
Profile

Lawrence

First Name

Ames

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Email Address

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Parks and Recreation Commission: Submitted

Are you a resident of San Jose?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Length of Residency

☒ 6 or more years

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

☒ District 6

[REDACTED]

Street Address

[REDACTED]

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95125

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Primary Phone

[REDACTED]

Alternate Phone

Retired

Employer

Retired

Job Title

[REDACTED]

Address of Current Employer

none

Current Employer of Spouse



Address of Current Employer of Spouse

retired

Spouse's Job Title

If retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

Interests & Experiences

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

Univ. of Arizona (Tucson): BS in Math & Physics, 1972; Univ. of Wisconsin (Madison): MS and Ph.D. in Physics, 1979

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

Boardmember, Willow Glen Neighborhoods Assoc. (WGNA), 1983-88 & 1993-2008 (incl. 4 yrs as Chair); Commissioner, Santa Clara County Parks & Rec. Commission, 1995 - 2004; San Jose Neighborhoods Commission, 2009 - 2016 (Chair: '14 – '16) Chair, District 6 Neighborhood Leaders Group (D6NLG), '13 – '15 Boardmember, Committee for Green Foothills (CGF), '13 – present Member, Santa Clara County's National Heritage Area Taskforce, 2016 - present

English

Languages Spoken

Special Awards or Recognitions Received

WG Resident "Volunteer of the Year", 2004 Bank of America "Neighborhood Excellence Initiative: Local Hero", 2010 Santa Clara Co. League of Conservation Voters "Environmentalist of the Year", 2011 Breathe California "Clean Air Award – Public Education", 2012 San Jose Parks Foundation honoree, 2015

Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member. If you are applying for the Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices, please indicate any familiarity or experience you may have with campaign laws.

I've been interested in, and involved with, city and county trails and parks ever since I first came to San Jose in 1979, including the Los Gatos, Guadalupe, Coyote, and Three Creeks Trails. I've served on the GreenPrint taskforce in 2000, 2009, and now. I'm a member of SJ Park Advocates, and boardmember at Committee for Green Foothills.

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

I'm also founder/owner/moderator of the Willow Glen "eList" -- the "electronic equivalent of talking to your friends and neighbors over the back fence" -- a free list-serve these past 16 years, now w/ over 2,300 members.

Do you own property in the City of San José?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

[REDACTED]

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

Harvey Darnell

Reference 1 Name

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Phone

Helen Chapman

Reference 2 Name

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Phone

Supplemental Questions

Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

I served 8 years on the Santa Clara Co. Parks & Rec. Commission, during which time we developed our first Strategic Plan. I've served on the SJ Neighborhoods Commission since its founding, and have helped develop it into a functional and worthwhile commission that has dealt with public safety (including public hearings on the SJ Police Drone) and on budget issues.

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

35+ years involvement in the community, thru the Neighborhood Association, serving on various task forces (Lincoln Ave. study, Los Gatos Creek Master Plan, MidTown, Coyote Creek, Three Creeks Trail, SJ Parks "GreenPrint", SJ Sewage Treatment Plant MasterPlan, Kelley Park, and more); SCVWD Environmental Advisory Cmte; attending and commenting upon the Envision 2040 hearings; the WG Backfence eList (community communications), ...

What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?

to listen to the community, evaluate proposals by city and developers, offer recommendations to Dept. of PRNS

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

* maintenance of city parks * coordination with other agencies (e.g., County Parks, Open Space Authority, Don Edwards Nat'l wildlife) * adapt park and community-center services to changing demographics (e.g.: more or fewer golf courses, soccer fields, plazas, senior services, cricket fields, frisbee golf, trails, tot-lots, etc.)

Question applies to Parks and Recreation Commission

Please describe your experience in working with governmental agencies.

Extensive. * Appointed to County's Los Gatos Creek Streamside Park Cmte, 1984, dealt w/ County Parks, SJ, Campbell, Los Gatos, SCVWD, & CalTrans * Project Manager for Urban Stream Restoration Project 1993-96, dealt w/ Calif Dept. of Water Resources, Fish & Game, US Corps of Engineers * As advocate for preserving Willow Glen Trestle, dealt w/ Calif. State Historical Resources Cmsn. State Legislature * As advocate for trails, dealt w/ Valley Transportation Authority, CalTrain, SamTrans, High Speed Rail Authority * As treasurer for the Yes On Parks campaign to fund County Parks, dealt w/ Registrar of Voters, Fair Political Practices Cmsn, and Sec'y of State.

Question applies to Parks and Recreation Commission

As a Parks and Recreation Commissioner, how would you handle a situation where you have a volatile Community group which is opposed to a staff proposal?

I ask for an orderly presentation of issues and would listen to the group's concerns, I would consider staff's proposals and group's issues, and ask for additional information if needed, I would see if any changes should be recommended or compromises could be offered, and then explain as appropriate the reasons for my suggestions.

Question applies to Parks and Recreation Commission

Can you provide examples of major public policy issues that you have been involved in and what your role was in the issue?

As member of city task force for the Coyote Crk (1990), I helped create and craft a model for the first-in-the-city riparian (streamside) setback policy. As County Parks Cmsnr, we evaluated the trails in Almaden Quicksilver Park and determined whether bicycle and/or equestrian access was appropriate, and if so, where and how: I helped broker the compromise. As SJ Neighborhoods Commissioner, I chaired a series of public meetings to collect input, and then wrote recommendations (later adopted by Council) on the appropriate use by the SJ Police Dept. of drones.

I would like to say . . .

(Optional) Please upload a resume.

Retirement Board Questions Only

Verification

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

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

☒ I Agree *