

Thank you for your interest in applying for the appointment position of District 2 City Councilmember. Please complete the form in full, including the corresponding supplemental questionnaire.

Applications are due by January 20, 2021 by 6 p.m.

If completing the form by hand, please print clearly. Please submit your complete application to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall or by email:

DROP OFF: Office of the City Clerk, 300 W. Third Street, 4th Floor, Oxnard CA 93030

EMAIL: cityclerk@oxnard.org

For questions about the application, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (805) 385-7803 or via email at cityclerk@oxnard.org.

SECTION I: CRITERIA

Name: PEDRO A CHAVEZ **Date of Birth:** [REDACTED]

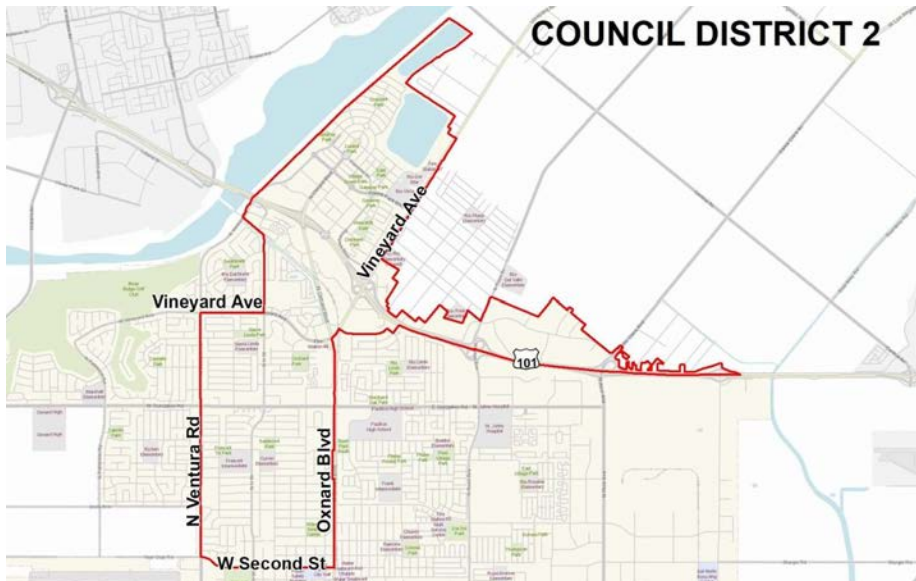
Address and Zip Code: [REDACTED] 93030

[REDACTED] 93030

Registered Voter: Yes No **Email Address:** [REDACTED]

Council District No.: 2 * (View online at <https://arcg.is/jDP>. A District map is also included below.)

** Appointment candidates must live in District 2.*



SECTION II: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Please describe your community activities in which you are or have been engaged in Oxnard. Include the organization, your role, a brief description of your activities, and your dates of participation:

Pedro A Chavez's passion for community service and civic engagement stems directly from his experience as an immigrant. He was raised by a single-mom with principle-centered values that encouraged a strong work ethic and a determination to become independent and self-sufficient. He believes that the measure of success is not based on what you have but on what you give. That is why he is a living example of what the American dream is all about.

From an incredibly young age, I expressed a passion for service and I have always found ways to give back to my community. Whether I learned the value of service as a youth in Boys Scouts (Elementary), California Cadet Corp (Middle School), or Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (High School) or those I learned by serving as a student government president and student trustee (College) during my formative years— community service has most definitely helped shape my character and is a profound part of my DNA.

Since 2007, I focused my time and energies by creating programs and services that impacted the lives of children and youth from those in grade school to those heading into college and/or entering the workforce. In later years, I shifted my focus to issues of affordable housing and sustainable homeownership as I believe that becoming a homeowner is the cornerstone of building wealth and creating economic stability for working families.

I believe in giving my time and treasure by inspiring philanthropy and serving as a champion for community service and civic engagement initiatives locally. I am honored and humbled to share with you the following collective accomplishments that helped improve the quality of life for Oxnard residents and their families.

