



AMENDED AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING
CYPRESS CITY COUNCIL
November 19, 2025
4:30 P.M.

www.cypressca.org

5275 Orange Avenue
Cypress, California

If you are interested in speaking during the City Council meeting, details on how to participate are provided on the last page of the agenda.

CALL TO ORDER

4:30 P.M.

City Council Chambers

ROLL CALL

Cypress City Council, also acting as the Ex-Officio Governing Board of Directors of the Cypress Recreation and Park District

Mayor David Burke
Mayor Pro Tem Leo Medrano
Council Member Kyle Chang
Council Member Bonnie Peat

CONTINUED ITEM:

1. Interview Applicants to Fill the City Council Vacancy by Appointment

Prepared by: Lisa Berglund, City Clerk

Recommendation: Conduct selection interviews for the vacant City Council seat.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Three minutes per speaker. The City Council may adjust the time allotted per speaker.)

The public may address the City Council *only* on the matter listed on the agenda. Although Council Members may provide brief responses, the City Council may not engage in a discussion with members of the public during the meeting. Please complete a speaker's card to address the City Council in-person. Members of the public are encouraged to communicate with the City Council via email at adm@cypressca.org or by calling 714-229-6699.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be an adjourned Regular Meeting, to be held on Monday, December 8, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

Council Members and members of the public should promptly exit the meeting room following adjournment.

I, Lisa Berglund, City Clerk of the City of Cypress, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing agenda was posted on the City Hall bulletin board and City website not less than 24 hours prior to the meeting. Dated November 17, 2025.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public can participate in the City Council meeting in the following ways:

1. Attend In-Person. First-come, first-served seating is available. All attendees must be free of any symptoms associated with contagious illnesses.

2. Attend Virtually via Webinar. Follow this link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1319026277156287070>

Advanced registration is recommended. Webinar ID 799-082-875

The public may address the City Council virtually during Oral Communications *only* on the matter listed on the agenda. Virtual participants must click the 'hand raise' button prior to the end of the first in-person speaker to indicate they wish to address the City Council. Upon clicking the 'hand raise' button, please unmute your microphone and wait for the Mayor/City Clerk to call on you.



? = Hand Raise



? = Unmute

3. Submit Public Comments Prior to the Meeting. The public may submit comments via email to cityclerk@cypressca.org. Comments submitted by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be added to the meeting record.

4. Watch the Meeting. The City Council meeting can be viewed on Spectrum Cable Channel 36 or on the City's website at www.cypressca.org/watchlive.

5. Listen to the Meeting. Listen-only teleconferencing is available by calling (562) 247-8422 and entering Access Code 980-069-730. No registration or audio pin is necessary.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, you should contact the City Clerk at (714) 229-6685 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.



CITY OF CYPRESS

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

City Council Special

1.

FROM: Lisa Berglund, Interim City Clerk

DATE: 11/19/2025

SUBJECT: Interview Applicants to Fill the City Council Vacancy by Appointment

RECOMMENDATION

Conduct selection interviews for the vacant City Council seat

DISCUSSION

Council Member Scott Minikus resigned from the City Council on October 1, 2025, creating a vacant seat on the City Council. On October 13, the City Council voted to fill the vacancy by appointment. The individual appointed to fill the vacancy will serve the balance of the vacant term through November 2026.

The application period for interested individuals to be considered for appointment opened on October 14 and closed on October 30. Sixteen individuals submitted applications to serve the remainder of the vacant seat and all sixteen met the minimum eligibility requirements. On November 10, the City Council selected seven applicants to be interviewed on November 19. On November 12, the City Clerk conducted a random sort of the names of the seven applicants to determine the order in which they would be interviewed. This process occurred at the City Clerk's counter and was open to the public. The order in which the applicants will be interviewed is:

1. Anne Mallari
2. Bill Wostenberg
3. Candi Kern
4. Claudia Nessary
5. Frances Marquez
6. Quintin Bentley
7. Rachel Strong Carnahan

On November 12, 2025, the seven finalists were invited by the City Clerk to participate in an interview with the City Council on November 19. A list of interview questions was reviewed and approved by the City Council to be utilized during the interview process. Each interview will be limited to 20 minutes per applicant, and all applicants will be asked the same questions. Interviews will commence following the oral communications portion of the meeting.

The appointment of any applicant to fill the vacant City Council seat will require affirmative votes from a majority of the members of the City Council (i.e., a minimum of three affirmative votes). Per

Government Code 36512, the City Council must make an appointment within sixty days of the date of the vacancy. In the event the Council fails to make an appointment by November 30, a special election must be called.

BUDGET IMPACT

None.

LEGAL REVIEW

This report was reviewed by the City Attorney.

APPROVED BY:

Attachments

Appointment Resolution
Mallari, Anne
Wostenberg, William "Bill"
Kern, Candi
Nessary, Claudia
Marquez, Frances
Bentley, Quintin
Strong, Rachel

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CYPRESS, CALIFORNIA
FILLING A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER BY APPOINTMENT**

WHEREAS, the city's general election was held on November 8, 2022, and the City Council officially declared the results of that election on December 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the official results of the city's general election declared Scott Minikus to be elected for a four-year term and he was duly sworn into office immediately upon the City Council's declaration of the results of the election; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2025, Councilmember Minikus resigned as a member of the Cypress City Council having served only a portion of his four-year term, thereby leaving a vacancy on the City Council; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code Section 36512, when a vacancy in a city elective office occurs, the City Council shall either fill the vacancy by appointment or call a special election to fill the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, on October 13, 2025, the City Council considered its options and decided to fill the vacancy by appointment following interviews of eligible residents to serve the unexpired term of the previous incumbent; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to memorialize that appointment by resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CYPRESS, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby appoints _____ to the office of member of the City Council for the balance of the term held by former Councilmember Scott Minikus to expire upon the declaration of results of the November 2026 general municipal election.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 1777, after filing his official oath, _____ shall possess all the rights and powers, and will be subject to the same liabilities, duties, and obligations, of all councilmembers.

SECTION 3. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 36515, _____'s compensation shall be the same as that payable to the member whose office was vacated.

SECTION 4. Immediately upon the approval and passage of this Resolution, the city clerk shall present a certificate of appointment to _____ and administer the oath of office.

SECTION 5. Immediately upon being sworn into the office of member of the Cypress City Council, _____ shall take his/her seat on the dais of the council chamber.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of November 2025.

David Burke, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa A. Berglund, City Clerk

— ANNE HERTZ-MALLARI —

NON-PROFIT EXECUTIVE

CONTACT



[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

PROFILE

Experienced, innovative executive able to manage growth and change needed to achieve strategic objectives. Committed to developing collaborative leaders within the organization. Results-oriented, able to assess and adapt to deliver on mission, improve efficiencies and make tough decisions during difficult times. Confident public speaker able to build excitement around brand and engage community support. Creative program developer able to assess and meet needs. Excels in dynamic, demanding environment while calmly and clearly leading a team. Served as Mayor and Councilmember and served on numerous municipal Boards.

SKILLS

- STRATEGIC PLANNING
- RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- OPERATIONAL GROWTH
- CHANGE MANAGEMENT
- PUBLIC SPEAKING
- BOARD DEVELOPMENT
- PROGRAM DESIGN

EXPERIENCE

CEO, We Care Orange County

February, 2024-Current

Led organizational transformation to strengthen homelessness and hunger prevention. Streamlined rental assistance, expanded wraparound supports, and reimaged the food pantry into a client-choice model. Built community partnerships, modernized systems, and championed prevention-focused solutions that kept families stably housed at a fraction of rehousing costs.

CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Anaheim-Cypress

2006-2024

Grew organization from \$450K serving 65 youth per day to 5M+ serving 1500 youth each day at 20 locations via capacity building, community partnerships and merger. Managed capital campaigns and projects resulting in high-quality services, safer clubhouses, a new Teen Center, and upgraded playground and parks equipment.

Public Education Manager, Orange County Dept of Ed

2004-2006

Developed grant-funded collaborative to educate 80,000 low-income, limited English families in Orange County about development states and how to help their child stay on track to enter Kindergarten healthy and ready to learn.

School Readiness Coordinator, Cypress School District

2003-2006

Created innovative approaches to working with at-risk families with children from birth through age 5. Developed free drop-in center for families to come with their children to obtain screenings and practice developmentally appropriate skills. Coached parents to be their child's first teacher. Spoke at numerous events.

Consultant and Community Volunteer

1991-2002

EDUCATION

UCLA – B.A. Psychology

CSULB - Graduate Coursework

AWARDS

Orange County Woman to Watch
League of Eagles - Board Development
Service to Military - At Pentagon
OC Golden Orange, 4th District PTA
Ruby Award, Soroptimist International
Golden Bell, CA School Boards Assoc.
Honorary Service, Landell PTA
Honorary Service, Cypress PTA
Above & Beyond, Cypress School District

Anne Hertz Mallari

Contact Information:

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Address:

[REDACTED], Cypress CA 90630

Voter Registration Certification:

I am registered to vote. The address where I am registered to vote is the address listed above. I have attached a printout from the CA Secretary of State.

