since she worked for the County, other parents would often ask her questions about local government services, and she never hesitated to help connect people to city, county, or community services. In fact, she recently joined me in meetings with San Jose Unified School District teachers and staff to help me access educational services for my daughter.

Danielle works with people to hear their thoughts and then partners with them to implement their ideas. I know she will do the same with the residents of District Three. I ask you to appoint her to the City Council.


Sincerely,

Dolores Santin

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Letter on behalf of Jahmal Williams, Interim D3 Appointment

From Jeremiah Lineberger <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 2:26 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (64 KB)
Jahmal Williams D3.pdf;

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)
Hi City of San Jose,

I am writing a letter on behalf of Jahmal Williams being appointed to D3 as an Interim Councilmember.

I am hoping to share my words tomorrow at the City Council meeting.

Best,
Jeremiah

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Members of the City Council,

My name is Jeremiah Lineberger. I work in District 3 and am currently pursuing my Master's degree at San José State University. I'm here today to express my full support for Jahmal Williams as the Interim District 3 Councilmember. I firmly believe he is the best candidate to represent our district.

I have known Jahmal since I was an undergraduate student at SJSU in Spring 2023. As I began my career as a young professional, Jahmal became a mentor and supporter throughout my journey. He is not only a dedicated community leader but also a proud Black father raising beautiful daughters, a loving husband, and someone who continuously pours his heart into serving the people of San José.

Jahmal's contributions to our community are nothing short of inspiring to me as a young Black man. He serves as the President of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet, works tirelessly in DEI initiatives at San José State University, and always supports Bible Way Church—whether by volunteering as an usher or fostering community connections. Jahmal also created a space for Black fathers to engage through a Sunday basketball league, promoting fellowship and unity in our community.

Beyond his impressive community involvement, Jahmal has deep roots in District 3, having lived here his entire life. His understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our youth is unmatched, especially through his work at SJSU, where he connects with students on a personal and impactful level.

His leadership has not gone unnoticed. Last year, Jahmal was recognized as the “Man of the Year” by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, highlighting his unwavering commitment to San José and marginalized communities.

Jahmal embodies all the qualities of an exceptional leader:

- His **vision and ideas** for a stronger, more inclusive District 3.
- His **ability to thrive under pressure** and collaborate effectively with others.
- His **unwavering commitment** to uplifting marginalized communities and supporting the youth.

For these reasons and many more, I urge you to appoint Jahmal Williams as the Interim District 3 Councilmember. His leadership, dedication, and love for this community make him the best choice to serve and represent us all.

Thank you for your time and consideration.


Sincerely,

Jeremiah Lineberger

District 3 Resident and San José State University Master's Student

Item 3.5 - INTERIM APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

From Darcie Green <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 12:31 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (72 KB)
Letter of support JCW.pdf;

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Hello

Please see my letter of support for Jahmal Williams.

Thank you

Darcie Green

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January 27, 2025

Honorable Mayor and City Council
San José City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council,

As a proud resident of San José, I am writing to express my wholehearted support for Jahmal Williams as a candidate for the interim appointment to the District 3 council seat.

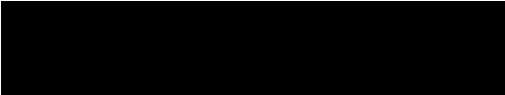
Jahmal is a dedicated community leader with a deep understanding of the diverse needs of our city. His ability to bring people together, even in the most challenging situations, sets him apart as someone who is not only a leader but also a collaborator. As a parent and a passionate advocate for our community, Jahmal embodies the values and resilience that District 3 deserves in its representation.

Jahmal's vision for our district is rooted in ensuring that every resident, regardless of their background, feels seen and valued. His history of meaningful community involvement reflects his commitment to marginalized communities and his ability to build bridges between diverse groups to drive meaningful change. I am particularly inspired by his ability to navigate complex challenges with grace and determination, always centering the needs of those most impacted.

As the leader of a nonprofit organization based in downtown San José, I have witnessed firsthand the challenges and opportunities that our vibrant community presents. In these pivotal times, San José needs leaders like Jahmal—leaders who combine vision with action, heart with intellect, and determination with humility. I have no doubt that Jahmal will serve as a thoughtful, steady and effective councilmember, ensuring that District 3 is well-represented and that the city continues to progress in a way that benefits all its residents.

Thank you for considering Jahmal Williams for this important role. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like further input on my recommendation.


Sincerely,



Darcie Green
San José Resident

City Council District 3 appointment - letter of support for Mr. Jahmal Williams

From Chike Nwoffiah <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 12:48 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (111 KB)
Jahmal Williams-support letter.pdf;

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

January 27, 2025

City Clerk
City of San José

RE: City Council District 3 appointment - letter of support for Mr. Jahmal Williams

It is with great pleasure and utmost confidence that I write this letter to support the appointment of Mr. Jahmal Williams for the position of San José City Council Member for District 3. I have known Jahmal for over seven years and from the very first time I met him till this morning, he has proven to be a brilliant, upright, trustworthy and decent human being. He is a loving father, husband and brother to all who he comes in contact with.

Beyond his professional background as Director of DEI Partnerships and University-Community Liaison at San José State University, co-chairperson of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet (BLKC) of Silicon Valley, chess club coach, etc., Jahmal continues to demonstrate a dogged commitment to serving the City of San José and its citizens. He is a natural team player with a powerful sense of initiative and a generosity of heart that uplifts those around him. He consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty, and his ability to connect authentically with diverse communities will make him an invaluable member of the City Council.