Career & Life Mentoring

Timeline: 2007 - 2013

Spearheaded the development of the Youth Empowerment Summit to provide college-bound students with career & life mentoring essential to enhancing their knowledge surrounding the attainment of higher education and workforce readiness. Recruited young professionals to serve as career and life mentors. Through their civic engagement they shared strategies for success, best practices and career experiences that helped create pathways towards learning valuable lessons students can use to thrive in school, work and life. The Youth Empowerment Summit became an annual conference focused on providing career and life mentoring for high school and community college students transferring to public colleges and universities. I served as lead organizer for many successful summits held at Oxnard College thanks to partnerships with local small businesses and corporations.

Developed a scholarship program targeting the youth of working-class families that was based on the merits of participatory community service. Distributed more than \$75,000 in educational

scholarships to high school seniors and community college students transferring to public colleges and universities.

Through a program called the X-Change, we created a means for young professionals to share their career and life experiences with youth in effort to better prepare them for the entry into the workforce. Recruited young professionals and scheduled classroom speaking opportunities for them at local Oxnard High Schools.

To better prepare youth with money-management skills critical to succeed in life, we developed the Jump\$Start financial literacy program where young professionals from financial and investment institutions provided financial education and literacy skills to Oxnard middle and high school students.

As a personal commitment to promoting the value of youth mentoring, I became a “Big” mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters in 2010 and was matched with an at-risk youth in the community. Through this process, I spent time with my “Little” each week and helped him figure out the best way to overcome educational hurdles and better manage social relationships. To this day, it is one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.

Childhood Literacy

Timeline: 2008 - 2015

Successfully launched the Reading First program in partnership with Wells Fargo Bank and hosted reading activities at local elementary schools. In its inaugural year, we impacted 800 students within 27 classrooms in ten schools at four elementary school districts (Oxnard, Hueneme, Oceanview, and Rio) and mobilized 112 community volunteers from the Greater Oxnard and Port Hueneme communities.

Launched Books Bonanza, a Saturday half-day reading program at the lowest performing elementary schools in our region. The primary goal of Books Bonanza was to promote improved reading and learning skills in elementary school children. By mobilizing volunteers - ranging from college students to young professionals to retirees - into neighborhood schools to read to children once a month, Books Bonanza aimed to help these children associate reading with pleasure and to promote the value of education and literacy.

Mobilized community volunteers by participating at the National Education Association's Read Across America Day in honor of Dr. Seuss's Birthday at numerous schools on March 2nd of each year.

Childhood Obesity

Timeline: 2011 - 2013

To combat childhood obesity, we created “Fun in the Sun” an annual event promoting healthy, active living for youth and aimed at educating families in the community about the dangers of childhood obesity. Over 500 residents and their families participated in the event each year at Oxnard Beach State Park and promoted health and wellness through fun, effective, and practical ideas for youth of all ages, interests, and abilities. Activities included: Zumba, Martial Arts, Yoga

and Core Fitness and participants were provided a free nutritious lunch, Health Expo and received giveaways.

Housing & Homeownership

Timeline: 2013 -Present

Worked in partnership with VCCDC to promote homeownership during their annual housing fair. Through this community partnership in 2017, we were able to work with VCCDC's leadership and the annual housing fair was relocated to the Centerpoint Mall in South Oxnard which turned out to be a more accessible and central location for Oxnard residents and their families.

Through my association with the NAHREP Ventura County Chapter, we organized numerous educational seminars to help increase the capacity of real estate practitioners to better serve working families and their access to sustainable homeownership. Also conducted outreach activities and provided educational workshops for first time homebuyers at local community events and fairs.

Used advocacy to promote homeownership, housing development and down-payment assistance programs for working families with City elected officials. Furthermore, worked behind the scenes with City staff to address obstacles with the down-payment assistance programs available to Oxnard residents.

Philanthropy

Timeline: 2008 - Present

Found ways to inspire philanthropy, by participating in the Oxnard Salsa Festival and its Dancing with the Community Stars competition in 2012 and the All-Stars competition in 2016. Helped raise more than \$20,000 to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters and its youth mentoring programs.

Worked with the Prom Dress Project at Pacifica High School for many years to secure lightly used prom dresses to those girls most in need.

