



Dear Community Member,

2011 was a challenging and busy year for us here in San Jose as much of the year was devoted to tackling our budget challenges. Faced with a tenth straight year of budget deficits, the City Council voted in June to close a \$115 million budget deficit through a combination of one-time revenues, employee concessions, and new service delivery models and efficiencies. The magnitude of the budget shortfall also required significant service reductions from every City department. Altogether, the City's workforce shrunk by about 500 positions, each of which performed essential City services such as public safety, road and parks maintenance, and library services.

However, even with the City's limited resources, we remain hard at work and committed to making San Jose an even better place to live, work, and play. I would like to thank our City employees for their willingness to work with the City Council to help close the budget deficit. Our employees are some of the best around – professional, dedicated, and hard-working. They have made sacrifices over the past many years, taking on more responsibilities for less pay, and for that they have earned my sincere gratitude.

Another challenge for the City is the loss of the San Jose Redevelopment Agency. In December the California Supreme Court upheld state legislation that dissolves all 400 redevelopment agencies throughout the state and sends their funding to other services. San Jose's Redevelopment Agency was included in this elimination. The San Jose Redevelopment Agency was a powerful driver behind the City's economic development but also played a vital role in transforming many of San Jose's neighborhoods. In March I wrote an article for the San Jose Mercury News about a situation in the [Hoffman Via Monte Neighborhood](#) that, although frightening, highlighted the positive difference the San Jose Redevelopment Agency has had in our neighborhoods. Now with redevelopment agencies no longer a resource we have lost an economic driver as well as a tool to improve our residents' quality of life. I am frustrated by the elimination of redevelopment agencies but know we will not give up looking for ways to support San Jose communities in need. The City is continuing to work with the Hoffman Via Monte neighborhood – although we must do so with fewer resources.

I am looking forward to the year ahead and tackling whatever challenges this year will bring. As many of you know, I am termed out of office at the end of 2012 and I plan to make the most of my last year. Some of my goals include:

- Working with our employees to enact pension reform. Pension reform is absolutely necessary to ensure the long-term financial stability of our City. But for pension reform to be successful (and



January 2012  
Newsletter  
print version is  
[available here](#)



Councilmember Pyle at the  
San Jose Single Use Bag  
Ban Media Event hosted at  
the Westfield Oakridge Mall

legal), it must be achieved through negotiations and partnerships with our employee groups.

- Focusing on economic development. It is not enough to continue to cut services and employees, etc. We must place an emphasis on growing the City's economy – attracting and retaining businesses, increasing prosperity for people and companies and enhancing our tax base.
- Seeking new revenue sources for the City. In December I wrote another article for the [San Jose Mercury News](#) about how a City-sponsored half-percent sales tax increase would raise \$72 million per year and enable us to provide our residents the services they need.
- Continuing to work towards a Citywide Social Host Ordinance. Earlier this year, the City Council adopted an ordinance priority list for the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year. I'm happy to say that a Social Host Ordinance, which would provide us with another tool to hold adults responsible for providing alcohol and hosting underage drinking parties, was among those top priorities.

Even though 2011 was a tough year with many challenges, there are many accomplishments the City and my office made that I am very proud of. You will find some of the 2011 highlights below.

All the best,

Nancy Pyle  
District 10 Councilmember

#### **Community Events from 2011:**

I hosted, assisted and attended numerous community events throughout 2011 including:

#### **Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk (WOWW)**

In February 2011, I co-hosted the Fourth Annual Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk (WOWW) and Resource Fair for Seniors with Councilmembers Donald Rocha and Ash Kalra. We had support from Kaiser Permanente, Macy's, Nordstrom Rack, Old Navy, Caremore, and The Sound Spectrum which helped make last year's event very successful. We had over 200 attendees and 50 resource organizations participate. Mark your calendars for the Fifth Annual WOWW which will be held at the Westfield Oakridge Mall on Friday, February 17th. We will once again feature a free healthy breakfast, health walk around the mall and a drawing for prizes with free entry. For more information on the upcoming 2012 Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk please call Laura at (408) 535-4979.