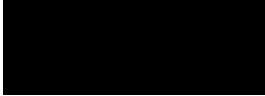
Mr. Williams exemplifies servant leadership. He is a bridge builder who is always creating opportunities and expanding spaces for people of all stripes, especially the historically marginalized, to have a seat at the table and be centered, affirmed, lifted. These qualities you need on the City Council especially at this time in our country's history.

With his brilliance, personality and generosity of heart, I am confident that Mr. Williams will contribute positively to the City Council and leave an enduring mark on our city. It is my highest honor to recommend him, without reservation, as a fit and proper candidate for appointment to the San José City Council - District 3.

Should you require any further information regarding his qualifications, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.



Chike C. Nwoffiah



CHIKE C. NWOFFIAH

January 27, 2025

City Clerk
City of San José

RE: City Council District 3 appointment - letter of support for Mr. Jahmal Williams

It is with great pleasure and utmost confidence that I write this letter to support the appointment of Mr. Jahmal Williams for the position of San José City Council Member for District 3. I have known Jahmal for over seven years and from the very first time I met him till this morning, he has proven to be a brilliant, upright, trustworthy and decent human being. He is a loving father, husband and brother to all who he comes in contact with.

Beyond his professional background as Director of DEI Partnerships and University-Community Liaison at San José State University, co-chairperson of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet (BLKC) of Silicon Valley, chess club coach, etc., Jahmal continues to demonstrate a dogged commitment to serving the City of San José and its citizens. He is a natural team player with a powerful sense of initiative and a generosity of heart that uplifts those around him. He consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty, and his ability to connect authentically with diverse communities will make him an invaluable member of the City Council.

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With his brilliance, personality and generosity of heart, I am confident that Mr. Williams will contribute positively to the City Council and leave an enduring mark on our city. It is my highest honor to recommend him, without reservation, as a fit and proper candidate for appointment to the San José City Council - District 3.

Should you require any further information regarding his qualifications, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,


Chike C. Nwoffiah


Submitting Letter of Support for Jahmal Williams for Interim D3 Councilmember

From Vaughn Villaverde <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 1:25 PM
To City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (59 KB)

Vaughn Villaverde LOS for Jahmal Williams Interim D3 Councilmember.pdf;

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Dear City Clerk,

Please accept the attached letter in support of Jahmal Williams' application to be appointed as Interim District 3 Councilmember, as agendaized as Item 3.5 at the City Council meeting scheduled for January 28, 2025. Thank you and please reach out with any questions.

Best,
Vaughn Edward Villaverde, MPH



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Vaughn Villaverde
[REDACTED]
San José, CA 95131

January 27, 2025

The Hon. Matt Mahan, Mayor, and
Members of the San José City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113

Subject: Letter of Support for Appointing Jahmal Williams as Interim District 3 Councilmember

Dear Councilmembers,

My name is Vaughn Villaverde, and I am a resident of San José's 3rd council district. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Jahmal Williams' application to be appointed as interim city councilmember for district 3. Given the shock and disappointment district 3 residents like me are feeling over the circumstances of the district 3 vacancy, we need an interim councilmember with a proven track record in the community of working with honesty and integrity. **I strongly believe that Jahmal Williams not only has the necessary skills but has demonstrated the values and commitment to ethics needed to restore trust in this elected office.**

In my role as Director of Advocacy for Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)¹, I have worked with Mr. Williams in the Santa Clara County Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL) coalition, where he served as a volunteer co-chair from 2023 to 2024. While in this role, Mr. Williams demonstrated a collaborated leadership style, ensuring that our work centered around advancing equity while advocating for community voices—especially those most impacted by the policies we were discussing—to be included in our decision-making. During this time, Mr. Williams was also an excellent thought partner, always asking questions and approaching issues from multiple perspectives to ensure we arrived at thoughtful conclusions that centered community and that aligned with our mission and values. Having collaborated with him on issues ranging from pandemic recovery, race equity, public budgeting, health, and housing (to name a few), Mr. Williams does not shy away from difficult conversation and thrives under pressure. He is thoughtful, driven, organized, and exceptionally well-spoken—all of which would serve him and the City of San José well in the roll of interim district 3 councilmember.

In addition to his relevant skills and experience, I have personally witnessed Mr. Williams' integrity, trustworthiness, and unwavering commitment to serving our diverse communities. At a time when district 3 residents like myself are feeling a sense of deep disappointment in our elected officials, it is critical that the City appoint an interim councilmember like Mr. Williams who can engage honestly with the community and help restore trust in this role.

¹ For identification purposes only. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, AACI does not endorse any specific candidate for public office.

Thank you, councilmembers, for your thoughtful consideration of this important appointment. I strongly believe that Jahmal Williams would be a phenomenal addition to the City Council as he has both the necessary skills and the strong values needed to successfully discharge the duties of this office in a way that restores trust in government and advances the shared goals of the City of San José. Thank you again, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.


Sincerely,



Vaughn Villaverde
District 3 Resident

Letter of Support for Jahmal Williams, District 3

From Christopher Cox <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 1:56 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (15 KB)
Jahmal City Council Letter.docx;

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Hello San Jose Leaders,
I am writing in support of Jahmal Williams as an interim D3 council member. Please see the attached letter.
Thanks,
Chris Cox, Department of Sociology/Interdisciplinary Social Sciences

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

January 26, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you today as a long-time resident (20+ years) of District 3 in support of appointing Jahmal Williams as the interim city council member to represent our district prior to the spring election. Jahmal is a strong leader within the broader South Bay community and has been a resident of district 3 for many years; he has excellent communication/leadership skills and can quickly step into a challenging situation and create positive change.

