

Form Name:  
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Boards and Commissions Application  
1337947479

Date Received: 4/24/25  
Voter registration verified:  
On: N/A  
By: MH

Harini Jambunathan  
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## Applicant Information

Name	Harini JAMBUNATHAN
Are you a Sunnyvale resident?	Yes
How long have you lived in Sunnyvale?	12 years
Description Area	Residence Notice:Unless otherwise noted, your principal place of residence must be in Sunnyvale. You must live in Sunnyvale at the time of appointment and at all times during service on a board or commission.
Current Main Residence	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Are you currently a registered voter in Sunnyvale?	No
Have you ever served on a City of Sunnyvale board or commission?	No
Have you attended a meeting of the City Council, or a board or commission?	Yes
Briefly describe what you learned by watching or attending a meeting of the City Council, board or commission. What improvements would you suggest?	I have attended Board of Education of SEDS. I have learnt that being receptive to comments of the public while also being cognizant of limitations from board and commentator side helps in better problem and conflict resolution. It also helps in following-up after a board meeting in case your comments or questions were not addressed during the meeting.
Have you attended meetings of the board(s) or commission(s) for which you are applying?	Yes
How many meetings have you attended?	I have followed their agenda and meeting notes offline.

## Board or Commission Selection

First Choice	Housing and Human Services Commission
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<b>Apply for another board or commission?1</b>	Yes
<b>Second Choice</b>	Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission
<b>Apply for another board or commission?2</b>	Yes
<b>Third Choice</b>	Arts Commission
<b>Apply for another board or commission?3</b>	Yes
<b>Fourth Choice</b>	Sustainability Commission

**Applicant Qualifications**

**What motivated you to apply for this board or commission?**

I am fortunate to call Sunnyvale my home for the last 12 +years. I have loved how Sunnyvale has evolved from being one of the most progressive and sustainability and equity focused city. It would be a great privilege to serve my city and give back to my community. I am deeply inspired by our Mayor and City officials for their commitment and relentless work to keep Sunnyvale the way it is.

**Motivation to apply for Housing and Human Services:**

As a Business Intelligence Specialist with the State of California's Housing Department, I've seen firsthand how data-driven solutions can support housing policy and improve quality of life. I'm passionate about making housing more accessible and equitable, and I want to bring that perspective to Sunnyvale. Joining the Housing and Human Services Board would allow me to contribute locally by applying my analytical skills and policy insight to real community challenges, particularly in areas like affordable housing, homelessness, and health services integration.

**Motivation to apply for Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission:**

I've always believed that walkable and bike-friendly communities are essential to public health, environmental sustainability, and quality of life. Professionally, I work with the State of California's Housing Department as a Business Intelligence Specialist, where I often see how transportation and infrastructure planning intersect with housing policy. On a personal level, my 3-year-old son recently started riding a pedal bike, and it's inspired me to envision a city where children and families can safely bike and walk as part of daily life. I'm motivated to apply for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Board because I want to help shape a more connected, safe, and accessible Sunnyvale-one where people of all ages can move around confidently and sustainably. I'd be honored to contribute data-informed insights and a family-focused perspective to this work.

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**What skills or attributes can you bring to this board or commission?**

As a Data Scientist and working as a Senior Engineer at Intel and Broadcom - I am keen on data-driven insights and effectively using technological tools to make informed decisions. Having observed the trend and various factors in homelessness and working with state data has helped me understand the intricacies/factors for homelessness. I have created CoC (Care of Continuum) and public facing dashboard to understand how state funding are tracked and utilized across various counties to serve their unhoused populations as below;  
HDIS Dashboard: <https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/calich/hdis.html>  
HHAP Dashboard:  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/california.business.consumer.services.and.housing.agency/viz/HHAPReport/Overview>

**The primary role of a board or commission member is to provide advice to City Council on policy issues that are within the scope of the board or commission. What steps would you take to effectively exercise this specific board or commission role?**

To effectively advise the City Council, I would take a thoughtful, data-informed, and community-centered approach. First, I would invest time in understanding the scope and priorities of the board by reviewing past meeting materials, current initiatives, and relevant City policies. I would also stay informed on best practices and trends-whether related to housing, health services, or sustainable transportation-that could inform our recommendations.