#### **St. Patrick's Luncheon**

It has been a tradition for many years for the District 10 Council Office to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the Almaden Senior Association. We celebrated with a delicious corned beef and cabbage meal cooked by the Almaden Community Center Kitchen Staff and enjoyed the musical entertainment of Celtic Sands. We finished the luncheon a sing-a-long featuring "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling". We will carry this tradition on into 2012.

#### **Great American Litter Pick Up**

For several years the Great American Litter Pick Up in District 10 has been focused at Pioneer High School and the Hoffman Via Monte area. We had nearly 50 volunteers last year and collected dozens of bags of trash. This year's Great American Litter Pick Up is set for Saturday, March 17.

#### **Relay for Life of Almaden**

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life unites communities across the country each year to celebrate the lives of those who have battled



Councilmember Pyle and Layla Forooghi, District 10 Youth Commissioner, at the 2011 Youth Conference held at City Hall in December



Councilmembers Rocha, Pyle and Kalra with Independent Police Auditor Judge LaDoris Cordell at the 2011 Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk and Resource Fair for Seniors



2011 Almaden Senior St. Patrick's Luncheon at the Almaden Community Center



2011 Great American Litter Pick Up at Pioneer High School



cancer, to remember loved ones lost, and to fight back against a disease that takes far too much. Visit [http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr\\_id=29184&pg=entry](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr_id=29184&pg=entry) for more information.

### 35th Annual Almaden Valley Art and Wine Festival

As usual the Almaden Valley Women's Club hosted the Festival at the Almaden Lake Park on a beautiful Sunday in September. This wonderful event featured artists, entertainment, food, breweries, wineries, and a children's play area. As one of the best festivals in San Jose it is all the more impressive that all proceeds of the Almaden Valley Art and Wine Festival are donated to non-profit organizations and local schools in addition to supporting merit based scholarships for local students.

### National Night Out

I was excited to see three of our District 10 neighborhood associations participate with large National Night Out events last year. The TJ Martin Park Neighborhood Association held a dessert potluck and nearly 200 Playa Del Rey residents enjoyed an evening at Playa Del Rey Park featuring the local Viejitos Car Club and the San Jose Sharks hockey team mascot, Sharkie. At Hoffman-Via Monte, nearly 150 bike helmets and 200 backpacks with school supplies were handed out to local low-income school children who attended the event. The bike helmets were donated by the Kiwanis Club of Almaden Valley and the backpacks were donated by the Almaden Hills United Methodist Church. Additionally local bike shops were on hand to do free bike repairs and raffle off 20 gently used kids bikes. National Night Out is a great way to strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer City. It's not too early to mark your calendars for next year. National Night Out always takes place on the first Tuesday of August. I hope to see you at National Night Out in 2012!

### Youth Job Fair

I, in partnership with the City of San Jose and Vice Mayor Madison Nguyen, hosted the 4th Annual Youth Job Fair at Westfield Oakridge on Saturday, October 15. Thirty local companies and organizations offered over 100 jobs to the nearly 400 youth that attended the job fair. The Youth Job Fair provided an excellent opportunity for youth to meet face to face with area employers who are looking to hire youth for permanent and seasonal positions. They were also able to participate in on-site interviews and obtain information about jobs and career tracks in various industries and businesses. Participating businesses included Home Depot, Sears, Comcast, Ann Taylor, The Body Shop, Primerica, California Sports Center, The Loft, Sunglass Hut and Edible Arrangements.

### 14th Annual Walk to End Domestic Violence

In October Mayor Chuck Reed, Councilmember Pete Constant, City Manager Debra Figone and I hosted the 14th Annual Walk to End Domestic Violence. This Annual event consists of a Program (including a Victim's Tribute), as well as a 2 mile walk procession through downtown San José and San José State University. The purpose of this event is to raise awareness about the issue of domestic violence and encourage the community's involvement in addressing and preventing it, as well as to promote local resources available to help address this issue. This year all City funding for the walk was eliminated due to budget cuts but over \$5,000 was raised to cover all the costs of the walk.

