

ABOUT YOU

Please provide your name as it will appear on the ballot: Phil Dolan

What office are you seeking? San jose city council district 3 seat

Are you an incumbent in this office? No

Do you now or have you ever held elected office(s)? *If so, please list title(s), jurisdiction(s), and years in each office.* No

Where's your hometown? San jose

What is your current city of residence? San jose

What is your highest level of education? Some college

What is your current primary vocation/occupation? Knife sharpener salesman

Do you have an arts background of any kind? No

ABOUT YOUR CAMPAIGN

Please share your candidate statement as it will appear in voting materials. (approx. 200 words)

I'm a self funded candidate. And I don't have the thousands of dollars it would take for a statement.

What is your campaign budget? 0

How much have you raised to date? *Please specify if you have loaned or contributed any personal funds to your campaign and how much.* 0

How many doors have you personally knocked to date? How many are you committed to knocking before Election Day? Thousands 15,000

ABOUT THE ARTS

What is your perception of the current state of arts and culture in San José? (250 words)

I don't really know too much about the arts culture in san jose. I do agree we do need more arts and culture in our beloved downtown. I love when I'm delivering downtown in San Jose at night. The city seems to come alive. When I deliver by the sonic runway, I always stop. Look, even take pictures. It's pretty cool. I look at other big cities nationwide and around the world. I think just maybe one day we will have some type art or sculpture that is iconic to san jose and that the rest of the world will admire. As a city councilman I think that is our job to help bring more arts and culture into the core of downtown for the community and families to share upon in our great city

How would you define the role of arts and culture in San José's economy? (250 words)

San Jose in hole. It's a very business city. In my lifetime, I don't see too many people running into downtown or talking about going to downtown San Jose to look at the arts and culture. I do hear, and I have heard people talk about Santa Cruz and San Francisco, even Berkeley or Oakland. As a city councilman and district three I would totally be open to arts and culture. Hopefully, one day, when people talk about arts and culture like they do San Francisco Santa Cruz Berkeley, they will be saying, wow, San Jose is the great hidden gem of arts and culture in the Bay Area.

Were you familiar with SJAA before receiving this survey? No

If yes to the above, are you familiar with our current policy priorities? I wasn't familiar with SJAA.

ABOUT OUR PRIORITIES

Would you support reallocating the current 40% General Fund set aside from the Transient Occupancy Tax (aka TOT or Hotel Tax) to arts, culture, and tourism programs? Why or why not?

I haven't seen the budget and I can't promise nor can I guarantee that. I would like to look at the budget and prioritize things before I promise anything. As a councilman, it is my job to be fiscally responsible for that of district three. After all, it is not my money, it is the people's money. I can promise you, though, if we do balance a budget.

We can definitely look at putting aside money for arts, culture and parks for city residents and their families to enjoy.

As an alternative to reallocation, will you support setting FY25 as the baseline for General Fund revenue from TOT and dedicating net new TOT revenue in FY26 and beyond to arts, culture, and tourism programs? Why or why not?

I've said this once and I'll say it again. I could not promise nor can I guarantee anything in a budget. I need to be fiscally responsible with district three's allotted money and the general fund for the city of San Jose. Once the bills are paid, then we can turn to programs like arts and culture.

Will you support efforts to fund updates to the City's Cultural Plan and Public Art Master Plan, both of which expired several years ago? How would you do this?

I'm not too familiar with the public art master plan. And I do not see a downside to having public art. I mean we have public art displayed in downtown in front of city hall on display everyday, it's pretty awesome. I can only imagine if we had more art and culture as people roamed the city. As city councilor I would be delighted to sit down with artists and listen to their plans on how they would like to transform downtown San Jose with art. If everybody can come to some consensus, I think then we can bring other city councilors in and try to make this dream a reality.

Will you commit to ensuring local creatives, arts practitioners, and culture bearers are centered in the planning, marketing, and execution of all arts and cultural activities related to major sporting events such as the Super Bowl and FIFA World Cup?

Yes

OPEN FORUM

What are some other ideas you have for increasing City support for arts and culture?

If we can put more art and culture into downtown, we can have an art/wine walk. Or have there own self guided art and culture, walk around downtown san jose. They would have a map on their phone at certain places they could earn tokens or badges. The way they could earn the token or badge is by taking pictures of historic sites or buildings make it like a fun little game. They could learn a lot about the city of san jose

What do you wish we had asked but didn't?

Do you agree! You will pledge and promise that when you become city councilman, that you will fight to make law in san jose, that when anybody runs for a san jose city council position that they must be one hundred percent self funded with a cap of no more than 30,000 dollars. And they may not take one cent from anybody but themselves. Signed Philip Dolan