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November 1, 2021

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council Colleagues,

It is with great sorrow that I submit my formal letter of resignation with a resignation date of November 14, 2021 from my role as the Sunnyvale City Councilmember for at-large Seat 3.

I have been appointed by California Governor Gavin Newsom to serve as his Deputy Director of External Affairs for all of Northern California, and I will be resigning to avoid any potential and perceived conflict of interest. This news is bittersweet as I will not be able to serve in decision making matters as a City Councilmember, however, I will be able to serve Sunnyvale at the statewide level, elevating those issues dear to Sunnyvale to the Office of the Governor. In this new role, I will serve as the Governor's liaison to Northern California communities helping to communicate and translate their priorities into action.

It has been my great honor and privilege to serve Sunnyvale for the past three years helping to address issues relating to housing affordability, climate action, transportation, financial sustainability, equity, smart cities and so much more. In just three short years, I have been privileged to have led the efforts with the support of my colleagues on several efforts including but not limited to:

- Adding as a Citywide Council Strategic Priority: Equity, Access & Inclusion, and hiring a full time Equity, Access & Inclusion, Manager to craft a citywide equity strategy
- Establishing the Sunnyvale Cares Program to fundraise over \$3 million in financial relief funds to Sunnyvale small businesses and nonprofits suffering from economic hardships related to the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Adding to the approved Downtown Sunnyvale Cityline project both a community space free of rental costs for qualified community organizations as well as 3 months of VTA Transit passes for Below Market Rate tenants
- Hiring a consultant to establish a formal smart cities initiative, utilizing technology to improve the quality of life for Sunnyvale residents and businesses
- Studying a potential up to 20,000 new housing units and 500,000 sq ft of commercial/retail space in Moffett Park, which would help to address the jobs to housing ratio within the economic core of the city while also leading to increased revenue
- Working towards increased access to public transit as Sunnyvale's representative on the VTA Policy Advisory Committee

Larry Klein  
Mayor

Glenn Hendricks  
Vice Mayor

Gustav Larsson  
Councilmember

Russ Melton  
Councilmember

Mason Fong  
Councilmember

Alysa Cisneros  
Councilmember

Omar Din  
Councilmember

- Studying how best to address workforce development initiatives by the City to develop the next generation of public service employees through hiring programs with local high school and college students

Although there are many future projects and policies that I will not be able to vote on, I leave with the utmost confidence in my Council colleagues to ensure Sunnyvale continues to strive towards a livable city, accessible to all. I also have confidence that the Council will do what is best for the voters of Sunnyvale in determining whether to appoint a replacement for my seat or call for a special election. I leave the Council thankful to the past Charter Review Commission and City Council who created the draft language for Measure L in 2018 that the voters ultimately passed with over 71% of the vote, creating a pathway to an appointment process of a Council vacancy that can avoid a costly special election.

I wish my colleagues the best, and I look forward to serving Sunnyvale in my new capacity in the Governor's Office of External Affairs.

Sincerely,



Mason R. Fong

CC: City Manager Kent Steffens  
City Attorney John Nagel  
Sunnyvale Community Members