References:

Debbie Neary [REDACTED]

Christy Putnam [REDACTED]

Ron Hoshi [REDACTED]

Ginger Osman [REDACTED]

Delight Sittman [REDACTED]

Written Description of Qualifications, Experience, Education and Community Engagement:

Qualifications

Below are a few of the qualifications of a skilled civic leader and how I demonstrate those qualifications:

- **Representing constituents** – I have excellent rapport with residents and businesses throughout the city. I am in touch with local issues and am accessible to the people I serve.
- **Budget oversight** – I have experience collaborating with colleagues and city officials to allocate funds wisely. I thoroughly understand the City of Cypress budget and have experience with our budget planning process as well as negotiating with our labor groups.
- **Strategic planning** – I have more than 15 years of experience participating in and leading strategic planning sessions for organizations. I also have the discipline to lead and govern in alignment with strategic plans, which helps maintain fiscal stability.
- **Collaboration** – I have experience working with council members, city staff and local organization to build consensus and foster partnerships that benefit the community.
- **Prioritization and Preparation** – I efficiently review extensive documents and reports in order to understand complex issues. I am able to actively participate in informal and formal discussions, analyze data and make informed decisions.

Experience

My experience includes serving **one year as Mayor, one year as Mayor Pro Tem, and two years as a City Councilmember**, as well as holding roles on numerous local and county committees. These experiences have given me the multifaceted skills needed to serve as an engaged, accessible, and effective Councilmember.

I am skilled in leading discussions and engaging respectfully, even when there are differences of opinion. As Mayor, I made it a priority to ensure that every colleague and every member of the public had the opportunity to fully express their opinions and positions on agenda items. That approach requires active listening, a genuine desire to understand other perspectives, and respect for both people and process.

My ability to facilitate thoughtful discussions, manage complex processes, and encourage participation was valued by my colleagues, even when we disagreed. I base my decisions on facts and data—not personalities—and once a decision is made, I move forward with professionalism, positivity, and a strong work ethic to continue serving our community.

Education

- BA – Psychology
- Graduate Coursework – Numerous graduate level course in education, business, and leadership
- League of Cities – Councilmember trainings, Ethics trainings
- Numerous meetings with department directors to gain thorough understanding of operations, issues, and recommendations.

Community Engagement

I have resided in the City of Cypress for a total of 27 years. The City recently adopted By-District elections, and it is interesting to note that I have owned and lived in homes in 3 of the 5 Districts - District 4, District 3 and District 1. I have served the community in many different role, including, but not limited to:

- Landell Elementary School PTA – numerous committees as well as President for 3 years; Achievements include increasing engagement of families of diverse backgrounds, funding playground equipment, funding air conditioning, implementing parenting education programs that included education about inclusion of students with special needs
- Cypress School District PTA – numerous committees as well as President for 2 years; Achievements include training of leaders at all elementary schools, improvements in traffic safety throughout all schools, and successfully advocating to the City and the AUHSD for the traffic signal in front of Lexington Junior High
- Cypress School District School Readiness Coordinator – provided outreach and services to at-risk families to ensure their children were healthy and ready to succeed in Kindergarten; Achievements include funding and opening a free drop-in Parent and Child Jumpstart School Readiness Center; funding and implementing the School Readiness Nurse program in order to identify and provide early intervention for children with special needs
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Cypress CEO (Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Anaheim-Cypress) - oversaw all aspects of the organization ensuring local youth had free and low-cost, high-quality afterschool and summer programs; Achievements include increasing capacity from 65 to over 1500 youth per day; managing 185 staff members, a Board of 15 volunteers, and raising over \$5M a year via grants, fees, donations and special events.
- Cypress Rotary Club (Rotary Club of Los Alamitos, Seal Beach and Cypress) – active member for 18 years

Statement of Interest in Serving on City Council

Due to my experience and ongoing engagement with city business, I am fully prepared to step seamlessly into the role of City Councilmember. I completed a four-year term in December 2025, and since then, I have continued to attend or watch every council meeting this year.

I am deeply familiar with the city's annual cycle of business and the key issues that will arise during the remainder of Councilmember Minikus' term. This continuity allows me to contribute immediately and effectively.

I am seeking to serve because I care deeply about our city and want to help the Council function at its highest level in service to our residents. My personal philosophy is simple: **we are here on earth to help one another**. It's that belief that has guided my public service throughout my career, and it's why I would be honored to once again serve the wonderful residents of our community.

Statement of Vision for Cypress

I align with the existing mission, vision, values and guiding principles that I helped develop during my time on City Council. They are listed below.

MISSION STATEMENT

The City of Cypress, guided by our core values, will utilize our resources in concert with community partners to provide an exceptional city to live, work, and play.

VISION STATEMENT

Cypress is a safe and welcoming community delivering excellent services for our residents, neighborhoods, and businesses.

CORE VALUES/GUIDING PRINCIPLES*

The City of Cypress values...

Integrity

Accountability

Transparency

Fiscal prudence

Teamwork

Responsiveness to the community

THREE-YEAR GOALS (2023 - 2026)*

Maintain infrastructure and facilities

Maintain financial stability and promote economic activity

Enhance and maintain public safety

Maintain high quality and high value services for the community

Enhance recreation facilities and programs

BILL WOSTENBERG

██████████, Cypress, California 90630

██████████ | ██████████

OBJECTIVE

Seeking to fill the Cypress City Council vacancy, from the time of appointment until the results of the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election are certified. I have no plans as of now to run for City Council in 2026 to represent District 1, but that could change based on the experience gained from this opportunity.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Integrity | Accountability | Sound Judgement | Organizational Leadership | Non-Profit Organization Governance | Oral and Written Communications | Public Speaking | Collaboration and Teamwork | Problem-Solving | Critical and Strategic Thinking | Financial Management | Program / Project Management

QUALIFICATIONS

- Demonstrated community leadership resulting in a broad base of relationships with corporations, non-profit and government agencies, and community leaders.
- Proven leadership skills developed through 40 years of increasingly responsible experience providing business continuity management and information technology consulting and program / project management services to Fortune 1000 firms in the automotive, financial services, healthcare and non-profit sectors.
- Business executive with over 20 years of experience developing, implementing, and managing superior global enterprise business continuity, disaster recovery and crisis and emergency management programs.
- Demonstrated ability to build strong stakeholder relationships and collaborations.
- Ability to influence others.
- Excellent written and verbal communication, presentation, organization management and collaboration and interpersonal skills.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CYPRESS COLLEGE FOUNDATION, Cypress CA

Board of Directors

1998–2007

Executive Board (Secretary 2003–2005, Vice President 2001–2003), Americana Awards (Chair 2007, Auction Committee Chair 2001–2004)

PACIFICARE FOUNDATION, Santa Ana, CA

1997–2005

Women's Health Allocation Committee (2004), Health Promotion Allocation Committee, Lead (2002-2003), Human/Social Services Allocation Committee, Lead (1998–2001)

CYPRESS COMMUNITY FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION, Cypress, CA

2005

Public Relations Committee Chair

CITY OF CYPRESS, Cypress, CA

1997–2003

Recreation and Community Services Commission

Chair (1999–2000), Vice-Chair (2002–2003)

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF CYPRESS, Cypress, CA

1996–1999

Board of Directors

1st Vice President and Personnel Committee Chair (1997–1998), Training Kitchen Construction Project Manager (1996–1998).