Second, I would listen actively to community members, stakeholders, and fellow board members to ensure diverse perspectives are considered. My professional background as a Business Intelligence Specialist has taught me the value of using both quantitative data and qualitative feedback to inform policy decisions.

Finally, I would collaborate constructively with the board and city staff to develop clear, actionable recommendations that align with Sunnyvale's broader goals. My aim would always be to bring thoughtful analysis and a commitment to equity and livability in service of the community.

**Education - List college degrees, majors and any relevant training or experience that demonstrates your ability to effectively serve on this board or commission.**

Business Intelligence Specialist - California Interagency Council on Homelessness. 2021- Present  
Data Analyst - Cal Trans - 2020-2021  
Career Track in Data Science - 2020 - Springboard  
Masters in Electrical Engineering, VLSI - 2009-2011 - University of Minnesota.  
Bachelors in Technology, Electrical and Electronics Engineering - 2005-2009 - SRM University

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/harinij/>

**Describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations.**

I served as president of Intel India Community Services from 2011-2015. As a part of the community I have organized and supported various arts and cultural festivals events, disaster relief fund raisers.

As a volunteer I initiated various fund raising activities and community services for local non-profit organizations in Folsom, namely FMSC(Feed my starving children), Salvation Army, Women Empowerment Organization.

I have volunteered as tutor for high school children that needed help in Math and science in schools such as Edward Markham Elementary/Middle school and Folsom high schools. 2011-2014. As a yoga facilitator I have organized close to 25 meditation sessions at workplace and community.

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**Description Area**

The City has a Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials and an Attendance Policy (7.2.19), 2 G (II) that appointed members are required to follow.

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**Do you have any concerns related to the above code and policy?**

No

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**Are you willing to accept a temporary appointment for the remainder of an unexpired term?**

Yes

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**Board or Commission-Specific Questions**

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**Arts Commission**

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**What role do you think public art plays in a city?**

Public art enriches a city by adding character, beauty, and a sense of identity to public spaces. It fosters community pride, reflects cultural diversity, and invites people to connect with their environment in a meaningful way. I see it as an essential part of building vibrant, inclusive, and livable neighborhoods.

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**How might the City strengthen art programs in the community?**

As a parent, I see how powerful art can be in sparking creativity and connection from a young age. The City could strengthen art programs by creating more family-friendly opportunities-like community art days, mural projects kids can contribute to, or pop-up exhibits in parks and libraries. Partnering with schools, local artists, and cultural groups can also make art more accessible and reflective of our city's diversity. These kinds of programs don't just beautify the city-they help build a stronger, more connected community.

**The Sunnyvale Public Art collection includes sculptures and other physical art. As an Arts Commissioner, how would you prioritize the inclusion of visual, literary, interactive and performing arts to embody the cultures of our diverse community?**

As an Arts Commissioner, I would prioritize a balanced, community-driven approach to include a variety of art forms that reflect the diverse cultures of Sunnyvale. This means not only expanding the public art collection with sculptures and physical art but also incorporating visual arts, literary works, and interactive or performing arts. By hosting community workshops, performances, and exhibitions that invite participation from all age groups and cultural backgrounds, we can create spaces where people feel represented and empowered. Collaborating with local artists, cultural organizations, and schools would ensure that these art forms truly resonate with the community and reflect its richness and diversity.