I have known Jahmal personally and professionally for more than a decade, and know him to be a person who cares deeply for the communities in which he has lived. From the time he moved into our city and district he has been actively engaged in community organizations working to uplift the Black community of the South Bay. His leadership helped to strengthen the work of the Black Kitchen Cabinet organization, and he has partnered with NAACP leaders on a variety of community issues and campaigns. On campus at SJSU, he has led the charge to support students, faculty, and staff of color in his role as the Director for Advocacy for Racial Justice. He has been in the role of liaison between the campus community and the downtown community, and has helped facilitate community conversations about problems such as housing, public safety, and public health needs. The reason for his success with such activities is that in addition to being a great communicator, Jahmal is recognized by those he works with as an honest, straightforward, trustworthy person who is sincere in his desire to improve the lives of everyone in the community. I believe he will do an excellent job with bringing different interest groups together to problem-solve and address the various needs of our district. He has his finger on the pulse of D3's challenges, and can work well with whoever is elected in the spring to transition the role.

Jahmal is a father, friend, organizational leader, community organizer, scholar, and all-around asset to our great city and county. I can think of no other person who is better suited to this particular role in this challenging time for our district. I urge you to give serious consideration to his candidacy as an interim council member; our district will benefit greatly from his effort,

energy, and enthusiasm. If you have any questions, please call me at [REDACTED] or email me at [REDACTED]

In community spirit,

Chris Cox

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

FW: Agenda Item Number 3.5 - Support for Danielle Christian

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 3:26 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Lori Katcher <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 3:04 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5 - Support for Danielle Christian

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Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

I'm writing in support of Danielle Christian for the interim District 3 Councilmember position. Danielle is a 22 year resident of District 3, where she and her husband have raised their two children.

I met and worked with Danielle on several volunteer committees for large fundraising events at Notre Dame High School, where our daughters were classmates. I experienced Danielle to be a welcoming, collaborative leader, who took initiative, listened, and was a great team player. Danielle worked efficiently and kept us focused on our business at hand, with joy. At the time, she was also involved in her younger child's public school in District 3.

Danielle has over 30 years of experience in local government working on policy and budget issues. I had the privilege of crossing paths with Danielle more recently through conversations with Supervisor Simitian's office regarding County policy. She listens and asks great questions.

Danielle desires to bring a District 3 voice to the council, respond to community concerns, and work to restore trust in local government. Danielle's breadth of experience will allow her to hit the ground running, which is absolutely necessary during this transitional time for District 3.

Thank you,

Lori Katcher
[REDACTED]

22 year resident of D6

Fw: Agenda Item Number 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 4:12 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Emily Yue <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 3:54 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5

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To the San Jose City Council Members,

DANIELLE CHRISTIAN is my recommendation to serve as Council Member for District 3. I believe she is the perfect representative to complete the recent and, suddenly vacated, term of office for our district. Her many years of experience in government will serve her well! Above all, there is no question that DANIELLE CHRISTIAN cares about San Jose and has the best interest of our community at heart. She is well-informed, a good listener, exhibits good judgement, is thoughtful, and, above all, is NOT a self-serving individual with an agenda. I believe she will be fair and unbiased in making her decisions.

DANIELLE CHRISTIAN and her family have lived across the street from us for 22 years. Her children have also grown up here. The Christians have been more like family to us. They have shown us respect that is unsurpassed, as we are in our 90's. My husband and I have been residents of District 3 for 60 years (since 1965) and have raised our three daughters here. The University area is a close knit neighborhood and is home to many families who love living here. As a long time resident of District 3, Danielle is fully committed to serve the constituents.

DANIELLE CHRISTIAN will do her best to serve the City of San Jose including District 3. Please give her your best consideration and invite her to join your elite membership!

Respectfully,
Emily Yue

PAST COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER/BOARD MEMBER:
San Jose Beautiful

Monopoly In The Park
Friends of San Jose
History San Jose
Chinese Historical and Cultural Project
Chinese American Women's Club

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Fw: 1/28/25 Agenda Item 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 4:27 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Jennifer Thrift <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 4:24 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: 1/28/25 Agenda Item 3.5

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Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support of Danielle Christian for the interim appointment to the Council District 3 seat. Danielle has lived in D3 for 22 years and has been an involved and engaged community member throughout her time living in San Jose. She dedicated her career to public service and has an extensive understanding of how our local government works.

As a lifelong resident of San Jose and a [REDACTED] University graduate student, I would like to see someone in the seat who knows the community, can compassionately respond to community concerns, understands the intricacies of a government agency, and will do what is right. Danielle is the candidate whom I think will be the most effective in this interim appointment given her experience and personality.

Please consider giving Danielle Christian this opportunity to serve District 3.

Best,

Jennifer Thrift

D3 Homeowner and Student

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Letter of Support for Jahmal Williams

From Latanya Hilton <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 4:50 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

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To Whom It May Concern,

We are sending this personal letter of support for Jahmal Williams to be a candidate for the San Jose City Council to represent District 3. We met Jahmal when we first moved back to San Jose a few years ago. I hosted a site visit at my job and he came with a small group. It was clear he was the leader in that group - someone who was well respected, and had a lot of insightful observations to share about his visit. Since that time we have kept in touch and we have met his family, friends who have known him for decades, and co-workers. Everyone we have met has shared the same general love for Jahmal. He's easygoing, has great vision, and seems to genuinely enjoy people. As San Jose natives, we tend to look for committed professionals who will work hard, listen intently, and represent San Jose with pride to sit on our City Council and we believe Jahmal is a great choice. We wholeheartedly support his candidacy.