CITY OF CYPRESS, Cypress, CA

1995–1996

Wicker Drive Land Use Advisory Committee, Chair

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PACIFIC PREMIER BANK Irvine, CA First Vice President / Business Continuity Manager	2020–2023
HYUNDAI AUTOEVER AMERICA Fountain Valley, CA Disaster Recovery Consultant	2019–2020
CERDIAN HCM Fountain Valley, CA Business Continuity Manager	2018–2019
CITY OF HOPE Irwindale, CA Information Technology Consultant / Senior Project Manager	2017
KIA MOTORS AMERICA Irvine, CA National Manager, Business Continuity Management	2015–2017
PACIFIC LIFE INSURANCE Newport Beach, CA Consultant, Information Technology Service Continuity	2011–2015
AUTOMOBILE CLUB ENTERPRISES Costa Mesa, CA Manager, Business Continuity Planning	2006–2011
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE Irvine, CA Adjunct Professor	2005–2011
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON Fullerton, CA Adjunct Professor	2007–2009
PACIFICARE HEALTH SYSTEMS Cypress, CA Program Manager, Business Continuity	1999–2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

ASSOCIATION OF CONTINGENCY PLANNERS (ACP), Orange County Chapter, Board of Directors (2004–2013)

ORANGE COUNTY RED CROSS, Orange County Disaster Preparedness Academy, Steering and Curriculum Committees (2007–2011)

READYOC, Corporate Advisory Council

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE, EXTENSION, Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery Certificate Program Advisory Board

COASTLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Emergency Management Certificate Program Advisory Board

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON, UNIVERSITY EXTENDED EDUCATION, Business Continuity Planning Certificate Program Advisory Board

CYPRESS COLLEGE, Management and Marketing Advisory Board

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, 2009 Disaster Recovery Planning for Small Businesses Workshops, Guest Speaker

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Master of Science in Management Information Systems, West Coast University

Bachelor of Science in Financial Management and Business Computer Methods, California State University

Business Continuity Professional (CBCP), Disaster Recovery Institute International (DRII)

Project Management Professional (PMP), Project Management Institute (PMI)

REFERENCES

Ron and Patty Garcia

9313 Lexington St
Cypress, CA 90630

Matt Hajimomen

4166 Dorset Dr
Cypress, CA 90630-2718

Debbie Jenkins

4264 Livermore Pl
Cypress, CA 90630

Jason Masters

4262 Surrey Dr
Cypress, CA 90630-2767

Sue Mulhearn

4301 Livermore Pl
Cypress, CA 90630-2732

Kristen Victor

4289 Manchester Pl
Cypress, CA 90630-2735

INTEREST IN SERVING ON CYPRESS CITY COUNCIL

I am seeking to fill the Cypress City Council vacancy where my broad knowledge of Cypress history as a 50+ year resident and my business and community leadership skills and experience can be leveraged to enhance the City's fiscal strength, public safety and community and recreational services.

I understand that if appointed I would serve from the time of appointment until the results of the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election are certified. I have no plans to seek election to the City Council in 2026 to represent District 1 where I live.

My family and I have deep roots in Cypress. My parents moved here in 1968 when many dairy farms were being replaced with tract homes. I am a graduate of Cypress High School class of 1976. My wife Janice and I were married in Cypress and moved into our present home in Cypress in 1987 where we raised our two children. Janice's parents both grew up in Cypress and once owned a home at the former Wicker Drive property at Orange Avenue. and Walker Street.

During my Cypress residency, I have been a member and leader of several community organizations, including Cypress College Foundation and Boys and Girls Club of Cypress. I've also been actively involved in many urban planning issues including the proposed card club at the Los Alamitos Race Course as well as the City of Cypress versus Cottonwood Christian Center dispute over an 18-acre parcel of property located at the corner of Katella Avenue and Walker Street where Costco now sits.

Over the last few years, I've led a group of homeowners in addressing parking and traffic issues in our neighborhood. Our efforts recently included a successful petition drive for a proposed residential restricted parking district. This effort, in partnership with Cypress Public Works Department, resulted in the Traffic Commission's unanimous endorsement and City Council's unanimous approval for establishing the parking district.

Several years ago, I had a career change that required me to be on call and available 24/7/365 to respond to business threats and emergencies. As a result, I had to significantly scale back my community activities. Now that I'm retired, I'm looking to make a larger contribution of time and talent to my community.

VISION FOR CYPRESS

Provide leadership that supports Cypress continuing to be a great place to live, work and play. Specifically, I will provide leadership that enhances the City's fiscal strength, public safety and community and recreational services. To achieve this, I will:

- Bring common sense and financial management experience to decisions regarding the City's capital and operational budget and expenditures.
- Partner with the community and City staff to identify and mitigate risks to public safety, including traffic near schools.
- Collaborate with City staff, Cypress School District and Anaheim Union School District to make school fields and sports courts available during non-school hours for recreational use.



CYPRESS CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Candi Kern

[REDACTED]
Cypress, CA 90630

Cell [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

REFERENCES

Anne Silavs
Cypress School District, Superintendent

[REDACTED]

Lydia Sondhi
Former Cypress Mayor and City Council Member, Cypress School District Trustee

[REDACTED]

Brittney Cook-Cannata
Cypress Council PTA President, Cypress Community Festival Board Vice President

[REDACTED]

Christen Jackson
Cypress Women's Conference Woman of the Year 2025, Community volunteer

[REDACTED] 1048
[REDACTED]

Leah Winter
Long time Cypress community resident and volunteer

[REDACTED] 1970
[REDACTED]

CANDI KERN

 [REDACTED] Cypress, CA 90630 |  [REDACTED] |  [REDACTED]

PROFILE

Community leader with a distinguished record of service in governance and advocacy. Experienced collaborator skilled in stakeholder engagement and strategic leadership.

EDUCATION

- **University of California, Los Angeles**
 - Bachelor of Arts Linguistics and Spanish
 - Cum laude and Departmental Honors
- **California State University, Long Beach**
 - Clear teaching credential | Bilingual Education
- **Masters in Governance Certificate, California School Boards Association**
 - Comprehensive certification in governance, fiscal oversight, and policy making

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Long Beach Unified School District** —
 - Bilingual Educator | Grades 2 – 5
- **Orange County Department of Education**
 - Consultant for “One Billion Acts of Kindness” Campaign

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

- **Cypress School District Board of Trustees**
 - 12+ years
 - 2 time board president
- **California School Boards Association (CSBA)**
 - 2024 Statewide Annual Education Conference Chair
 - Regular participant of Legislative Action Week – advocating to state legislators on behalf of issues facing families
 - Represented Cypress School District as a member of the statewide Delegate Assembly for 8 years
- **Orange County School Boards Association (OCSBA)**
 - Board Member
 - Planned and executed networking and professional development opportunities for all Orange County Trustees
- **Parent Teacher Association (PTA)**
 - PTA President: Vessels • Lexington • Cypress High School • Cypress Council
 - Fourth District (Orange County) PTA
 - President – Overseeing 400+ school PTAs in Orange County
 - Legislative director – Leading countywide delegation in legislative trips to Sacramento. Providing county-wide advocacy training.
 - California State PTA (CAPTA)
 - Legislative Team Member – Reviewing legislation to be considered for CAPTA support. Planning and executing statewide conferences and training.

OTHER SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Boy Scout Volunteer
- Church Volunteer and leader of moms' group
- Band Booster President – Cypress High School and Lexington Junior High
- Lexington Foundation Board Member
- School Site Council Member: Vessels • Lexington • Cypress

RECOGNITIONS

- **Marian Bergeson Award**
 - 2023 Outstanding Orange County School Board Member of the Year
- **Woman of Distinction 2018** - California State Assembly District 65
- **Above and Beyond Award** - Cypress School District
- **Golden Oak Honorary Service Award** - Highest award from California State PTA

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

My most relevant qualifications and experiences are those I acquired by serving for over 12 years as a member of the Cypress School District Board of Trustees. Overseeing a school district with a multi-million dollar budget and hundreds of employees is roughly analogous to the role of a city council. In my tenure, I served as board president twice. My first time as president, we were charged with hiring a new superintendent. That experience would serve me well in procuring a new city manager. I learned not only about the process itself, but also about the challenges of identifying a chief administrator and how to appropriately engage stakeholders in that search. My second term as board president was during the pandemic, where I had to lead through probably the darkest times the school district has faced. Beyond serving my local school district board, I was elected to the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly, where I represented our school district to our statewide organization. I went on to chair the 2024 CSBA Annual Education Conference for our statewide multi-day event. I also served on the board of the Orange County School Boards Association. My involvement at the county and statewide levels have provided me with great perspective and enhanced my ability to lead more effectively at a local level.

My formal education is as a bilingual educator, with my B.A. in Linguistics and Spanish from UCLA, and my teaching credential from CSULB. I went on to teach in Long Beach Unified which spurred my desire to serve *all*, especially those who may be historically underserved. My learning did not end there. I hold a Masters in Governance certificate from the California School Boards Association – a lengthy course that provides community leaders the tools they need in order to become members of a strong governance team. I was also a regular attendee at workshops and conferences to keep myself aware of any and all issues that would assist me in my work, such as state and federal budgets and current legislation.

I have been a long-time leader for PTA. I served as PTA president for Vessels Elementary, Lexington Junior High, Cypress High School, and Cypress Council PTA. I went on to serve as President of the Fourth District PTA, which is the PTA that oversees 400+ schools throughout Orange County. I currently serve on the California State PTA Board, where I am a legislative advocate, working closely with legislators' offices as we consider our support of bills. We also plan and execute trainings and legislative visits for advocates throughout the state.

In addition to my school board and PTA leadership experiences, I have been an avid community volunteer for many years. Among others, these include leading a moms' group at my church, leading Scouts, team mom for many sports teams, band booster president at two schools, and classroom mom, to name a few. I am currently still a member of the Lexington Foundation Board.

