

# Memorandum

**TO:** RULES COMMITTEE

**FROM:** Norberto Dueñas

**SUBJECT:** NEIGHBORHOODS COMMISSION  
APPOINTMENTS

**DATE:** January 14, 2010

Approved

Date

1/15/10

## RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the following appointments to the City of San Jose's Neighborhoods Commission:

1. James Ramsell to fill a vacancy on the commission for Council District 9;
2. Gerard Roney to serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate on the commission for Council District 9; and
3. Jim Cantore to serve as 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate on the commission for Council District 9.

## BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The purpose of the Neighborhoods Commission is to study, review and evaluate issues, courses of action and policies/programs affecting San Jose neighborhoods, and to make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council and the Redevelopment Agency Board regarding such issues, as set forth in the Commission's Workplan approved by the Mayor and City Council.

The City Attorney's Office routinely reviews applications to City boards and commissions. Although the applications do not provide complete information, they do occasionally disclose potential conflicts of interest or incompatible offices. After review by the City Attorney's Office, the above appointees appear to have no incompatible offices or pervasive conflicts of interest that would interfere with performance of Neighborhoods Commission member duties.

## COORDINATION

This memorandum was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

NORBERTO DUEÑAS  
Deputy City Manager

# Memorandum

**TO:** RULES AND OPEN  
GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

**FROM:** Richard Doyle  
City Attorney

**SUBJECT:** NEIGHBORHOODS  
COMMISSION APPLICANTS

**DATE:** January 11, 2010

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## **BACKGROUND**

This Office routinely reviews applications to City boards and commissions. The applications generally do not provide complete information; however, they do occasionally disclose potential conflicts of interest or incompatible offices. The purpose of this memorandum is to highlight major areas of potential conflict which are disclosed by the applications.

## **COMMISSION DUTIES**

In order to analyze potential conflicts, it is necessary to consider the duties of the particular commission for which the applicant is seeking appointment. The Neighborhoods Commission is an advisory body to the City Council and the City administration. Pursuant to the ordinance creating the Commission on a pilot basis, the Commission will study, review, and evaluate issues, courses of action, and policies/programs affecting San Jose neighborhoods, and make recommendations to the City Council regarding such issues, but only as set forth in the Commission's workplan which must be approved by City Council. The Council has yet to approve a work plan for the Commission and, therefore, it is difficult to analyze the potential conflict with any specificity.

## **APPLICANTS**

**James Ramsell** – Mr. Ramsell's application indicates that he is currently unemployed. His spouse is in Human Resources at El Camino Hospital. His application discloses neither incompatible offices nor apparent conflicts of interest.

**James Cantore** – Mr. Cantore's application indicates that he is the President/Chief Analyst of JCL Associates. He has no spouse. His application discloses neither incompatible offices nor apparent conflicts of interest.

**Gerard Roney** – Mr. Roney's application indicates that he is self-employed as a part-time pro bono attorney. His wife is the Executive Director of Community Partnerships at

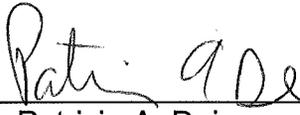
HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
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Lucille Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University. He is currently a Board Member/General Counsel of CREATVSan Jose, and therefore, would have to recuse himself from any Commission action involving CREATVSan Jose. Otherwise, his application discloses neither incompatible offices nor apparent conflicts of interest.

**CONCLUSION**

The applicants do not appear to have any incompatible offices or pervasive conflicts which would prevent them from serving on the Commission. You may wish to consider the above comments in appointing the applicants to serve on the Neighborhoods Commission.

RICHARD DOYLE  
City Attorney

By   
Patricia A. Deignan  
Chief Deputy City Attorney

cc: Debra Figone, City Manager  
Lee Price, MMC, City Clerk