

San Jose

Jonathan Fleming

San José City Councilmember, District 2
Mechanical Engineer/Small Business Owner

Top 3 priorities citywide

1. Public Safety
2. Improve Trust in Our City Council and Local Governments
3. Infrastructure and Transportation

1. Who is your Campaign Manager?

Brenda Gisi

2. What is your Campaign Budget?

\$120,000.00

3. Please share your Top Ten Endorsements:

Johnny Khamis, San José City Councilmember, Chuck Reed, San José Mayor (former), Debbie Giordano, Milpitas City Councilmember (former), Michael Snyder, President of the Governing Board and Trustee, Campbell Union School District, Robert Varich, Trustee, Campbell Union High School District, Van Le, School Board Trustee, East Side Union High School District, Gino Borgioli, School Board Trustee, Morgan Hill Unified School District, Chris Le, Vice Chair of the Santa Clara County Libertarian Party, Shane Patrick Connolly, Chair of the Santa Clara County Republican Party, Park Peace Officer's Association of San José

4. Would you support or oppose a 3 county ballot initiative for a permanent 1/8 cent sales tax to fund Caltrain?

Oppose

I do not support any new taxes since San José and California are heavily overtaxed with many residents and companies leaving and moving to other states.

Many of our taxes do not result in what was promised the voters and are almost always over budget, have massive time delays, and frequently require another tax or taxes to complete. Last election, Regional Measure 3 was approved by the voters which secured funding for CalTrain improvements and now they are asking for another tax.

Regional public transit is a Federal and State responsibility. There are existing sources of funding available at the State and Federal level which we need to actively seek and acquire, just as BART has time and time again - most recently with its \$125 Million grant awarded to complete its expansion through downtown San José.

5. Do you support funding to complete a valley to valley connection through high speed rail?

Oppose

I support large project studies because they help our representatives and voters make better fiscally responsible decisions. The studies will help us understand why High Speed Rail's projected total cost was significantly understated to voters. We have seen almost all California transit and transportation projects are extremely over budget and suffer massive time delays. We do not have any assurances that this project will be any different and a study is warranted.

6. *Would you support a measure dedicated to build and operate a world class, seamless integrated transit system to better serve Bay Area residents, funded through a one cent sales tax, to better serve the transit dependent and those of us still in our cars?*

Oppose

No. There have been many attempts in Northern California to form an integrated transit system to better serve Bay Area residents and all have resulted in failure. Before any tax is even discussed, we need all parties involved including our politicians, labor union leaders, transit authorities, and more to agree on a solution first. Without that, there is no sense in discussing another tax where taxpayer dollars will be washed into a general fund and then diverted into a project they did not vote for.

7. *Do you support Google's plans for the Diridon Station Area?*

Support

Yes. I support Google and our joint vision for a better San José.

8. *Do you support any revenue generating vehicles (please be specific) to build more affordable homes?*

Oppose

No. We are overtaxed already and I will not support another tax in the area until we start seeing results from the taxes we have already levied.

Affordable housing is usually the term for homeless housing or subsidized housing and this tax will increase liability for new developments, thus exacerbating our existing housing supply crisis. What San José needs to do is eliminate the tedious regulations and delays housing developers face and address soaring labor costs to make housing projects viable at all income levels which will increase supply and thus lower demand and costs.

By forcing another tax on residents and businesses you increase the floor costs for the cheapest housing options, making them even less attainable to our poorest residents without increased subsidy. The result is a middle class who becomes poor and a poor class who becomes completely dependent on the government.

9. *Are you in favor of a ballot measure that will prohibit campaign contributions from advocates for development and tie the San Jose Mayoral term to the Presidential Election Cycle?*

Oppose

If the bill is to truly eliminate special interests than all union backed dollars and all special interest dollars should also be eliminated. Only private citizens should be able to contribute to a

campaign and all lobbying power of all groups to influence private citizens donations would also need to be eliminated. This will never happen. Furthermore, keeping the Mayoral race with the odd districts makes sense as it increases turnout in districts with low voter turnout, specifically 5 and 7.

10. Do you support requiring all new buses purchased with federal funds be zero-emission beginning on October 1, 2029 (which is California's deadline for transitioning all transit bus purchases to zero-emission buses)?

Support

I support as long as the total costs are near or better than our current buses. Reliability, maintenance, range, and efficiency also need to be improved.

11. Will you work with the Silicon Valley Leadership Group to secure additional funding to protect our region and help advance a common vision for a healthy and resilient SF Bay?

Support

I will always have my door open to the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, just as I will all organizations and persons, to listen to their proposals and work together toward making a better future for us all.

12. Do you support or oppose a proposed amendment to Proposition 13?

Oppose

Businesses and jobs will leave the state of California and our economy and quality of life, including emergency services, will quickly deteriorate. This is already happening due to the massive amount of taxes levied against our residents and businesses and this will make things much worse. This policy is fiscally irresponsible.

13. If a public charter school's petition is approved to operate within your local school district, meaning their proposal meets key pupil outcomes as indicated by state law, would you approve the school's bid to rent or build facilities beyond those already owned by the district?

Support

The San José City Council does not make policy decisions for School Districts and this question is not applicable. This is a question for a school board trustee.

I entered an answer of support because I cannot complete this questionnaire without choosing an option above due to Google Form requirements. The support answer above is not an indication of my position on this question.

14. Tell us about a time when you were opposed to a position of one of your major supporters. What was the issue? How did you handle this situation?

Members of the group San José Action were adamantly against the Senior housing facility for homeless and low income seniors proposed at Blossom Hill and Snell. They have worked two years to stop the project. I felt the project was a good project as long as certain criteria were met

to keep our neighborhoods safe. At first they were hesitant to listen to my proposal, but by further listening and allowing my supporters to vocalize their concerns, we were able to develop a proposal to make the development work and get those people housed while maintaining the safety and integrity of our neighborhood. We turned this into a win-win workable solution for our Community!

Treat people with respect, listen to their concerns, and lead through action.