STATEMENT OF INTEREST IN SERVING ON CITY COUNCIL

I am a proud three-decade resident of our exceptional city. I have spent much of those decades serving our community in schools, in churches, on fields, and beyond. I am eager to continue serving a city that has served me so well. Our city is a model not only for Orange County, but indeed throughout the state. I would be honored to further that legacy.

Until recently, becoming a member of the city council was not on my radar. I am not driven by political ambition. That said, as a lover of Cypress, I truly believe that my unique skills and experiences match the current needs of the city.

I care deeply about our city and its people. I want to help ensure safety, fiscal stability, and the quality of life that we so all deeply enjoy. Those things don't happen by accident and require strong, ethical, and collaborative leadership.

My genuine desire is to offer all of my traits and experiences to the betterment of our community for today and tomorrow.

VISION FOR CYPRESS

We are fortunate indeed to live in the City of Cypress. With due credit to our current and prior leadership, our community is safe, fiscally sound, business friendly, while still retaining its small-town charm. That unique charm is due in part to our excellent schools, our quality parks and recreation programs, the many service organizations, and so much more that uplift our daily lives. As a city council member, I would work dutifully to maintain all the things that make Cypress great.

One current issue our city faces is the need to appoint a new City Manager. As laypeople, council members are called to bring the vision and direction to city staff. In turn, we rely on our staff for the day-to-day operations of our city. Finding a City Manager with the executive skills to lead our staff, as well as one who shares our passion for our unique community, is of the utmost importance. My experience in hiring a school superintendent provides me a unique leg up in going through a similar process in identifying our next City Manager.

I want to serve as a bridge builder and welcome diversity of opinion while maintaining civil discourse. I will respect the rule of the majority while championing the rights of the minority voice to be heard. My vision for the city does not include a personal agenda nor pet project. My contribution will be steady, measured leadership where good governance leads to greater outcomes for all.

Claudia Nessary

Cypress, CA | [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

EDUCATION

Golden West College, Huntington Beach, CA – Currently Enrolled

Associate's Degree, Double Major: Communications and Political Science

Frontier High School, Whittier, CA

High School Diploma, Graduate of the Class of 1980

WORK EXPERIENCE

SKILLS: Bilingual in English and Spanish (Fluent: Written and Speaking)

Nikolau Enterprises | Los Alamitos, CA

Office Manager | August 2025 – May 2018

- Managed document preparation, scheduling, invoicing, and record-keeping
- Built and maintained positive customer relationships
- Ran interviewing and hiring processes, and provided bilingual office support to staff, customers, and vendors.

Lan Blooming Flowers | La Mirada, CA

Floral Design & Delivery Coordinator | January 2016 – April 2010

- Coordinated purchasing and vendor agreements and ordering schedules
- Organized and scheduled deliveries, and supported local event planning and community gatherings
- Designed custom floral arrangements for events and memorials.

Buena Park Florist | Buena Park, CA

Sales – Design & Delivery | February 2010 – February 2007

- Managed purchasing orders as well as product placement and sale.
- Created a delivery route for florals and products that made deliveries 35% more efficient and reduced overhead costs by 20%, while maintaining care and professionalism in
- Assisted customers with orders, scheduling, floral designs and gift orders

Plainsite Business Systems | Santa Fe Springs, CA

Sales Support and Office Supply Manager | 1990 - 1986

- Managed business accounts and client relations as a “face-of-the-company” to foster company relationships
- Supported sales team with management of orders, scheduling meetings with clients, and office reception

Life Christian Academy | Bell Gardens, CA

English as a Second Language (ESL) Instructor: Spanish/Classroom Aide | 1983 - 1979

- Provided bilingual instructional support to English language learners, helping students develop proficiency in English reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills
- Assisted teachers by translating materials and facilitating understanding through instruction to support student engagement and success
- Supported Spanish-speaking students in transitioning to interpreting English coursework

PERSONAL STATEMENT

During the gap in my resume, I was blessed to be a full-time homemaker and stay-at-home mother, while remaining consistently engaged in my community through meaningful volunteer and leadership roles. I served in ministry and at my children's schools where I assisted in classrooms, volunteered as a lunch server, taught Sunday School, and supported the Bus Ministry. I volunteered with the Miss America Organization from 2016–2021, providing mentorship and support to titleholders across Southern California. In Cypress, I have remained actively involved with the Senior Center, including serving as Vice President of the Sunshine Club, volunteering with programs, and participating in outreach to support and uplift our senior community. I also participated as a member of the Cypress Women's Club, and served as a volunteer board member at Anaheim First Church of the Nazarene. Throughout this time, I continued my personal growth through ongoing education, including coursework at Golden West College. These experiences reflect my dedication to service, community connection, and supporting others, both in my home and throughout the city I love.

Applicant's Contact Information for Claudia Nessary:

5052 Alaska Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630 – [REDACTED] – [REDACTED]

Written description of applicant's qualifications, experience, education and community engagement

I offer a lifetime of community connection and service within Cypress. A resident of over twenty-five years, I have raised my family here, supported local schools, youth sports, volunteer programs, cultural events, and senior services. My service as a Commissioner for the Cypress Senior Center reflects a heart for listening, uplifting, encouraging, and honoring the people who built this community. My work has always centered on care for neighbors, commitment to service, and a belief that a thriving city begins with its people.

My professional experience in bilingual office support, small business operations, team coordination, and community-based leadership demonstrates reliability, strong communication, organizational strength, and trustworthiness. These qualities rise from years of dedicated involvement across classrooms, local programs, and family-centered initiatives.

My vision speaks to safety, community connection, responsible growth, and stewardship of resources. My leadership style reflects humility, compassion, and a deep sense of commitment to my community. My motivation is rooted not in recognition, but in devotion to a city that feels like family. I stand ready to serve with heart, presence, and unwavering dedication to Cypress.

Five References

U.S. Army Major, Roger Kays – [REDACTED] – [REDACTED]

Robert Carroll – [REDACTED] – [REDACTED]

Liane Harper – [REDACTED] – [REDACTED]

Pastor Scott Reimer – [REDACTED] – [REDACTED]

Lisa Jones Flores – [REDACTED] – [REDACTED]

Voter Registration



REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
1300 South Grand Avenue, Bldg. C
Santa Ana, California 92705
(714) 567-7600
FAX (714) 567-7627
ocvote.gov

BOS PAGE
Registrar of Voters
Mailing Address
P.O. Box 11258
Santa Ana, California 92711

Application for Certified Copy of Voter Registration

Per Elections Code Section 2167: "Upon the personal or written application of any person, the county elections official shall, at a fee not to exceed one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50), provide the applicant with a certified copy of the entries upon the register relating to the applicant."

If you wish to obtain a certified copy of your own voter registration record, the fee is \$1.50. Please make your check or money order payable to: Orange County Registrar of Voters or pay online at ocvote.gov. This form and your check or money order for \$1.50 per copy may be mailed or completed at the Orange County Registrar of Voters' office. If paid online, please send completed form to the Registrar of Voters' office.

Please print:

Name Claudia Nessary

Orange County Residential Address [REDACTED]

Cypress 90630
(City) (Zip Code)

Date of Birth [REDACTED]

Phone (For Online Orders) [REDACTED]

If you would like your copy mailed somewhere other than your residence, please indicate below.

Mailing Address: _____

(City) (Zip Code)

Signature _____ Date: _____

Mail to: Orange County Registrar of Voters
P.O. Box 11258
Santa Ana, CA 92711

Deliver to: 1300 South Grand Avenue, Building C
Santa Ana, CA 92705
(corner of Grand Ave & McFadden Ave)

Claudia Nessler's Statement of Interest in Serving Cypress

For over 25 years, Cypress has been more than my hometown, it has been the heart of my family's story and the backdrop of countless memories. I have watched this city grow, thrive, and evolve while maintaining the small-town sense of pride and connection that makes Cypress so special. My children attended our local schools, wore their team colors on our fields, and built friendships in the same parks and neighborhoods that inspired my own commitment to servicing our town. Cypress is not just where I live, it is part of who I am.

As a Commissioner for the Cypress Senior Center, I have had the privilege of working alongside dedicated staff and volunteers who embody the very best of our city which is compassion, unity, and service. This role has deepened my appreciation for the commitment Cypress has to its residents, especially those who built this community with their hands and hearts. Whether coordinating with city staff, supporting local events, or simply listening to the needs of our seniors, I have learned that true leadership begins with service and empathy.

Over the years, I have served Cypress both in official and unofficial capacities, from volunteering at community events, supporting our youth programs, and contributing to local initiatives that keep Cypress vibrant and connected. Each opportunity, big or small, has reaffirmed my belief that public service is about putting service above self. Public service is about making decisions not for recognition, but for the good of the community and the neighbors who feel like family.