Thank you for the opportunity to write this letter.
Latanya and J. Hilton

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FW: Agenda Item Number 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 1/28/2025 7:38 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Adam Caillat [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 5:13 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item Number 3.5

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Dear Mayor Mahan and City Council Members,

I am writing to express support for Danielle Christian's appointment to the District 3 seat on City Council. As a long-time resident and dedicated advocate for our community, Danielle embodies the leadership, experience, and compassion our district needs.

What sets Danielle apart is her depth of experience in local government. She brings a proven track record of collaboration with local, state, and federal governments, honed through her impactful roles with the County. This expertise ensures she will face a short learning curve and be ready to make meaningful contributions from day one.

She is dedicated to addressing community concerns, tackling citywide issues, and rebuilding trust in local government—a quality that is more critical now than ever.

Finally, her appointment would bring much-needed gender balance and a fresh perspective to the decision-making process.

In Danielle Christian, we have an exceptional candidate who combines lived experience, professional expertise, and a genuine commitment to our community. I urge you to appoint her to the District 3 seat and give our district the capable, compassionate, and trusted leader it deserves.

Sincerely,
Adam Caillat
Ryland Area Resident

FW: Action Item Number 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 1/28/2025 7:39 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Melissa Yue [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 9:17 PM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Action Item Number 3.5

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Dear San Jose City Council Members,

I am honored to recommend Danielle Christian as interim council member for San Jose City Council District 3.

For the past 22 years, I have personally known Danielle Christian as she and her family are neighbors. She is very respectful, thoughtful and has true intentions in whatever she sets her mind to. I believe she is an excellent candidate for this position and will be a great asset to advocate for the district.

Danielle Christian has 30 years of experience as a deputy policy director and is very passionate about San Jose and the various neighborhoods. Because of her care and compassion for our city, I know that Danielle Christian will be a stellar interim council member who will advocate for District 3.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best,

Melissa Yue
[REDACTED]

FW: Item 3.5 - Interim Appointment to Council District 3 and Majority Rule

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 1/28/2025 7:40 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: David Pandor [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 11:35 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Carl Salas [REDACTED]
Subject: Item 3.5 - Interim Appointment to Council District 3 and Majority Rule

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Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

Thank you for voting to conduct a special election for District 3 and for choosing to appoint a new representative during the interim period. District 3 residents win when democracy wins.

Carl Salas is an excellent candidate for the interim appointment and I hope that you appoint him. I have known Carl and Marianne Salas for almost 40 years. They are both long-time District 3 residents, committed to making San Jose better.

They have worked to improve the Campus Community and the greater downtown through volunteer efforts as well as personal investment. With Carl's energy and Marianne's drive, District 3 will be well served.

Carl has volunteered on many projects, directed clean-ups of Guadalupe River Park and served on the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy Board. He has led community work through the Rotary. He has high standards of ethics and has always put others first. His service to the community is unmatched. With his business experience, community service, his ability to bring people together and his infectious enthusiasm, Carl will be an excellent interim councilmember.

One Last Thing: The Charter Mandates Majority Rule in the Appointment

The City Charter is clear that in appointing an interim councilmember, majority rule applies. Section 410 of Charter unambiguously states:

"If, for any reason, a vacancy, as defined by Charter Section 409, occurs in the office of Mayor or Council member, the Council shall either fill the vacancy by appointment by a majority of its remaining members, or call an election for the purpose of filling such vacancy.

This Charter provision confers an important right to the residents of District 3. It prevents a small minority of the council from blocking the appointment of their councilmember. On November 19th, the Council voted, contrary to the Charter, to require a two-thirds super-majority for the approval of the interim councilmember, rather than the majority approval mandated by the Charter. That supermajority vote grants power to three members of the Council to block the majority appointment of the interim councilmember.

That rule is contrary to the Charter and is fundamentally undemocratic, giving disproportionate power to the few and forsaking the approval of a majority.

I appreciate that the motive for this rule was to strive for a consensus pick. But elections of individuals, as well as the appointment of councilmembers under the Charter, is based on majority rule, not the empowerment of a council minority.

Please follow the mandate in the Charter and drop the super-majority rule that was recently adopted and let the majority rule, not the minority. Failure to do so, will cast a cloud on the interim appointment.

Thank you.

David Pandori
Former Councilmember, District 3

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FW: Endorsement for Jahmal Williams

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 1/28/2025 8:06 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Anne Marie Todd <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 8:04 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Endorsement for Jahmal Williams

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To the San José City Council:

I'm writing to provide my enthusiastic support for Jahmal Williams for the interim District 3 councilmember. I offer my support as a longtime District 3 member, since 2002, and as a colleague of Jahmal's. I have worked with Jahmal at San José State since 2014, and have had the opportunity to see his commitment to community partnerships in a variety of contexts.

Jahmal's commitment to the SJSU campus community, particularly our students, has been unparalleled— as Program Director of the Black Leadership and Opportunity Center (BLOC) and as one of the Assistant Directors at Peer Connections (our campus tutoring and mentoring center), Jahmal has brought focus on student success, and opportunity for all students. As one example, Jahmal founded SJSU's Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP), which supports students engaging in research and mentorship opportunities by pairing them with an SJSU faculty member in their discipline or project of interest.

