

Candidate Name:
Jonathan Mansoori

- I plan to attend the September 19 Meet and Greet at the Library.
- I am submitting the questionnaire and would appreciate receiving NUFF's endorsement upon approval of the membership.
- I do not plan to attend the September 19 Meet and Greet at the Library
- I do not plan to request NUFF's endorsement so I am not responding to the questions below.

NEIGHBORS UNITED FOR FULLERTON CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Space provided is not intended to limit the length of your response; use the space you need.

1. What is your vision for Fullerton?

My ultimate vision is to unite the city around our diversity, our values, our strengths, to usher in a new government that is more accountable to all communities. A government that is aggressively innovative on how we identify and solve issues. Together we can create a Fullerton that more and more people can live, work, and study in.

There are five areas that our City Council can improve upon to help the community of Fullerton. I am confident that together we can create a plan based upon building relationships. These relationships within the council will then extend to the community, bringing a coalition of diverse yet impactful entities to plan our long term course of action. Using our large diverse community base, we can help the council to better understand the issues felt within our community. Together we can accomplish authentic progress in the community that we all care about. My vision is to usher in a new era of government that moves our beautiful and richly diverse city towards progress by focusing on our education and youth development, economic prosperity, urban planning, innovation, and an efficient government.

2. Why are you running and what impact do you think you will have, if elected?

I am a community organizer and former teacher that is dedicated to bringing the community's voices together and to secure better opportunities for our children. Born and raised in North Orange County, I worked my way through University of California in Riverside, and later Loyola Marymount University--with the help of financial aid and student loans. I began teaching middle school science upon graduation. I firmly believed that providing a quality STEM education is critical to my vision: all students are given the opportunity to receive an excellent education. As a community organizer, I worked with parents and schools to gather stories about local issues. It was then I led a successful community-driven campaign to fight for more funding to make sure students could walk to school safely. Throughout my life, I have been committed to public service and fighting for others, especially children and families. It's through this commitment that I realized we are better off together.

I'm running for City Council to usher in a new era of government that is accountable to all communities in Fullerton, innovative in how we identify and solve our city's problems, and builds a city that more people want to live, work, and study. I believe that we can do this together, with the right ideas, the right passion, the right people, we can take this city in a new direction. And as a community organizer and former teacher, I will continue to build better opportunities and outcomes for our children, our families, and our communities.

3. What do you hope to accomplish?

As I mentioned earlier, there are five areas that I will focus on when elected, three of which I will go into more detail:

Urban Planning, Transportations, and Infrastructure -- From schools, to businesses, to residences, and all of the needs in between the community is rapidly changing and growing. These changes bring up a few major concerns of safety and sustainability. I am confident that addressing urban planning, transportation, and infrastructure is a way to demonstrate my vision of unifying our city. A vision of moving our city towards being a model for an innovative and modern municipal government keeping the community as the main focus. That means addressing the conditions of our roads, streets, and sidewalks immediately with a long-term strategy that's sustainable. That means bringing diverse stakeholders together to make sure we are building development with a long-term strategy that is responsible, affordable, and sustainable.

Community Prosperity -- There are three specific issues our campaign is addressing to make sure we are focused on the economic prosperity of our community. One is our housing and development issue within the city. I firmly believe that in order to have growth and affordability in our local economy, we must have long-term, responsible development plans -- one that is community-centered and forward looking. The second is our vision for our small and local businesses. Here are the ways that I can see the city council supporting the workplace and businesses within our community. (1) Seeking innovative ways to balance the budget and create revenue will be a priority by diversifying our portfolio. (2) Focus on incorporating renewable energy portfolio standards into how we power the city of Fullerton. (3) Investing in entrepreneurship by identifying the barriers to entry in the market and creating incentives for small businesses within our community to attract more local businesses. I believe in supporting innovative markets through incentivizing the use of new technology within business and welcoming new businesses and insulating the market against a networked codependent situation.

Efficient Government -- Transparency should be a core pillar of our city. Transparency can allow for increased communication between the various voices of our community. I believe there needs to be more voices involved in city politics. Approaching government efficiency means integrating bottom up organization, where the support needs of the workers, clerks, and community is taken into account and addressed. Efficient government and transparency is all about effective communication. An important strategy is creating new spaces to collect information. These spaces are where residents and community members can become informed without feeling intimidated. I believe that outlining policy initiatives in person and online that are easily understood is an important first step towards an efficient government that encourages civic participation.

4. Please share your thoughts on the following:

a. Fullerton's Parks

The city parks and green space can be improved by ensuring all spaces are similarly well kept. The outdoor spaces need to be suited to community needs and climate appropriate. Fullerton is an active city and I believe that supporting an active lifestyle should be a key priority that the city council is invested in.

b. West Coyote Hills (development, Measure W results and city response)

Although the council has made a public decision on the Coyote Hills issues, I am adamantly supportive to keep the area preserved. If it were to come before Council again, I will continue to support preservation.

c. Development Policies

In collaboration with the community, the Council has a key role in making development decisions. We are experiencing a lack of housing, particularly that which are affordable, and we must make sure we are developing responsibly. I believe that if we are to be pro-affordable housing and pro-environmental sustainability, we must accept responsible development with access to transit. This means working with the community to identify concerns, and collaborating with developers on strict design and efficiency standards.

d. District Voting

I have publically supported the campaign to move towards district voting and the community-driven map 2B. This is the only option that is fair, equitably, and able to move our city towards diverse representation.

e. "Surplus" Property, the Hunt Library, etc.

I believe it is important for our community and children to have access to resources our city has to offer that is accessible. The Hunt Library is a beautiful part of our city that deserves to be funded, and we can find innovative solutions to fund the use of the library.

5. Is there anything you would like to add?

Our website has a comprehensive platform on the vision for Fullerton. I believe with this plan, we can build a healthier, safer, and stronger Fullerton for all communities to enjoy.