### Christmas in the Park

Christmas in the Park is a wonderful San Jose tradition! Each year, I show my support for the event by hosting a Christmas tree for community members to enjoy. This year I invited the District 10 Youth Advisory Council to help my Council Office create ornaments for the District 10 Christmas in the Park tree. The tree turned out beautifully.

### Additional Activities in 2011:



Almaden Kiwanis and Good Karma Bikes hosted a bicycle giveaway at the Hoffman via Monte National Night Out



Brenda Bloomquist, president of the Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Association, and Councilmember Pyle at National Night Out



Councilmember Pyle with Linda Wilson and Tom Morse at the TJ Martin Park Neighborhood Association National Night Out



## District 10 Pastor Larry Brundage was honored at the 2011 State of the City

I was very pleased to be able to honor Pastor Larry Brundage with the 2011 District 10 State of the City Award. As a pastor at South Hills Community Church, Pastor Brundage has spent many years in service to District 10. From organizing park clean ups to counseling at-risk youth, Pastor Brundage has gone to extraordinary lengths to make a difference in the community. His generous spirit is most vividly felt in the Hoffman/Via Monte Strong Neighborhoods Initiative area, where he is a former Neighborhood Action Coalition Board Member. He also organizes ESL classes and holiday food donations for needy families in the area. Most recently, Pastor Brundage led a team of approximately 300 volunteers in a makeover of Jeffrey Fontana Park, installing 1,000 plants and performing maintenance work as a tribute to the fallen officer. Thank you again to Pastor Brundage for all his work in the community.

## 25th Annual Dublin, Ireland Sister City Visits

In March of every year the City of San Jose welcomes the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Ireland, San Jose's Sister City, and a delegation of city officials, and business representatives. The program develops cultural, economic, artistic and sporting ties between San Jose/Silicon Valley and Dublin and this past year we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the San Jose—Dublin Sister City Program. The dignitaries, including Lord Mayor of Dublin Gerry Breen and Dublin Deputy City Manager Philip Maguire, arrived on March 8th for Irish Week which began with a welcome breakfast at the Silicon Valley Capital Club followed by the raising of the Irish and American flags outside San Jose City Hall by the Lord Mayor of Dublin and the Mayor of San Jose. The Irish also visited the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library in downtown San Jose, where they discussed continued collaboration between the two cities. Other events were held throughout the week and culminated in the 'Spirit of Ireland' award dinner which presented John Hartnett, the President and Founder of the Irish Technology Leadership Group (ITLG) with the award. Additionally in October I led a group from San Jose, including City Manager Deb Figone and Councilmember Sam Liccardo, on a Sister City trip to Ireland. For more information about our trip to Ireland you can watch the November 1st [council meeting broadcast](#) where I gave a report of our trip and presented three gifts from Dublin to the City.

## Ceremonials in 2011:

Throughout the year the City makes proclamations for important events and presents commendation to deserving groups and organizations. This is the list of proclamation and commendations I took the lead on last year.

### 2011 Proclamations

Wear Red Day to ask all San Jose citizens to wear red to show support and help raise awareness of heart disease since cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of women over the age of 25.

Paint Your Town Purple Day to encourage the San Jose community to recognize the day by wearing purple ribbons and embellishing their property with purple decorations to show support for those impacted by cancer in our City.

American Heart Month to increase awareness of cardiovascular disease, detection, and prevention and urge all citizens to make physical activity a daily part of their lives.

Month of the Young Child to recognize and support the people, programs, and policies that lead to high quality early childhood education because investing in the young children of San Jose will help to build a better future for all residents of San Jose.

Rotary Day for the long history Rotary Club International has of giving back to the community.

Mormon Helping Hands Day to recognize an annual day of community service.