As Director of Advocacy for Racial Justice in SJSU's Office of Government and Community Relations, Jahmal collaborated with the campus and community partners to coordinate and lead programs and initiatives to promote racial justice for SJSU faculty members, staff and students. His priority was to "hear from the constituents that make up the institution and strategize with those populations to then develop initiatives that will last forever." In this role, Jahmal started Transforming Communities, an annual, SJSU-hosted event focused on bringing communities together to create a more racially just and equitable city and county. Individuals, nonprofit organizations and entities throughout the county are invited to highlight struggles and share successes of different communities. In his current role as Director of DEI Partnerships and University-Community Liaison, Jahmal leads SJSU's efforts to collaborate with communities throughout the area to address racial historical harms.

Jahmal is at the forefront of SJSU's efforts to engage the community and leads a number of programs that create and strengthen opportunities for historically underserved communities. He leads with empathy and compassion, and will be a representative for all of the diverse constituents in District 3. Jahmal has

demonstrated his responsive and strategic leadership through his ongoing commitment to the city and county. I strongly urge you to appoint him to this interim role.

Thanks very much for your consideration.
Anne Marie Todd

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Jahmal Williams - Letter of Support

From Estella Inda [REDACTED]

Date Mon 1/27/2025 8:02 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (109 KB)

Jahmal Letter of Support (1).pdf;

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Hello,

I am emailing to formally submit a letter of support for Jahmal Williams to represent District 3 as an Interim San José City Councilmember.

Please find the letter attached for your review. If you need any additional information or have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Estella Inda

Research Services and Social Sciences Librarian

[Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library](#)

San José State University

One Washington Square

San José, CA 95192-0028

@sjsulibrary:

[Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#)

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January 25th, 2025

San José City Council
San José City Clerk
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113

Dear Members of the San José City Council and the San José City Clerk,

I am writing to express my support for Jahmal Williams as a candidate to represent District 3 as an Interim San José City Councilmember. As a San José State University faculty member, I have had the privilege of witnessing Jahmal's dedication to both the university and the larger San José community firsthand. I am confident that he will make a positive and lasting impact in this role.

Jahmal possesses the qualities of an outstanding city council member, particularly his exceptional leadership skills and unwavering commitment to the community. I have been especially impressed by his dedication to marginalized communities, where he has consistently amplified diverse voices and created opportunities for them to be heard. His work as the Director of DEI Partnerships and his Transforming Communities programming highlights his ability to address systemic inequities with insight and compassion.

In addition to his professional qualifications, Jahmal excels at listening to the needs of the community and fostering collaboration to achieve meaningful solutions. I have had the privilege of collaborating with him personally and have seen his ability to bring people together to enact positive change.

I wholeheartedly endorse Jahmal Williams for District 3 Interim City Councilmember. As a lifelong resident of San José and former city employee, I believe his leadership, vision, and passion for the community will bring about transformative change, and I am excited to see the impact he will make as a member of the San José City Council.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Estella Inda

Research Services and Social Sciences Librarian
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
San José State University
One Washington Square
San José, CA 95192-0028




1/28 Agenda Item 3.5: Letter of Support for Jahmal Williams

From Celine Janelle [REDACTED]

Date Mon 1/27/2025 8:50 PM

To City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (25 KB)

Jahmal Letter of Rec.pdf;

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Hello,

Please find attached a letter of support for Jahmal Williams for D3 Interim Councilmember. Thank you.

Celine

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January 27, 2025

San Jose Mayor and City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113

Re: Letter of Support for Jahmal Williams (Item #3.5)

Dear Mayor Mahan and Councilmembers,

My name is Céline DinhJanelle. I am a D3 resident, nonprofit attorney, and mother. I write to enthusiastically recommend Jahmal Williams for the District 3 Councilmember Interim Appointment.

I know Jahmal in his capacity as a neighbor and loving father. In his personal life, Jahmal brings together neighbors and community members, builds bridges, and encourages relationships between people. He is a natural connector.

Jahmal also is beloved community leader, with deep roots in San Jose. He holds multiple leadership positions in a variety of local institutions – Director of Advocacy for Racial Justice at San Jose State University, Co-Chair of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet of Silicon Valley, Board Member of SOMOS Mayfair, and more. His broad experience working with the San Jose community, and his background in clinical therapy, DEI, advocacy, and community and government relations work, makes him an adept leader, excellent listener, and creative problem solver.


In the precise moment – given all that is happening nationally and locally – San Jose needs someone like Jahmal to apply his broad experience and vision of equity for San Jose. I urge you to appoint Jahmal as the District 3 Interim Councilmember. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Céline DinhJanelle
D3 Resident

Letter of Support for J. Williams

From Chris Harris, Jr. [REDACTED]
Date Tue 1/28/2025 7:38 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (72 KB)
Letter of Support_J.W..pdf;

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

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San Jose City Council and Clerk,

I hope this finds you well. My name is Chris Harris, resident of Santa Clara, CA, and I am submitting a letter of support for San Jose City Council District 3 candidate, Jahmal Williams. I hope that this contributes a meaningful look into the community leader, social architect, family man and servant.

Please contact me ([REDACTED]) with any questions or concerns.

