

Jim Beall for Assembly

In November 1980, Jim Beall became the youngest person ever elected to the San Jose City Council. Quickly recognized as one of Northern California's leading voices for improved transportation, Jim was re-elected without opposition in 1982, 1986, and 1990.

Soon after joining the Council, Jim helped bring light rail to San Jose, participating in the creation of the Light Rail Master Plan and overseeing the construction of the Guadalupe Corridor light rail program, 21 miles of light rail in San Jose which was completed in 1990. Since 1985, Jim has served as a member--and is currently Chair--of the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority. The Traffic Authority governs the Measure A 1/2 cent sales tax program, which supports local highway construction and improvement with \$1.1 billion in revenues. Under Jim's leadership, the Traffic Authority is currently on time and under budget in completing 14 miles of new freeway on Highway 85, the widening of Highway 101 to eight lanes, and improvements to Highway 237.

Jim has also represented San Jose in numerous regional, statewide and national transportation committees, including serving as chair of the League of California Cities' Transportation and Public Works Committee and the National League of Cities' Transportation and Communication Committee.

In addition to his leadership in resolving Santa Clara County's transportation crisis, Jim has doubled the parks and recreation facilities in his Council district. He has expanded Cambrian Library by 50%. And he has significantly expanded child care opportunities and programs for senior citizens.

Jim's Council commitments include service as the Chair of the Community Development Block Grant Steering committee, the Redevelopment Agency Board, and the Police Athletic League Board. Jim also served as Co-Chair of the San Jose Child Care Task Force, and is the City Council liaison to the Child Care Commission.

Jim has been honored for his public service by numerous community groups, including the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Next Door Agency, Santa Clara County's Outreach and Escort Service, and the Santa Clara County Central Labor Council.

Jim is a lifelong resident of Santa Clara County. He was graduated from Bellarmine Prep and San Jose State University (B.A., Political Science), where he also took graduate courses in urban planning and public finance. Prior to his election to the City Council, Jim served two terms on the San Jose Planning Commission and worked as an urban planner for Los Gatos and Santa Cruz.

He and his wife Pat live in San Jose. Jim's family includes his stepsons Greg and Mark.