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission**

**Category One: I am a bicyclist or pedestrian residing in Sunnyvale.** Yes

**Like many Santa Clara County cities, Sunnyvale is faced with problems stemming from traffic congestion and air pollution. Suggest ways the City can improve facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians. Also, how might the City improve education and safety programs for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians?**

To improve facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians, the City could invest in more protected bike lanes, expand bike-sharing programs, and ensure safe, well-lit pedestrian paths-especially near schools, parks, and libraries. Personally, my 3-year-old son rides his pedal bike with his dad every weekend to visit our local park, library, and city events, and I envision a future where kids like him can ride safely and confidently around Sunnyvale. Expanding safe biking infrastructure would make this vision a reality for future generations of young riders.

Incentives, like discounts for bike rentals, bike-to-work programs, or rewards for using sustainable transportation, could also encourage more residents to choose biking over driving. These programs would make biking more accessible and appealing, especially for families and commuters.

In terms of education and safety, I would recommend citywide awareness campaigns focusing on safe practices for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. This could include school programs, safety workshops, and partnerships with local businesses to promote awareness. I'd love to see more events that encourage families to bike together, helping to cultivate a culture of safety and love for biking in the community.

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**Description Area**

View the Active Transportation Plan

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**Have you read the Active Transportation Plan?**

Yes

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**What are your thoughts on the Active Transportation Plan?**

I strongly support the Active Transportation Plan as it aligns with my vision for a more connected, sustainable, and accessible Sunnyvale. As a parent who regularly bikes with my 3-year-old, I understand how important it is to have safe, convenient options for walking and biking. The plan's focus on improving infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists is crucial to reducing traffic congestion, promoting public health, and creating a more livable city. I believe that by prioritizing active transportation, the City can help make biking and walking safe, enjoyable, and practical for everyone, from young families to commuters.

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**Description Area**

View the Vision Zero Plan

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**Have you read the Vision Zero Plan?**

Yes

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**What are your thoughts on the Vision Zero Plan?**

I fully support the Vision Zero Plan, as it aims to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries, which is critical to creating a safer and more inclusive city for everyone. As a parent, I want to ensure that my son-and all children in Sunnyvale-can safely bike, walk, and explore their community without fear of harm. Vision Zero's focus on improving infrastructure, traffic safety, and education aligns perfectly with my vision for a city that prioritizes the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers alike. By adopting this plan, the City can create a culture of safety that fosters greater confidence in active transportation for all residents.

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**Housing and Human Services Commission****Evaluate the quality and adequacy of the housing programs that serve the Sunnyvale community.**

Sunnyvale has made significant progress in providing affordable housing through programs like Below Market Rate (BMR) rentals and the Affordable Rental Units (ARU) program. These initiatives help lower-income residents, but more units are needed to meet growing demand, and streamlining the application process could improve accessibility.

The city's commitment to permanent supportive housing, like the Ira D. Hall Square project, is commendable in supporting vulnerable populations. Additionally, the BMR Home Ownership Program offers valuable opportunities for lower-income families to purchase homes, though increased outreach could boost participation.

The city's Housing Element Plan aims to add nearly 12,000 new homes by 2031, including affordable options, which demonstrates a forward-thinking approach. As a parent, I envision a Sunnyvale where diverse housing options are available to families, fostering a thriving, inclusive community.

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**Evaluate the quality and availability of the human services programs that serve the Sunnyvale community.**

Sunnyvale Community Services (SCS) provides vital support to low-income residents, offering emergency financial aid, food assistance, and case management. Their programs-such as rent and utility help, food distributions, and school supplies-are highly rated and essential in preventing homelessness and stabilizing families.

As a regular donor to SCS, I've seen firsthand the positive impact they have on our community. While SCS is effective, continued expansion and collaboration with local partners would help meet the growing demand for services. Strengthening these programs will further support Sunnyvale's most vulnerable populations.

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**Share your thoughts on how the City might better improve housing affordability, prevent displacement and serve our unhoused residents.**

To improve housing affordability, the City could prioritize the development of more affordable housing units, including increasing the number of Below Market Rate (BMR) units and expanding incentives for developers to build affordable homes. Streamlining the permitting process and exploring land use reforms could help accelerate the development of these projects.