To me, being appointed as a City Councilmember would be the ultimate honor of my lifetime dedicated to service. I would give my all to this opportunity of being able to give back to a city that has given me so much. I see this role not as a title, but as a responsibility: to listen, collaborate, advocate, and ensure that Cypress continues to be the safe, welcoming, and inviting community that we are all proud to call home.

Cypress is a city with heart, integrity, and a shared commitment to doing what is right for its people. I would be honored to bring my energy, experience, and unwavering belief in the power of community to serve the residents of Cypress. I am ready to work hard, dream big, and continue the legacy of excellence that our city council has consistently maintained to make Cypress not just a great city, but *our* great hometown. To be appointed as the next city council member for the great City of Cypress would be a privilege to serve with integrity, lead with heart, and keep Cypress the place we are all so proud to call home.

Claudia Nessary's Statement of Vision for the City of Cypress

Cypress is more than where we have the good fortune of living; it is a city built on neighborly connection, civic pride, and the shared belief that a thriving community begins with citizens. As a long-time resident of over 25 years and active community servant, I have seen firsthand the strength, generosity, and resilience of our city. It is with that same love and commitment that I seek to serve as a member of the Cypress City Council. As a city councilor, I aim to listen, lead, and preserve the values that make Cypress such a remarkable place to call home.

My vision for Cypress is one rooted in community, safety, growth, and good governance. I believe that government should work *for* its people, not the other way around. Every decision we make as a council should be guided by one simple question, "How will this improve the lives of our residents?" Whether it is ensuring our neighborhoods remain safe and family-friendly, strengthening public trust, supporting our seniors, or responsibly guiding growth and development, I want to make sure Cypress continues to be a model of what a united, forward-thinking, prosperous city looks like.

Keeping Cypress Safe and Strong

Safety is the foundation of any thriving community. Our residents deserve to feel secure in their homes, confident in their schools, and supported by a well-trained, well-equipped police and fire department. I will continue to prioritize community-oriented policies that build relationships between officers and residents, while advocating for programs that emphasize crime prevention and safety education. Public safety is not just about enforcement; it is also about trust. Our work should ensure Cypress residents, from our youngest to our eldest, feel heard, valued, and protected.

A Vision for Responsible Growth

Cypress is a city that honors its history while planning wisely for its future. With California's evolving housing mandates and our city's commitment to meeting state compliance under the 2021–2029 Housing Element, we must ensure that growth happens responsibly. I believe we can meet our housing goals while preserving the charm and integrity of our neighborhoods. That means thoughtful zoning decisions, transparent communication with the community, considering residents input, and ensuring new developments enhance, not overwhelm, our infrastructure, schools, and traffic systems.

The passage of Measure S showed that our community is ready to grow, but we must do so with intention. We must foster a community of engaged and informed voters who turn out to have their voices heard through the ballots they cast. We must balance opportunity with stewardship, and progress with preservation. I envision a Cypress where families can afford to live near where they work, where seniors can comfortably age in peace, and where our next generation sees a bright, stable future in the city they grew up in.

Community First

Community is what makes Cypress special. From the Concerts on the Green and the year-round recreation programs to the warm smiles at the Senior Center, our city thrives because of its people. Having served as a Commissioner for the Cypress Senior Center, I have seen the vital role our programs play in supporting our aging population, fostering friendships, and keeping residents engaged. I want to expand on that by increasing access to intergenerational programs, volunteer opportunities, and partnerships with our schools and local organizations to strengthen the sense of belonging that makes Cypress feel like family to all who live here.

We are at our best when we bring people together and when civic engagement is not just a slogan, but a way of life. I will be a listening ear to champion open communication between residents and city leadership, ensuring transparency in decision-making and accountability in how we serve. Every voice matters, and I believe city government should reflect the values, diversity, and dreams of its residents.

Good Governance and Efficiency

As a taxpayer and informed voter, I understand the importance of efficiency, clarity, and accountability in government. Taxpayer dollars must be spent wisely, city services must be delivered effectively, and public trust must remain at the heart of all we do. I believe in maintaining high standards of professionalism and civility on the City Council, creating an environment where collaboration replaces conflict, and where every council member remains united for a common purpose: serving the people of Cypress.

With the upcoming transition to by-district elections and a new City Manager taking the helm, Cypress stands at an important crossroads. This is our moment to reaffirm who we are and what kind of city we want to be. We can strengthen community trust, foster respectful dialogue, and ensure that every district, every neighborhood, and every citizen feels represented and included in our city's decisions.

A City That Cares, A Council That Listens

Cypress is more than just a city; it is a community that believes in doing things the right way. Cypress is full of heart, integrity, and vision. As a City Councilmember, I will bring not only my experience and leadership but my unwavering commitment to sentiment of *service above self*. This city has given so much to me and my family, and now I want to give back by helping shape a future where Cypress continues to shine as one of the most vibrant, well-run, and community-driven cities in Orange County.

Together, we can continue to build a Cypress that is safe, smart, and strong. Cypress will continue to be a city that grows responsibly, governs efficiently, and never loses sight of its most important asset: its people. Cypress deserves leaders who care deeply and act boldly. I am ready to be the leader who serves, listens, and helps our city continue to thrive for generations to come.

Frances Marquez Ph.D.

[REDACTED]
Cypress CA 90630
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

OBJECTIVE: Appointment to the Cypress City Council where I can employ my local policy, political and field organizing experience to serve the residents of Cypress.

EDUCATION

Claremont Graduate University, Claremont CA, Ph.D. in Political Science,

M. A. in Public Policy

University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, B.A. History, Chancellor's Marshall Award

Universidad de Guadalajara

Guadalajara, Mexico, Summer

Universidad Internacional Mendez y Pelayo

Santander, Spain, Summer

LANGUAGES Fluent in Spanish and American Sign Language

DISSERTATION AND PUBLICATIONS (partial list):

Latino Political Appointees in the Federal Government: An Examination of their Career Paths and Impact on the Policymaking Process from the Kennedy through the Clinton Administrations

"Latino Politics Comes of Age in the Golden State." in Latino Politics and the 2000 Election. eds. Rudy de la Garza and Louis Desipio. Boulder: Westview Press, 2004.

POLITICAL AND POLICY EXPERIENCE

Member, Cypress City Council, December 2020- 2024, Orange County Fire Authority

Board Member 2021, Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency Executive Committee

Member 2024

Served as a watchdog for taxpayers by demanding transparency before voting on spending, whether it be the city budget, the redistricting lawsuit, or trash services.

Organized volunteers during the Covid-19 pandemic to help senior citizens

with online vaccination appointment registration and transportation. Advocated for the County of

Orange to bring a mobile vaccination site to the Los Alamitos Racetrack. Voted to provide

resiliency grants for small businesses and to support entrepreneurs starting home-based

businesses during an unprecedented pandemic. Organized neighbors to halt the building of a

garbage truck fueling stations near an elementary school. Advocated for nearby residents to call

for an investigation when The City of Cypress allowed the dumping of large amounts of trash at

its public works yard. Identified corruption issues in the city's trash contract and educated

residents about it. Voted against a 10-year trash contract extension that increased rates on

residents by 32% and stopped a rate hike during the pandemic. Served as the sole councilmember

to support the transition to district elections to ensure that Asian voters were able to elect

candidates of choice. On November 5, 2024 residents elected Dr. Kyle Chang, the first Asian to serve on the council in over ten years.

Legislative Director, Representative Alan Lowenthal (CA-47), 1/2013 to 12/31/2014 Served as the Legislative Director for Congressman Alan Lowenthal (CA-47 Long Beach). Advised the Congressman on all legislative areas and assisted in the development of policy positions and legislative initiatives and in managing the office's legislative staff. Formulated legislative initiatives for assigned issue areas including: Defense, Veterans, Labor, Trade, Manufacturing, Latinos, Disability, Foreign Affairs Committee work including the Western Hemisphere and Middle East and the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade (TNT). Briefed and staffed Congressman Lowenthal for all Foreign Affairs hearings and classified member meetings. Traveled to the district, the UN Headquarters in New York, Israel and Bahrain for legislative work. Returned to my tenured position as Associate Professor at Gallaudet University in January 2015.

American Political Science Association Congressional Legislative Fellow, Congressman Michael Honda, 1-10/2011 to 8/2012, Served as a legislative assistant, responsible for all immigration, agriculture and some education issues; re-introduced the Reuniting Families and SUCCEED Acts; assisted with drafting an E-Stem bill; wrote op-eds on immigration; prepared the congressman for White House Meetings with President Obama and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Napolitano; drafted briefing memoranda and constituent correspondence; staffed Rep. Honda at events and for votes.

Coordinator for Congressional Relations, Office of the President, Gallaudet University, Fall 2007, Implemented a two-pronged strategy to inform key members of the House of Representatives and Senate regarding the university's progress in meeting the Middle States Commission on Higher Education's requirements. Gathered support to increase Gallaudet University's annual appropriation from Congress for construction re-stabilization efforts for the Modern Secondary School for the Deaf High School (MSSD) and funding for university programs, faculty and staff. Set up and attended meetings with President Davila and Members of Congress.

