

Boards and Commissions Application

Profile

Ellen

First Name

Talbo

Last Name

Email Address

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

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Measure T Community Oversight Committee: Submitted

Are you a resident of San Jose?

☒ Yes ☐ No**Length of Residency**

☒ 1-2 years

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

☒ District 5

Street Address

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95127

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

County of Santa Clara - Dept. of
Roads and Airports

Employer

County Transportation Planner

Job Title

Current Employer Address

Current Employer of Spouse

n/a

Address of Current Employer of Spouse

[REDACTED]

Spouse's Job Title

n/a

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

Calpers

Demographics (Optional)

The demographic information you choose to provide is **VOLUNTARY** and **OPTIONAL**. This information will be kept separate from your application and will not be used for evaluating applications or making appointments. The City of San José will use this information to solely conduct research and compile statistical reports regarding the composition of its Board and Commission applicants.

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.

Born and raised in Washington State and attended high school in Lakewood, WA. Attended University of Washington from 2002-2004 - received Bachelors Degree in Urban Studies in 2004. Attended State University of New York at Buffalo (SUNY Buffalo) from 2004-2006 - received Masters of Urban Planning in 2006. I've been working as a transportation planner since 2006 with career experience in the private consulting sector and public sector.

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

County of Santa Clara - Roads and Airports Department: County Transportation Planner, employed July 2017 to Present
Ventura County Transportation Commission: Transit Planning Manager, employed December 2013 to June 2017
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency: Associate Transportation Planner, employed December 2012 to November 2013
Current member of the American Planning Association (APA) and the American Public Works Association (APWA)

Languages Spoken

Special Awards or Recognitions Received

Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member. 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 am interested in participating in the City's process of administering transportation funds to build critical infrastructure. To that end, I am interested in working with city staff and District 5 staff to help ensure that needed transportation investments are adequately funded and that expenditures from Measure T are communicated transparently as possible. I also have a particular interest in "Complete Streets" and elements of transportation that improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, especially in District 5 where roadways such as McKee, White Road, Capitol Ave, and Alum Rock are busy and fast moving streets. If there is any value that my transportation planning experience can bring to improve the experience for peds and bikes on these roads, I am willing and eager to contribute my service through this committee.

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

Do you own property in the City of San José?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain 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.

Reference 1 Name

Paul Pascoal

Reference 1 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Phone

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Name

Harry Freitas

Reference 2 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Phone

[REDACTED]

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 worked as full-time staff for the Ventura County Transportation Commission from 2013-2017. The purpose of this commission is to manage and oversee the regional intercounty transit system throughout Ventura County and also serves as the county's congestion management agency. To that end, I was responsible for writing and presenting monthly staff reports to the commission. I provided special briefings to subcommittees and standing committees on an as-needed basis. Currently I work for the County of Santa Clara where I am responsible for staffing a citizen's committee called the Roads Commission. This commission makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on county and other regional transportation issues and policy on an as-needed basis.

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).

I am a licensed professional urban planner since 2010 and I have been a professional transportation planner since 2006. During my career I have gained experience working on mega-highway projects in WA and CA, such as serving as an Environmental Project Manager on the State Route 520 Floating Bridge in Seattle, WA and serving as a transportation planner on the US 101 HOV Lane Study in Ventura County. I am well familiar with how federal and state transportation funds are allocated to local jurisdictions. I am well familiar with working with agencies like Caltrans, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), and the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and the role that these agencies play when it comes to transportation funds and grants. These skills and familiarity enable me with a deep and rich background for understanding any challenges or constraints of spending Measure T funding. Also, I think with my experience I can try to help educate or provide useful insight to my potential fellow Commissioners about infrastructure funding if they are less familiar or comfortable with specific topics.

What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?

The Measure T Oversight Commission is a requirement of the ballot measure to ensure a citizen presence and oversight role in the expenditure of public funds. The Oversight Commission will meet to listen to city staff's presentations and summaries of budgeted and spent funds. The Commission can make recommendations and ask questions to staff on the budgeting and expenditure of funds, as well as make recommendations to the City Council, who holds the authority to approve and/or make changes to the administration of Measure T.

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

1. Safety/Vision Zero and how the City can provide better resources from Measure T for roadway and traffic safety - either through strategic policy or strategic investments. 2. Maintenance of Existing Infrastructure. The City has the most dense network of roadways that it needs to maintain and maintaining roadways is not cheap and easy. Even though there are new revenues for transportation such as SB1 funds, the City is faced with the ongoing effort of prioritizing maintenance issues so that existing infrastructure doesn't fail. 3. Committing to investments in New Infrastructure. Building new transportation infrastructure such as Diridon Station, Berryessa BART, and Eastridge to BART Connector are huge investments that the City is faced with making major commitments to. The land use and development policies related to these developments impact the way in which the City could or should leverage its local transportation tax funds to ensure that these major infrastructure projects are successful in the future and recapture their value over time.

I would like to say . . .

Thank you for your consideration. Having worked with City of San Jose DOT and Planning staff in my current job I would be eager and happy to bring a cooperative attitude and work with staff to help solve problems and look for resolution and not impede staff with obstacles.

(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 ***