Best,
Chris

--

Chris A. Harris, Jr.
He/him/his
[REDACTED]

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Monday, January 27, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

In January 2021, my wife was offered a faculty position at [REDACTED]. At the time, neither of us had ever stepped foot in Northern California. Adding to that, the lingers of the Black Lives Matter Movement, anti-Asian hate incidents and the COVID pandemic gave us more than enough to consider with our pending relocation. With limited context, I called Jahmal Williams, the one person I knew in the area, for advice.

What I didn't know at the time was that Jahmal had already begun situating himself as a community leader, connector of people and thoughtful servant in San Jose. His relationship with local organizations like the African American Community Service Agency (AACSA), Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet of Silicon Valley, Ujima Adult and Family Services, Inc. and Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley assured my wife and I that the South Bay was an environment ripe with community involvement. Jahmal thoughtfully provided the church, youth enrichment and summer camp recommendations that allowed our family, including our three daughters, to find home in this foreign land littered with palm trees and microclimates. I knew that Jahmal worked at San Jose State University, but his context for the K-12 landscape provided useful guidance for our family.

The Jahmal of 2021 was similar to the one I met in 2004. Jahmal and I attended the University of Michigan for undergrad together, him a few years older than I. His intellectualism and charisma was inspiring to everyone he encountered even back then. I eventually joined the same Black male student organization that he co-chaired. As the organization's members, our call was to earn our destiny through honesty, eagerness and determination of self. Jahmal exemplified that.


The Jahmal that greeted us at a backyard BBQ in summer 2021 was even more determined to build community and ensure communal prosperity than I recalled. It practically seemed that everyone I met knew Jahmal: elected officials, hair stylists, program coordinators, NPO directors, software developers, principals, pastors, students, university administrators, you name it. They all knew him as a family man with two beautiful daughters, a collaborator, listener, community advocate and social architect. He speaks truth passionately and empathizes with those he serves. His dedication to *people* is what stands out when you think of Jahmal and I am grateful to see my friend grow into who he was always meant to be.

As Jahmal Williams is set to be appointed to the San Jose City Council to represent District 3, I ecstatically write this letter of support. I truly believe that while others may have the qualifications of this role, Jahmal is the ideal candidate due to his ability to thoughtfully process information and authentically serve his constituents. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Chris and Kai Harris

FW: Agenda item 3.5 public comment

From City Clerk <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/28/2025 8:24 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (174 KB)
Agenda item 3.5.pdf;

From: James Campbell <jameskirkcampbell@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 8:17 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Agenda item 3.5 public comment

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Attached is public comment

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

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Reasonable accommodations are a legal right, not a privilege. Denying them violates the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), California law, and constitutional principles of equality and fairness. Public entities have a duty to ensure all individuals, including those with disabilities, have equal access to services and opportunities. Failure to do so amounts to discrimination, which the law prohibits.

When an accommodation request is denied—whether due to ignorance of the law or failure to engage in the required interactive process—it reflects a failure of responsibility. Ignorance is not an excuse; public officials are obligated to know and comply with the law, and to take action when a need for accommodation is raised.

I call on the city to act immediately. First, engage in a fair process to assess and fulfill reasonable accommodation requests. Second, ensure proper training for officials to prevent further violations of disability rights. Lastly, address and correct any existing failures in the system to prevent ongoing discrimination.

This is about more than compliance; it is about justice, dignity, and equal rights for all. By fulfilling its obligations, the city can show leadership, protect civil rights, and uphold the principles of fairness and inclusion. Everyone deserves the opportunity to participate fully in public life, and it is the city's duty to ensure this happens. Thank you.

Re appointment of Mr. Jahmal Williams to D3 council seat

From shayase@onemain.com <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 6:28 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc 'Susan Hayase' [REDACTED] 'Tom Izu' [REDACTED]

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Dear members of the San Jose city council,

We would like to highly recommend and enthusiastically endorse Jahmal Williams for the position of interim D3 council person. We look forward to working with him in that position because San Jose Japantown needs him there.

We have known Jahmal for several years in the context of his concern for and leadership on behalf of vulnerable youth and marginalized communities in San Jose. We deeply share these concerns. We also know that he holds responsible positions, not only in his professional position at San Jose State University but in the community as the chairperson of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet, which plays a significant and trusted role in the welfare and political leadership of the historic Black community in San Jose.

Jahmal is someone who has a love for and affinity for something close to our hearts and that is the welfare of the San Jose Japantown community. He understands the deep significance of Japantown, its history, the role that the physical community plays in the collective life of the broader, county-wide Japanese American community, and he understands the complexities of that history which go beyond concepts of "diversity" and which embrace Heinlerville Chinatown, Pinoytown, and an historic Black community along with Japantown in what was once a red-lined area of San Jose.

We feel strongly that, as a family man raising young children in D3, Jahmal naturally understands the concerns that San Jose Japantown remain a small town neighborhood with a thriving, inclusive, friendly commercial and community life. We know that he is someone who has an appreciation for preservation issues and sustainability issues that we face in San Jose Japantown, too.

Sincerely yours,
Susan Hayase and Tom Izu, long-time D3 residents and active volunteers in the San Jose Japantown community.


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District 3 Council Appointment

From Poncho Guevara [REDACTED]

Date Mon 1/27/2025 5:50 PM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (42 KB)

Council Appointment.pdf;

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Please accept this letter re: the District 3 Council Appointment.

-Poncho

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January 27, 2025

Mayor and City Council,

As someone who has worked in District 3 with local residents for over two decades, I believe Jamal Williams would make an exemplary interim Councilmember for this District.