Director, Masters in Public Administration Program

August 2019 to December 2020, Taught the Legislative Process, counseled and recruited students

Associate Professor of Government, Department of Government and Public Affairs, Gallaudet University, August 2004 to 2024. Taught courses in American Sign Language on National, State and Local Campaigns and Elections, Congress, the Presidency and Public Policy.

Statement

The residents, teachers and leaders of Cypress provided me with a strong foundation for a successful career and I want to continue to ensure that all Cypress residents have every opportunity to raise their families and succeed just like my mother Sally, a bookkeeper and father Frank, a farmer and Korean War Veteran. Despite being segregated as youth, they raised six children who earned 6 bachelors, 7 Masters and two doctorate degrees. I am excited to have the opportunity to return to the city council and carry out work that I was not able to accomplish in my first term. I am a lifelong public servant who started my career as an intern for Congressman Edward R. Roybal as a student at UCLA. He was a humble human being who started his career at the LA County Tuberculosis and Health Organization. He educated residents about tuberculosis in a mobile truck that he drove throughout neighborhoods in East Los Angeles. He taught me that the duty of an elected official is to serve the needs of our constituents and make their lives better. Throughout my career in public service as an Associate Professor of Government and Legislative Director, i helped create more opportunities for students, working families, small businesses, veterans, and seniors.

Elected to the Cypress City Council in November 2020, I wasted no time helping families and small businesses weather the COVID-19 pandemic. I organized volunteers to help senior citizens with online vaccination appointment registration. When families found it challenging to find vaccine sites close to Cypress, I advocated with the County of Orange to bring a mobile vaccination site to the Los Alamitos Racetrack. I voted to provide resiliency grants for small businesses and to support entrepreneurs starting home-based businesses.

As a Cypress City Councilwoman, I used my voice to call for transparency. I was often the sole dissenting voice on the council challenging the status quo and speaking for residents who had long gone unheard. I was the only Council member who voted against a 10-year trash contract extension that increased rates on residents by 32% and stopped a rate hike during the pandemic. I fought for residents and halted the building of a garbage truck fueling station and trash transfer station near a neighborhood and King Elementary School. When the City of Cypress allowed the dumping of large amounts of trash at its public works yard, I advocated for nearby residents and called for the city to stop the practice.

I have been a watchdog for taxpayers by demanding transparency before voting on spending, whether it be the city budget, the redistricting lawsuit, or trash services. I fought to make it easier for residents to access campaign finance disclosures and participate in city council meetings. I would be grateful to have the opportunity to continue serving the wonderful residents of our great city!

My vision for the City of Cypress includes creating more transparency, disability access and inclusion in governance for councilmembers and our residents. My recommendations include the following:

Transparency Policy

Contract Compliance Officer/Purchasing Department

Create an Office of Contract Compliance. Ensure Cypress has a procurement officer who is trained, certified and becomes a member of the California Association of Public Procurement Officials (CAPPO) and the Institute for Public Procurement (IPP). The procurement officer will be tasked with independently vetting businesses and nonprofits applying for a contract or funding from the city. Any contractor doing business with the city and anyone in a position to evaluate, approve, or vote on any contracts should also be required to comply with stricter ethical standards. They should fill out a conflict of interest form when applying for a contract. The compliance/procurement officer or any city staffer must that participates in the selection process must fill out a conflict of interest form. If there is a conflict, the business or city staffer cannot participate in the process. It is the job of the council and contract compliance officer to ensure that the work of contractors be executed in the best interest of our residents and their taxpayer dollars.

Council Meeting Agenda posted for public review ten days before council meetings so members and residents have the opportunity to study/research the issues.

Thorough meeting minutes transcribed and posted so residents can pull and read the meeting transcript. Have it posted on the city website.

Ensure special meetings are in the chamber and recorded.

Ensure special meetings have a written transcript.

Ensure all meeting video recordings are posted on the website

Ensure the Warrants & Register is included in every agenda.

Ensure the city clerk is independent from the city manager.

Disability Access

Expand and improve disability access throughout the city. I have spent my career working with students who have intellectual and physical disabilities. I want to have a review of disability access in the council chamber and throughout the city hall grounds and parking lot. In the chamber during meetings we should have telecast captions so there is full accessibility for the deaf and Hard of Hearing. Moreover, we have seniors who have hearing loss and are missing pieces of the meeting discussion. We should ensure residents have full communication accessibility during the meeting in the chamber, online and on TV.

I take my 92 year old mother Sally to the concerts on the green and have seen that there needs to be some changes in the parking lot for wheelchair accessibility. Moreover, we had a number of people fall while arriving at the concerts this summer. At the last concert, two people had bad falls while entering city hall and were taken away in ambulances. I know we can do better in protecting our residents' safety. I had previously recommended that we have a valet service for the elderly and disabled at our concerts. We could also have a youth volunteer team escort

seniors and families to their seats. We also need a disability analysis of all sidewalks in the city. We have sidewalks that are not wheelchair accessible.

Senior Watch Program

Finally, I want to create a senior watch program or possibly a new position at the Senior Center to have a staffer reach out to seniors if they need support with their care. We have seniors living alone in 2800 square foot homes without anyone monitoring them. Three years ago a man died in the Cypress Village Townhomes and was found more than three weeks after he passed away. We could have a senior census or list of all seniors in Cypress and reach out to everyone individually. This is what I did during the pandemic. My volunteers and I called seniors in Cypress to make sure they were able to register for their vaccinations.

References

Congressman Alan Lowenthal, alan@al.gov, *phone number will be furnished upon request*

Prof. Jean Schroedel. Chair, Department of Politics and Policy, Claremont Graduate University, Retired

170 E. Tenth Street, Claremont, CA 91711

Phone: [REDACTED] E-mail: [REDACTED]

Prof. Fernando Torres-Gil. Retired Associate Dean, U.C.L.A. Luskin School of Public Affairs, 3250 Public Policy Building, Box 951656, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1656. Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Jan Stein, Former Senior Commissioner

[REDACTED]

David Avila, Cypress Resident
DCA Consulting

[REDACTED]

Quintin Bentley

Cypress, CA, [REDACTED]

EDUCATION

California State University, Long Beach
Master of Business Administration
4.0 GPA – Summa Cum Laude

Long Beach, CA
May 2025

Eastern Washington University
Bachelor of Science in Applied Developmental Psychology

Cheney, WA
June 2014

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cypress High School
Special Education Teacher

Various Locations (Seattle, Orange County, Los Angeles County)
October 2014-Present

- Lead classroom and school-based operations across general and special education settings for K–12 students.
- Facilitate Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), co-chaired implementation, and secured \$55K in funding through nonprofit partnerships.
- Developed training materials, authored employee handbooks, and led professional development trainings for 18 staff members.
- Mentor staff and supported school leadership to improve instructional outcomes and operational efficiency.

Associated Students Incorporated at CSULB
Senator, College of Business

Long Beach, CA
May 2024- May 2025

- Served on the Board of Directors for ASI, approved the actions of subsidiary boards, and authorized the appropriation of funds.
- Provided oversight for the \$315M Future U renovation project of the University Student Union (2025–2028).
- Chair the Senate Audit Committee overseeing a multimillion-dollar operational budget review process.
- Developed policy recommendations on academic standards and student well-being impacting 42,000+ stakeholders.

Long Beach Transit
Regulatory Compliance & Civil Rights, Government Relations

Long Beach, CA
August 2024-May 2025

- Lead cross-department compliance programs with legal, operations, and procurement teams to improve organizational efficiency and mitigate risk.
- Audited EEO, DBE, Title VI, and ADA programs to ensure compliance standards for state and federal agencies.
- Analyzed infrastructure and capital investment needs; research grants for zero-emission buses, ferry upgrades, and electrification systems.

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Commissioner, Recreation and Community Services, City of Cypress June 2025-Present
- Board Member, Cypress Community Festival Association January 2024-Present
- Coach (Track & Field, Basketball, Flag Football, Soccer, Hockey, Javelin) May 2009-Present
- Graduate Representative, CSULB Graduate Studies Advisory Committee May 2024-May 2025
- Cypress Citizens Academy April 2023-June 2023

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Operations Strategy | Cross-Functional Collaboration | Budget Management
- Data Analysis | Regulatory Reporting | Stakeholder Engagement
- Certificates: Notary Public, Google Project Management Certificate

AWARDS

- Outstanding Scholar in Business | Emerging Leader | Senator of the Month – February 2025

Contact Information

Quintin Bentley

Email: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cypress, CA 90630

My Voter Status

Personal Information	
First name	QUINTIN
Last name	BENTLEY
Status	ACTIVE
Your preferred language to receive election material is	ENGLISH
Address where you are registered to vote	[REDACTED] CYPRESS 90630
Your political party preference is	DEMOCRATIC
Vote-by-Mail in All Elections	All active registered voters will be mailed a vote-by-mail ballot for every election. If you want to vote in person, you must turn in your vote-by-mail ballot, or you may be required to vote a provisional ballot. You can track the status of your vote-by-mail ballot. Sign up for ballot tracking
You are registered to vote in	ORANGE COUNTY County website: http://www.ocvote.com/ County phone: 714-567-7600

Voters have the option to receive important election information by email. To add or verify your email address please review the [Email Contact Information](#) section below.