To prevent displacement, the City could strengthen tenant protection laws, provide more rental assistance programs, and ensure that affordable housing is preserved as new developments are built. Rent control policies, combined with outreach and support for at-risk tenants, could also help prevent displacement.

For our unhoused residents, the City should continue to expand permanent supportive housing, improve access to emergency shelters, and provide comprehensive services that include mental health and addiction support. Collaborating with nonprofits, offering more transitional housing options, and improving outreach services would ensure that unhoused individuals are connected to the resources they need to regain stability.

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**Description Area**

View Unhoused Community Support

**Have you read Unhoused Community Support?**

Yes

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**What are your thoughts on Sunnyvale's support for the unhoused community?**

Sunnyvale has taken significant steps to support its unhoused community, including emergency housing programs like temporary hotel placements during cold weather and outreach services provided by WeHOPE. The city has also allocated nearly \$30 million to fund 600 new affordable housing units, aiming to provide long-term stability for unhoused residents. Additionally, the Safe RV Parking Program offers a safe alternative for those living in vehicles.

While these efforts are promising, ongoing investment and expansion of services are needed to address the complex issue of homelessness and ensure sustainable solutions.

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**Sustainability Commission**

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**Category One: I'm a Sunnyvale resident.**

Yes

**Sustainability is a new and emerging concern in many communities. What do you think are the primary sustainability policy issues this commission will be addressing over the next few years?**

Over the next few years, I believe the commission will focus on key sustainability issues such as reducing carbon emissions, improving energy efficiency, and promoting green building practices. Addressing climate change will likely include policies for renewable energy integration and the development of more sustainable transportation options, such as expanding bike lanes and improving public transit. Water conservation and waste reduction will also be critical, especially as urban populations grow. Additionally, the commission may focus on enhancing green spaces and ensuring that sustainability efforts are equitable, ensuring all residents have access to clean, safe, and affordable environments.

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**Description Area**[View the Climate Action Playbook](#)**Have you read the above version of the Climate Action Playbook?**

Yes

**What are your thoughts on the Playbook? How might the actions ("Plays") be improved?**

The Playbook offers a strong framework for city initiatives, but to improve it, I suggest focusing more on community engagement during the planning phase to ensure the actions reflect diverse needs. Strengthening interdepartmental collaboration, setting clear goals, and tracking progress will also improve implementation. Lastly, prioritizing inclusivity will ensure that all residents benefit from these actions.

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**Fair Political Practices Commission Statement of Economic Interests**

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**Description Area**

If you are appointed to the Arts Commission, Heritage Preservation Commission, Housing and Human Services Commission or the Planning Commission, you must electronically file the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700), which will be a public record. Statement of Economic Interests - Form 700 Understanding of Filing Requirement&nbsp;I understand and agree that if I'm appointed to the Arts Commission, Heritage Preservation Commission, Housing and Human Services Commission or Planning Commission I must electronically file the Fair Political Practices Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700). This form reports my economic interests and those of my spouse or domestic partner, if applicable. I understand this will be a public record.

**Radio Button**

Yes

**Demographic Information****Your age****Your gender****Description Area****Race or Ethnicity (select all that apply)****Do you speak a language other than English?****Which languages?****Household Income****Residence - Are you a****Do you live in a****Your Agreement**

**Description Area**

IMPORTANT NOTICE – READ BEFORE SIGNING:By selecting both “Yes” and “Submit Form” below I am adding my digital signature to this application. I am also agreeing with the following statements:All statements I have made on this application are true and correct.I authorize the City of Sunnyvale (City) to investigate the accuracy of this information.I release the City from all claims and liabilities arising from such investigation.I acknowledge that any false statement on this application will be grounds for the City to deny my appointment. A false statement discovered later, will be grounds to dismiss me from my appointment at any time.I acknowledge that any false statement on this application could lead to criminal charges. Charges could fall under California Penal Code, Section 115 or other applicable law.

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**I agree**

Yes

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**Your full name**

Harini JAMBUNATHAN

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**Date**Apr 24, 2025

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