Employment of Persons with Disabilities Month to encourage all citizens to



Councilmember Pyle at the Almaden Valley Art and Wine Festival with the featured ShelterBox



Councilmember Pyle at the Youth Job Fair hosted at the Westfield Oakridge Mall



Councilmember Pyle participated in the Be Our Guest Luncheon and created this District 10 Pumpkin encouraging residents to Fly San Jose



Councilmember Pyle's 2011 Christmas in the Park Tree

pay tribute to the accomplishments of the men and women with disabilities whose work helps keep our economy strong.

Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month to raise awareness of pancreatic cancer and show support for those impacted by pancreatic cancer in our City.

World AIDS Day to help raise awareness about HIV and AIDS worldwide and find a way to make a difference in the fight against HIV & AIDS.

*2011 Commendations:*

Rolanda Pierre-Dixon for her contributions and continued commitment to ending domestic violence in our community.

Bret Harte Middle School for the participation and achievement in the Project Citizen program.

Valley Christian High School for the participation of 24 students in a rigorous program of scientific experimentation which ultimately sent an automated and self-contained experiment to the International Space Station to test how plants grow in near-zero gravity.

Relay for Life Almaden for encouraging the Almaden Community to stand up and fight back against cancer.

Almaden Valley Women's Club for hosting the annual Almaden Valley Art and Wine Festival and providing charitable financial assistance to non-profit children's foundations, educational facilities, teen programs and community organizations.

Denis Tarasov and Sophia Nasyrova for their participation as photographers in the Sister City exchange between Ekaterinburg, Russia and San Jose.

Second Harvest Food Bank for its dedication to ending local hunger and for its caring and dedicated service to the residents of San Jose and Silicon Valley.

Friends of San Jose Family Camp for their dedication to maintaining San Jose Family Camp as a quality family oriented Sierra camping facility for the enjoyment of all campers.

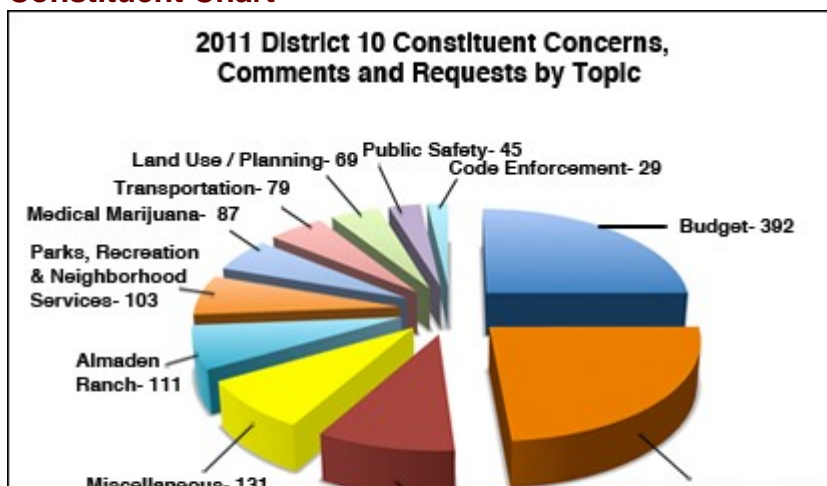
Martin Fontana Parks Association for their dedication to preserve and enhance the beauty of the TJ Martin and Jeffrey Fontana Parks and their determination to find constructive solutions despite complicated circumstances.

Priscilla Carrasquilla for providing invaluable support to at risk youth and for donating \$25,000 to the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force from her California Peace Prize Award.

**2011 Invocations:**

Invocations are a period of between 3 and 5 minutes that start the City Council Ceremony. Invocations can take place in many forms, most common of which are performances: a song sung or played, a poem read, or a blessing given. Each City Councilmember and the Mayor trade off inviting guests to lead the Council Invocations throughout that year—this year I was responsible for Invocations in the month of November.