To change your voter information, please [re-register to vote](#)

References

- Dr. Miles Nevin – Associate Vice President & Executive Director, Student Auxiliary Enterprises
 - Email: [REDACTED]
 - Phone: [REDACTED]
- Laura Butt – Government Affairs Senior Coordinator at CSULB ASI
 - Email: [REDACTED]
 - Phone: [REDACTED]
- Charan Singh – Finance Professor at CSULB
 - Email: [REDACTED]
 - Phone: [REDACTED]
- Shawn Forsberg – Manager of Operations at Hartwell Corp. (Shawn was a classmate at CSULB)
 - Email: [REDACTED]
 - Phone: [REDACTED]
- Leslie Chavez – Principal at Carl E. Gilbert Elementary School in Buena Park
 - Email: [REDACTED]
 - Phone: [REDACTED]

Qualifications, Experience, Education, and Community Engagement

For over a decade, I've dedicated my life to helping people - whether supporting students in classrooms across multiple cities, mentoring staff through complex workplace challenges, or guiding community programs that strengthen our neighborhoods. This mission has guided every professional and personal decision I've made, often at a financial cost to myself and never for political ambition. Through education, leadership, and service, I've developed the experience, perspective, and dedication needed to contribute meaningfully to our community.

I attended Seattle Lutheran High School, where I received an education grounded in Christian values. I earned a Bachelor of Science in Applied Developmental Psychology from Eastern Washington University and an MBA from California State University, Long Beach, graduating Summa Cum Laude, earning the Emerging Leader Certificate, and receiving the Outstanding Scholar in Business Award. During my MBA program, I was selected to participate in a global business strategy competition amongst the top scoring participants because I achieved the highest Return on Equity (ROE) in the initial round, outperforming over 600 competitors. I went on to finish in the top five, honing my strategic thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills on an international level.

During the 2024–25 academic year, I served as the Senator for the College of Business, representing over 42,000 students. In this role, I helped oversee the \$315 million “Future U” project to renovate the University Student Union and chaired the Senate Audit Committee, leading reviews of multimillion-dollar operational budgets. I authored resolutions advocating public policy reform, mental health inclusion, and academic fairness, including a major overhaul of the university's grade appeal process. For these efforts, I was recognized as Senator of the Month (February 2025).

Over the past decade, I've dedicated my career to public service and education, working with hundreds of students and staff. Beginning in 2017, I took on leadership responsibilities by helping colleagues navigate employee contracts and workplace issues and serving as a mediator between staff and district administrators. I have also written employee handbooks, secured over \$55,000 in donations in a single year through nonprofit partnerships, taught professional development sessions to more than 18 staff members, and helped create a mentorship program for newly hired special education staff. In special education, there's a saying: *when I see a need, I fill a need*. This principle has guided my approach to problem-solving and leadership throughout my career.

Beyond my professional career, I've served as a coach at the high school and middle school levels for track & field, javelin, basketball, soccer, hockey, and girls flag football at Cypress High School. I also organized a book drive that collected 3,400 books for a Title I school in Buena Park, helping ensure that students from under-resourced communities had access to educational materials. I participated in the 2023 Cypress Citizens Academy, gaining insight into city operations, and served as a Board Member for the Cypress Community Festival Association. Most recently, I was appointed Commissioner for Recreation and Community Services, providing firsthand experience with the city's commitment to parks, recreation, and community engagement.

Outside of work and civic service, I completed a 50 km race in October 2025. Training for and finishing such a long-distance event reinforced the values I bring to public service: dedication, discipline, perseverance, and the ability to plan for long-term goals while staying committed through challenges.

Helping others has always been my purpose. Every classroom I've taught in, every committee I've served on, and every initiative I've championed has strengthened my belief that lasting impact begins with listening, learning, and leading by example. I'm proud of the journey that brought me here, and even more excited about the opportunity to continue serving the community.

Statement of Interest in Serving on City Council

My primary motivation for applying to the Cypress City Council is simple: to help people. Every role I've taken - teacher, coach, commissioner, advocate - has centered on improving lives and strengthening the communities I serve. My career in public service, combined with my education in business and leadership, has prepared me to contribute effectively to the continued success of Cypress.

Cypress is a city defined by its sense of community, safety, and opportunity. I want to contribute to maintaining and enhancing these strengths through responsible governance, transparency, and collaboration. My background in public service, education, and compliance has prepared me to thoughtfully evaluate policies, budgets, and programs that impact residents' daily lives. I do not follow political narratives; I am more concerned with doing what is right for the community than with adhering to a party or ideology.

As Senator for the College of Business at CSULB, I listened closely to students' concerns regarding mental health and campus affordability. To address their concerns, I wrote a resolution advocating for addiction services including increased outreach efforts by university staff, overdose reversal drugs, and test strips for people to check if their drink has been spiked. This resolution unanimously passed in the student senate and was well received by the staff at the university. I also helped address student concerns regarding increased student fees for the \$315 million *Future U* capital project by supporting additional grant opportunities, bundled textbook programs, and recommending features that maximize the value of the new student union. Through this experience, I learned that the best representatives show up consistently, engage with their constituents, prepare for difficult conversations, stand by their votes even when unpopular, and know when to change their opinion when new information or perspectives warrant it.

I have also faced moments where leadership required standing alone. On several highly politicized issues, I was the sole opposition vote - even when the chamber was filled with protesters and criticism followed online. Those experiences reinforced my belief that leadership is not about popularity; it is about integrity, preparation, and the courage to do what is right.

I've spent over a decade in public service working with schools, city programs, and community organizations. I currently serve as a Commissioner for Recreation and Community Services and as a Board Member of the Cypress Community Festival Association. These roles have deepened my connection to the people who make Cypress special and strengthened my commitment to give back to the city I love.

As a parent of two young children, I am particularly motivated to ensure that Cypress remains a safe, vibrant, and nurturing place to grow up. I want to help create opportunities for families, maintain high-quality schools and parks, and ensure that city policies reflect the needs of the next generation. My personal investment in the city's future inspires me to make decisions that protect and enhance the quality of life for all residents.

If given the opportunity to serve on the City Council, I want to help shape policies that keep Cypress a valuable and welcoming market for businesses while maintaining the sense of community that defines us. I believe thoughtful leadership, transparency, and collaboration can ensure Cypress continues to thrive, now and for generations to come.

Statement of Visions for Cypress

Cypress is a city that already does many things exceptionally well. Our roads are well-maintained and safe, our parks are vibrant and accessible, and our schools provide top-notch education for our children. Our thriving business community serves as the backbone of the local economy, and our housing market continues to provide stability and opportunity for families. These successes are the foundation upon which we can build a bright future, and they demonstrate that Cypress is a city that values quality, community, and progress.

The best path forward for Cypress is to follow the principle at the heart of our city logo: progress. For me, progress means building on our strengths while making thoughtful, deliberate decisions that ensure long-term prosperity. We must continue to maintain and enhance our infrastructure, support and grow our local businesses, and invest in parks, recreation, and community programs that make Cypress a great place to live and work.

Housing growth must be managed responsibly. Cypress should add new housing in a measured way that supports families and residents without overwhelming our infrastructure or changing the character of our neighborhoods. We must learn from the challenges faced by cities like Seattle and plan carefully to maintain the quality of life that makes Cypress special.

Equally important is planning for the long-term fiscal health of the city. Responsible budgeting, strategic investments, and thoughtful oversight of city resources will ensure that Cypress can continue to provide excellent services, maintain our facilities, and support residents and businesses for generations to come.

Cypress also benefits from a highly engaged community, and that engagement must continue to grow. Residents, business owners, and community organizations bring invaluable insights and energy that strengthen local programs and decision-making. Encouraging civic participation, creating open forums for discussion, and fostering collaboration will ensure that the city remains responsive to the needs of all its residents.

Innovation is another key to sustaining our city's success. By embracing new technologies, environmentally responsible practices, and forward-looking urban planning, Cypress can maintain its competitive edge and continue to attract businesses, families, and talent. Thoughtful integration of innovation will enhance city services, improve quality of life, and position Cypress as a model community in the region.

