



# Memorandum

**TO:** Lee Price, City Clerk

**FROM:** Councilmember Madison P. Nguyen

**SUBJECT:** Project Diversity  
Screening Committee

**DATE:** February 26, 2009

*Madison P. Nguyen*

Approved

Date: 2/26/2009

I would like to re-appoint Rick Partridge and submit the following names to be recommended for appointment to the Project Diversity Screening Committee:

**Maria A. Trejo**

**Buu Thai**

**Marina Nolasco**

**Victor Nakamoto**

**Joseph David La Jeunesse**

**Elizabeth Contreras**

cc: Mayor  
City Council

## **MARIA TREJO**

María Trejo received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish, with a minor in English Literature, from San José State University. This summer, she will earn her Masters/PPS Credential in Counselor Education also from SJSU.

Ms. Trejo has been with the East Side Union High School District for nine years, primarily focused on increasing parent involvement through advisory groups. For the past 3 years she has dedicated her time to the Yerba Buena High School Parent Center. Her principal passion has been to increase the achievement level of teens living within the Yerba Buena High School community. Parent and student advocacy, as well as support, are also a daily mission.

As co-founder of Project ROAR, a summer transition program for incoming freshmen considered "at-risk" due to gang involvement, Ms. Trejo has made significant strides in student retention. In addition, Ms. Trejo has served on multiple committees focused on increasing student college-going rates via collaboration with AVID, Cal SOAP, Upward Bound and Migrant Education. She is devoted to the YBHS campus and works vigorously to improve the school's public image by motivating students toward the right track of success, and by keeping parents engaged in their child's education. Ms. Trejo is also a role-model for female college students as an active member of the multicultural sorority, Lambda Sigma Gamma, at SJSU.

## **BUU THAI**

Buu serves as a trustee with Franklin McKinley School Board since 2005. Her past professional experience includes being the Public Affairs Director with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, Division Director of Youth Services with Catholic Charities; Admissions & Records Coordinator at Evergreen Valley College where she served as the liaison between student services and the student body; and the senior field representative with State Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, focusing on a range of issues spanning from business to education.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Buu has served on many other notable commissions and boards including: AIDS Coalition of Silicon Valley, Santa Clara County Commission on the Status of Women, Yu-Ai-Kai Japanese Senior Center, San Jose Mayor's Gang Task Force; Project Cornerstone Steering Committee; and Girls For a Change.

Buu received her BS Degree in Human Development with a minor in Education from University of California, Davis and a Master's Degree in Social Work from San Jose State University.

**MARINA NOLASCO**

I was born in El Salvador, but immigrated to the United States at age 17. I have lived in San Jose since 1980 and in District 7 for 15 years. I was involved in the neighborhood associations for a couple years and I would like to be part of the project diversity screening committee because I want to help be a great city for my kids and grandkids.

## **VICTOR NAKAMOTO**

Retired Analyst from the City of San Jose, Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services Department. Monitored, evaluated, and provided technical assistance to Community Based Organizations and City Departments receiving Federal and General Funds for Community Services Program and Physical Improvement Projects. Worked as a Personnel Administrator for Alum Rock School District, Foothill-DeAnza Community College District and San Jose State University.

Education: Masters Degree in Management from the University of Utah, Bachelors Degree in Personnel Administration from Armstrong University and Associated Arts Degree from Sierra College. Currently, a Board Member of Yu-Ai-Kai and previously served as Board Member to many Community Organizations. Also, served as Board of Trustee for the Alum Rock School District. Married and a long time resident of San Jose.

## **Joe La Jeunesse**

I graduated from Santa Clara High School and went in the Army for ten years after graduating. I spent three years overseas in Germany and served in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1991. I went to Bosnia in 1995-1996 during my second tour of Germany. I left the Army in 1998 and joined the California Army National Guard while attending college. I graduated with an A.S. in Business from Barstow College and a B.S. in Liberal Studies from Excelsior College. I am currently working on an M.S. in Management with Liberty University.

I was called to duty during my senior year of college in 2001 and served in Operation Joint Endeavor and Operation Iraqi Freedom. I have served on the border of California with the National Guard for a year and all over the United States. I have been a deputy for five years in Santa Clara County and have done patrol and court duties. I have been married for six years and have a two year old daughter. My wife Amy is a full time student at Foothill College pursuing a nursing degree and my daughter Alexis is in swim, dance, and gymnastics.

## **Elizabeth Contreras**

I am currently the president of the Seven Trees Neighborhood Group and a small business owner. I would like to have the opportunity to interview applicants of important Boards and Commissions.

It is important to me that I know a little bit about the people that may be making some major decisions for my community.

Please consider me for a position on this committee.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Contreras

# Memorandum

**TO:** Rules and Open Government Committee

**FROM:** Councilmember Nancy Pyle

**SUBJECT:** Project Diversity Screening Committee

**DATE:** March 19, 2009

Approved

*Nancy Pyle*

Date

*3/19/09*

## RECOMMENDATION

I recommend Al Reinig for appointment to the Project Diversity Screening Committee.

## BACKGROUND

Mr. Reinig's experience as a business executive and strong reputation in the community make him an excellent candidate for the Project Diversity Screening Committee.