**Constituent Chart**



Larry Brundage being awarded at the 2011 State of the City Ceremony



Councilmember Pyle with Enda Kenny, the current Taoiseach of Ireland, and a number of San Jose-Dublin Sister City delegates while in Ireland in October 2011



Councilmember Pyle with youth from the Hoffman Via Monte community who participated in the Aquarius Project summer program

**November Council Meeting Invocations:**



The Animal Care & Services Division led the November 1st Council Invocation in honor of Animal Shelter Awareness Week.





Bernard Smith a District 10 Resident with Autism led our National Anthem for the November 8th Council Invocation in honor of Veteran's Day.



Pastor Dwight Bailey from Church of the Chimes led the Invocation at the November 15th council meeting.



Father Joe Kim from Holy Spirit Church led the Council Invocation on November 29th focusing on Hunger and Homeless Awareness.

### Council Meetings:

Tuesday, January 17—no meeting  
 Tuesday, January 24; 1:30pm  
 Tuesday, January 31; 1:30pm  
 Tuesday, February 7; 1:30pm  
 Tuesday, February 14, 1:30pm  
 City Hall, 200 E Santa Clara Street, City Council Chambers  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/agenda.asp](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/agenda.asp)

### Community Calendar:

#### Hoffman Via Monte NeighborWalk

Wednesday, January 18; 5pm  
 Meet at the corner of Gallup Drive and Mesa Drive. We will walk throughout the neighborhood and then the meeting will conclude at the Almaden Hills United Methodist Church around 6:30pm.

#### Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Association Meeting

Wednesday, January 18; 6:30pm  
 Pearl Library, 4270 Pearl Avenue

#### Neighborhood Associations and Youth Commission Priority-Setting Session

Saturday, January 21; 9:00am—1:00pm  
 San Jose City Hall, 200 East Santa Clara Street; Committee Rooms 118-120  
 Register online by Wednesday, January 18 at 5pm:  
[Click here for details](#)

#### Early Care and Education Commission Meeting

Monday, January 23; 7:00pm  
 San Jose City Hall, 200 East Santa Clara Street, Tower Room 185  
[www.sjpl.org/ecec](http://www.sjpl.org/ecec)

#### VEP Neighborhood Association Meeting

Tuesday, January 31; 7:30pm  
 Vista Park Community Room, 475 Hyde Park Drive  
<http://www.vepca.net/>

#### Almaden Senior Association Meeting

Wednesday, February 1; 9:45am  
 Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue  
<http://www.almadenseniors.org/>

#### Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Wednesday, February 1; 5:30pm  
 San Jose City Hall, 200 E Santa Clara Street, Room W120  
<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/sjcommissions/parks/default.asp>

#### The Tech Museum After Hours

Wednesday, February 1; 6pm-11pm  
[http://www.thetech.org/plan\\_visit/afterhours/](http://www.thetech.org/plan_visit/afterhours/)

#### South First Friday

Friday, February 3; 7:00pm  
 South First Street between San Carlos and E. Reed streets  
<http://www.southfirstfridays.com/>

#### 2012 Crime and Gang Prevention Summit

### Contact Us

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[www.sanjoseca.gov/district10](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district10)

Saturday, February 4; 8:30am—1:30pm  
Overfelt High School; 1835 Cunningham Avenue  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/mayor/goals/pubsafety/GangPrevSummit.asp](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/mayor/goals/pubsafety/GangPrevSummit.asp)

**State of the City Address**

Thursday, February 9; doors open at 6pm, program starts at 6:30pm  
San Jose Civic Auditorium; 135 West San Carlos Street  
Register online by Sunday, February 5:  
[Click here for details](#)

**Almaden Valley Community Association Meeting**

Monday, February 14; 7:00pm  
Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue  
[www.avca-sj.org](http://www.avca-sj.org)

**Hoffman Via Monte Holiday Celebration**

Wednesday, February 15; 6:30pm  
Hoffman Via Monte Neighborhood Center, 1180 Blossom Hill Road

**Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk**

Friday, February 17; 8am—11am  
Westfield Oakridge Mall, 925 Blossom Hill Road, Macy's Courtyard

**Quote**

"Wisdom is the power to put our time and our knowledge to the proper use"  
—Thomas J. Watson

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