Public safety is a core priority for a thriving city. I support our police in their efforts to protect residents and maintain order, while also implementing programs that reduce traffic accidents and improve street safety for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists alike. Maintaining safe streets is fundamental to sustaining the quality of life that makes Cypress a desirable place to raise a family.

Finally, the future of Cypress depends on engaged, inclusive, and transparent leadership. I envision a city where decision-making involves collaboration with residents, businesses, and community organizations, ensuring all voices are heard and considered. By fostering strong communication and trust between the city and its residents, we can make decisions that are not only smart and sustainable but also reflect the values and priorities of the people in the community.

My vision for Cypress is a city that remains safe, vibrant, and connected; a city that encourages civic engagement and collaboration; and a city that embraces progress - not as a slogan, but as a guiding principle in every decision we make. By building on what works, planning responsibly for growth, and prioritizing long-term sustainability, we can ensure that Cypress remains a city we are proud to call home.

Rachel Strong

Cypress, California |   |   | 

www.strongdancestudios.com

Objective

Lifelong Cypress resident, small business owner, and children's advocate seeking a seat on the Cypress City Council. Dedicated to fostering a safe, inclusive, and family-centered community through transparent leadership, responsible growth, and active civic engagement.

Public Service & Civic Engagement

Candidate for Cypress City Council — City of Cypress, CA (2020 & 2022 Elections)

- Led community-centered campaigns focused on fiscal responsibility, youth engagement, public safety, and local business support.
- Built strong relationships with residents through outreach events, neighborhood meetings, and volunteer partnerships.
- Advocated for open, transparent communication between city leaders and the community.

Commissioner, Senior Citizens Commission — City of Cypress, CA (2021–2022)

- Collaborated with city staff and fellow commissioners to enhance programs and services for Cypress's senior residents.
- Volunteered at community and senior events, promoting safety, engagement, and well-being among older adults.
- Provided input to strengthen city initiatives related to recreation, accessibility, and community inclusion.

Professional Experience

CEO & Director — Strong Dance Studios, Cypress, CA (2007–Present)

- Founded and manage a thriving local dance studio serving thousands of children and families for over 18 years.
- Focused on building confidence, creativity, and self-expression in youth through performing arts education.
- Developed and implemented a Leadership Development Program to foster peer-to-peer connection, prevent bullying, and build self-esteem.
- Oversee budgeting, staff leadership, curriculum design, and community partnerships.
- Collaborate with schools, nonprofits, and civic organizations to promote arts access and youth empowerment throughout Cypress.

Education

B.A., History & Business Management and Marketing — Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA (1998)

Summer Study Program, Queens College, Oxford University — Full Scholarship

Focus: History, Culture, and International Relations

Skills

- Community Leadership & Advocacy
- Youth Development & Safe-Space Initiatives
- Public Speaking & Civic Engagement
- Budgeting & Small Business Management
- Strategic Planning & Collaboration
- Sense of humor

Rachel Strong

██████████ Cypress, CA 90630

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www.strongdancestudios.com

Rachel Strong – Experience, Qualifications & Community Engagement Summary

Experience

18 years leadership at Strong Dance Studios; coordination and hosting of multiple performances per year with public speaking; youth mentorship and engagement; participation in public forums during campaigns to engage local voters; attendance at City Council meetings.

Qualifications

Business management, community and small business leadership, organizational skills, event planning, public engagement, leadership development, communication skills, financial planning including forecasting and management to stay on budget, allocation of funds and project resources, seeing projects and initiatives from vision to planning to inception to execution to follow through, revision and subsequent generations.

Education

Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles – Dual Major in History and Business Management & Marketing (1998); Summer study program at Queens College, Oxford on full scholarship.

Community Engagement

Service on Cypress Senior Commission (2021–2022); organized citywide Halloween event for children to maintain normalcy during and after the pandemic; membership in Black Student Union promoting inclusion; active community participation through campaigns and public forums.

Rachel Strong

[REDACTED], Cypress, CA 90630

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
www.strongdancestudios.com

Statement of Interest – City Council Vacancy

Dear City Clerk and Members of the Selection Committee,

As a lifelong resident of Cypress, I am honored to submit my interest in the current City Council vacancy for my district. Cypress has been my home nearly all my life, and I have dedicated myself to this community through my professional work, volunteer service, and civic engagement. While I have run for City Council twice before—unsuccessfully, I'll admit—I am hopeful that this appointment presents an opportunity to serve our city in a meaningful way. After all, as my dance students would tell you, persistence and determination are key, “no cap.”

For the past eighteen years, I have owned and directed Strong Dance Studios, where I have helped thousands of local children develop confidence, creativity, and leadership skills through the performing arts. Beyond teaching dance, I coordinate multiple performance events each year, often hosting them with public speaking engagements that connect families and children to our community. I have also fostered leadership development programs that build peer-to-peer connections, prevent bullying, and empower young people to find their voice.

My commitment to Cypress extends into public service. I served on the Cypress Senior Citizens Commission from 2021–2022, attended numerous City Council meetings to stay engaged with local governance, and organized a citywide Halloween event specifically for children to maintain a sense of normalcy during and after the pandemic. Through my campaign experiences and participation in public forums, I have listened to neighbors' concerns and worked to engage local voters in the issues that matter most. Additionally, I am proud to support inclusion and community connection as a member of the Black Student Union.

I believe my background in small business leadership, youth development, and community collaboration equips me to contribute meaningfully to the City Council. My approach is rooted in listening, building consensus, and creating safe, vibrant spaces for all residents of Cypress. I am eager to bring my energy, perspective, and dedication to serve our district and the broader community.

Thank you for considering my statement of interest. I would be honored to continue serving the community I have called home for nearly my entire life, and I promise to bring both dedication—and a sense of humor—to the role.

Warm regards,
Rachel Strong

Rachel Strong

[REDACTED], Cypress, CA 90630

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
www.strongdancestudios.com

Statement of Vision for the City of Cypress

Dear City Clerk and Members of the Selection Committee,

My vision for Cypress is rooted in care, connection, and community. As someone who has lived in this city for nearly my entire life, I have seen firsthand how thoughtful leadership and smart planning make Cypress a wonderful place to live, raise children, and age with dignity. I believe the next chapter for our city should focus on ensuring that both our youngest and oldest residents feel supported, valued, and seen in every decision we make.

For our youth, we need to invest in safe, engaging spaces that keep them active, social, and connected. Continuing the refresh of our public parks and exploring the creation of a safe e-biking space for teens would help fill a major gap in recreation options for this age group. For our seniors, we should prioritize practical, budget-friendly programs that support aging in place—such as assistance for residents building ADUs, or installing elevators and accessible entry ramps in existing homes. These kinds of initiatives improve quality of life and help long-term residents remain active members of the community they love.

Our approach to development and planning should balance progress with purpose. Any new land available for development must meet our state mandate for affordable housing while incorporating opportunities for green space—parks with e-biking jumps and splash pads for young children, walking areas for seniors, and gathering places that bring people together. If retail development becomes viable, I would love to see our city pursue additions such as a movie theatre, high-quality restaurants, and shopping experiences that make Cypress a destination for neighboring communities.

Finally, one of the most important tasks ahead is selecting a city manager who embodies the values and goals of our city—a leader who is competent, trustworthy, resourceful, and capable of balancing the diverse interests of our residents over the next five to fifteen years. The right leadership at the top will ensure that Cypress continues to grow responsibly, compassionately, and sustainably.

I am deeply committed to helping Cypress maintain its small-town warmth while embracing thoughtful progress. Thank you for considering my vision and for your dedication to our community. I would be honored to contribute to shaping the next chapter of Cypress's story as a member of the City Council.

Warm regards,

Rachel Strong

Rachel Strong
5782 Roxbury Court, Cypress, CA 90630
(714) 404-0002 | rachel@strongdancestudios.com
www.strongdancestudios.com

VOTER CERTIFICATION

I, Rachel Strong, certify that I am a registered voter in the City of Cypress, California.

Signature: _____

Date: 10/20/2025

Attach Copy of Voter Registration Card Below:



**ORANGE COUNTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

PO BOX 11298
SANTA ANA, CA 92711-1298

Phone: 714-567-7600

Website: ocvote.gov



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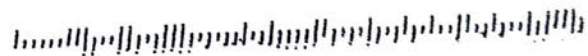
**VOTE EASY.
VOTE SECURE.**

123205

Aimee R Strong

CYPRESS CA 90630-4639

**VOTE IN THE NOVEMBER 4, 2025
STATEWIDE SPECIAL ELECTION**



REFERENCES

George Pardon, Community Advocate & Tax Preparer _____

Sarah Hummel, Co-Founder and Director of Human Resources, Strong Dance Studios _____

Erika Garcia, Senior Information System Analyst, DHHS, and Friend _____

Jaime Needham, Cypress School Board Trustee _____

Rinku Patel, RN Educator and Professional Development Coordinator _____