I first witnessed his extraordinary leadership skills coalescing diverse constituencies in the Reimagining Public Safety Community Advisory Committee, as he helped forge consensus and clarity on complex public policy concerns. He not only brought his personal experience and perspective to the process, but connected with others through curiosity and creativity.

Mr. Williams has been a catalyst in the growth, development and influence of the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet which has played an increasingly critical role in articulating the challenges and priorities of the Black community in San Jose. In his professional role at San Jose State University, Mr. Williams has spearheaded efforts to bring resources, expertise, and inspiration to not only the campus community but the wider region. His efforts to engage and connect community-based organizations with the university on complex issues such as housing, public safety and racial equity speaks to the inclusive approach that would enrich the San Jose City Council for this interim appointment. Furthermore, he has sought to ensure the voices and concerns of young people are included in key conversations on issues affecting everyone in our downtown community.

I am confident that Jamal Williams would be an exemplary appointment to the City Council during this transition period and would bring his patient, curious, and inclusive approach, network of existing relationships with key organizations and downtown residents, and warm demeanor to the Council and to District 3 residents.


Sincerely,


Poncho Guevara


San Jose, CA 95110

RE: Support Letter for Jahmal Williams, Interim D3 Councilmember Appointment

From Angelica Cortez <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/27/2025 6:51 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (72 KB)
Support Letter for Jahmal Williams - 1.27.25.pdf;

[External Email. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources. [Learn more](#)]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

Please find my attached letter in support of Jahmal Williams for the interim D3 Councilmember appointment.

In community spirit,

Gel

--

Angelica Cortez
Let's connect: [Linkedin](#)

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January 27, 2025

Toni Taber
Office of the City Clerk
200 E. Santa Clara St.
Tower 14th Floor
San José, CA 95113

RE: Support for Jahmal Williams for Interim D3 Councilmember Appointment

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

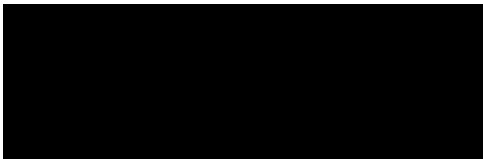
I write to submit my support for Jahmal Williams, a candidate for the interim District 3 (D3) Councilmember appointment.

As a small employer based in D3, San José State University alumna, and former downtown resident (of 7 years), I have a vested interest in who represents D3 on the City Council.

Jahmal understands people, communities and systems - and his impact within San José proves he identifies solutions, implements ideas and delivers results. His background in clinical social work and higher education combined with a justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) lens has produced change across our local technology sector, nonprofit coalitions and higher education institutions in San José and beyond. We first met a half decade ago, while I was overseeing the Silicon Valley Leadership Group's Racial Justice and Equity (RJE) Committee; Jahmal was a committee member who skillfully built bridges and addressed the complex and nuanced nature of discussing race, equity and justice in corporate settings. He also served as the co-chair of the Race Equity Action Leadership (REAL) Coalition, a coalition of nearly 100 health and human service nonprofit providers across Santa Clara County.

Jahmal's leadership as the Director for Racial Justice and Advocacy at SJSU extends far beyond the campus. I am confident that with his knowledge, experience, relationships and heart for service that he is the best positioned and prepared to restore and move D3 forward. I hope you will give him your strongest consideration as you appoint our next leader on the City Council.

In community spirit,



Dr. Angelica Cortez



San Jose, CA 95113



Fw: Letter of Support - Jahmal Williams - D3

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Date Tue 1/28/2025 10:01 AM

To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (35 KB)

Letter of Support -- Jahmal Williams -- D3 Appointment.pdf;

From: Ryan Ward [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:47 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Letter of Support - Jahmal Williams - D3

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Greetings,

Attached please find my letter in support of Jahmal Williams's appointment to the San Jose City Council to represent District 3.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach back out.

Thanks!

Ryan Ward

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong support for Jahmal's appointment to the San Jose City Council representing District 3. Having worked closely with Jahmal for nearly three years on San José State University's Community and Government Relations team, I can personally attest to his exceptional leadership qualities and unwavering commitment to our community.

During our time working together, I witnessed firsthand Jahmal's remarkable ability to build bridges between diverse stakeholders while consistently advocating for underrepresented voices in our community. His approach to community engagement goes beyond mere representation – he actively works to create meaningful dialogue and sustainable solutions that benefit all residents.

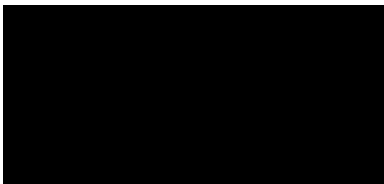
What sets Jahmal apart is his authentic leadership style and ability to collaborate effectively across different sectors of our community. He possesses a unique talent for bringing people together, even in challenging circumstances and maintaining focus on achieving positive outcomes for San Jose residents. His work at SJSU demonstrated his deep understanding of both governmental processes and community needs, making him exceptionally well-qualified for this position.

Jahmal has been a powerful voice for racial justice and equity in our community, approaching these critical issues with both passion and pragmatism. He consistently demonstrates the ability to translate community concerns into actionable policy recommendations, a skill that would serve him well on the City Council.

While the appointment period may be relatively short, I believe Jahmal's impact would be significant and lasting. His experience in community relations, proven leadership abilities, and deep connection to San Jose make him an ideal candidate to represent District 3. He understands the unique challenges and opportunities facing downtown San Jose and has the skills and vision to help address them effectively.

I strongly encourage you to appoint Jahmal to this position. His selection would not only benefit District 3 but would also strengthen the Council's ability to serve our entire community effectively.


Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Ryan Ward.

Ryan Ward

Fw: SJ Chamber Comment Letter - Agenda Item 3.5

From City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Date Tue 1/28/2025 10:01 AM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

 1 attachment (247 KB)
SJ Chamber D3 Appointment 012825.pdf;

From: Kat Angelov [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:31 AM
To: The Office of Mayor Matt Mahan <mayor@sanjoseca.gov>; District1 <district1@sanjoseca.gov>; District2 <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; District3 <district3@sanjoseca.gov>; District4 <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; District5 <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; District 6 <district6@sanjoseca.gov>; District7 <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; District8 <district8@sanjoseca.gov>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; District 10 <District10@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Leah Toeniskoetter [REDACTED]
Subject: SJ Chamber Comment Letter - Agenda Item 3.5

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Dear Mayor Mahan, Vice Mayor Kamei, and Honorable Councilmembers Campos, Candelas, Casey, Cohen, Doan, Foley, Mulcahy, and Ortiz,

Please find attached the San Jose Chamber of Commerce's Comment Letter regarding the appointed Councilmember for District 3.

Thank you for the consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Kat

Join Us 1.30.25



Kat Angelov

Policy Manager
San Jose Chamber of Commerce
IN OFFICE DAYS: TUESDAYS - THURSDAYS

Office: 101 W. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113
Mailing Address: PO Box 149, San Jose, CA 95103



January 28, 2025

City of San Jose City Council
200 E. Santa Clara St.
San José, CA 95113

RE: Item 3.5 - Interim Appointment to Council District 3

Dear Mayor Mahan and Honorable Councilmembers,

On behalf of the San Jose Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to highlight the key qualities and considerations for selecting an interim appointee for the vacant District 3 Council seat. Over the next few months, the interim appointee will play a critical role in guiding decisions on the city budget, land use, transportation, and community development. To ensure effective representation of District 3, we recommend prioritizing the following criteria:

Analytical Skills and Budget Expertise:

- The FY 2025-2026 budget will be approved during the appointee's term.
- The appointee must be familiar with budgetary processes, able to balance competing requests, and possess strong advocacy skills to support critical funding priorities.

Community Engagement and Representation:

- District 3 is at the heart of San Jose's downtown core, with a unique and diverse constituent base.
- The appointee must demonstrate a deep understanding of the district's needs and be prepared to dedicate significant time to engaging with residents and small businesses.
- Business districts in District 3, primarily composed of small businesses, have lacked Council interaction for the past three months and require focused support.

Strategic Vision for Economic Development:

- San Jose and Santa Clara County are preparing to host major global and national events, including the Super Bowl, the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament and the World Cup in 2026. In addition, NVIDIA's annual GTC conference takes place in two months and requires coordination for downtown. Collectively, these events are expected to generate over \$500 million in economic impact for the region.
- The appointee should understand the importance of proactive investment and planning for these events and demonstrate the ability to contribute to shaping downtown San Jose's role in hosting them successfully.

The Chamber encourages the Council to select an appointee who embodies these qualities and is ready to address the immediate needs of District 3 and the broader priorities of San Jose.

Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Leah Toeniskoetter
President & CEO, San Jose Chamber of Commerce

Appoint Jahmal Williams to SJ City Council D3

From Tomara Hall <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/28/2025 1:53 PM
To Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc Jahmal Williams <[REDACTED]>

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Hello City Council Members,

My name is Tomara Hall. I am a teacher in San Jose, and I've been a City Council District 3 resident for over 10 years. I am emailing to kindly request that you support a profound leader, father and community representative Jahmal Williams for the San Jose City Council District 3 position :)

I first met Jahmal through grassroots organizing of the community to get representation in elected leadership. It was at this time I had learned of his role in the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet (BLKC). Over the last 5 years, the BLKC has been stewarded by him and his co-chairs as well as other Black leaders in a way that empowers us all to build a community we envision for us to thrive in Silicon Valley. This has included identifying guests within the county and city to inform and clarify structures, processes and protocols to help address the needs of the Black community.

Additionally, I worked with Jahmal within the Santa Clara County Democratic Party since the founding of the Black Democratic club, Afro UPRIS in 2021. Since then, Jahmal has been contracted by the SCCDP Central Committee to build and facilitate the DEI, Anti-Bias / Anti-Racist training for the members. In my role as a teacher, I have worked with Jahmal through the partnership of the Santa Clara County Alliance of Black Educators (SCCABE) and San Jose State University (SJSU) for the annual African American College Readiness Summit (AACRS). She has mentored college students in his role in the Black Leadership Opportunity Center (BLOC), and empowered them to publicly speak at the AACRS for nearly a decade.

In my work with Jahmal I have seen him lead with empathy, an open mind, and in a manner that allows all to feel heard and respected. In my opinion, Jahmal is the most qualified not just in terms of his career experience but in his hands-on approach to listen, learn and work alongside community members to achieve our collective goals.

Please appoint Jahmal Williams to the San Jose City Council District 3 position!

Peace,

*Tomara Hall, M. A. Special Education
(she/they)*

*Teacher, Equity Leader & Coach in Union School District
Community Organizer | Founder & President of [TEYA](#)*

President of [Afro UPRIS](#) Black Dems club of Santa Clara County
Clubs Director for the [SCC Democratic Party](#) Central Committee
Vice President of the [SCC Alliance of Black Educators](#)
Meet with me: [Calendly.com/TomaraHall](#)
Text me at [REDACTED]

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