During the month of December of each year, we created an opportunity to support local foster youth by providing them with holiday cheer. During this event we provided holidays gifts and broke bread with the residents of the Oxnard Group Homes.

Launched Global Youth Service Day activities locally to promote community service and civic engagement by young people. Activities ranged from a beach clean-up, painting local non-profits to participation in sorting canned food donations during Stamp Out Hunger, the Mail Carriers food drive just to name a few.

Served as lead organizer and member of the organizing committee for numerous community fundraisers benefiting organizations serving Oxnard including the Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club, *El Concilio* Family Services, Future Leaders of America and Habitat for Humanity just to name a few.

Social Engagement & Networking

Timeline: 2008 - Present

Organized numerous mixers to connect young professionals with causes and organizations

available to them in the community to promote the value of service and civic engagement. These social networking opportunities helped bring our community together for the common good.

For many years, I have participated as a member of the Oxnard Chamber of Commerce in networking opportunities that promoted the value of our small businesses.

I also serve and have served as a member of numerous Board of Directors and its Committees representing various organizations and causes that create impact locally.

Timeline	Organization	Status
2019 - Present	Women’s Council of Realtors	National Affiliate Member and Ventura County Network Membership Director
2019 – Present	National Association of Gay & Lesbian Real Estate Professionals (NAGLREP)	Affiliate Member and serve as the sole representative for Oxnard in the Association.
2018 - Present	Ventura County Coastal Association of Realtors (VCCAR)	Affiliate Member Finance Committee and Government Affairs Committee Member (2020)
2019 – 2020	Ventura County Real Estate Fraud Advisory Team (REFAT)	Served as a member in good standing on the REFAT Board of Directors and conducted education outreach in the community to protect consumers against real estate fraud.
2017 - 2020	Oxnard School District (OSD)	Represented the business community as its representative on the Oxnard School District’s Bond Measure D Committee where I served as Chair for two-consecutive terms.
2017 – 2020	Diversity Collective Ventura County (DCVC)	Served as the Chair of both the HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee and AIDS Walk Ventura County. Also served as Chair of the World AIDS Day at Heritage Square.
2017 - 2019	National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP)	Participated as a Member, Past Treasurer and President of the Local Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals based in Oxnard. Focused on providing advocacy and educational opportunities for real estate practitioners on issues pertaining to promoting sustainable homeownership.
2017 - 2018	Rotary Club of Oxnard	Served a member of the noon-time rotary and was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow in July of 2018.

2017 - 2018	City of Oxnard Library Board	Served as a member of the Library Board.
2013 - 2017	California Strawberry Festival (CSF)	Served on the Executive Board of the California Strawberry Festival and was responsible for engagement activities at the Strawberry Festival Promenade.
2013 - 2014	Future Leaders of America	Member of the Board of Directors of a youth development and empowerment organization based in Oxnard. Led strategic fund development activities including securing corporate sponsorships, grants, and charitable contributions.
2008 - 2018	County of Ventura - Ventura County Elections Division	Volunteered as a Bilingual Precinct Inspector during nine general and primary elections.

2. Please state why you would make a good representative for District 2. (If more space is needed, please continue on a separate page.)

The well-rounded career and life experiences of this candidate in both the public and private sector bring a unique blend of positive attributes combined with strong business and financial skillsets that our City leaders and residents would benefit from. Without question my passion for and commitment to community service and civic engagement lies within the social construct of who I am. Over the years, my leadership has made a difference in our community and my service record has a proven track record of collective accomplishments.

With strong immigrant roots, I know the struggle that many of our residents' face as I experienced them firsthand growing up. I was raised by a single mom with family values that encouraged a strong work ethic and a determination to become independent and self-sufficient. I have empathy and compassion for the hardships and the adversity that many of our residents and their families face because I lived through the same shared experiences.

I also understand the diversity of thought that exists in the minds of many of our longtime residents. Changing demographics and the infusion of diverse people from different cultures and backgrounds created a paradigm shift that requires us to reevaluate the manner in which we communicate with one another to address local community needs.

I believe principle-centered leadership forms the foundation for personal and organizational effectiveness and I put these actions into practice in the manner I treat others. As an honest broker, I communicate the needs of others above my own and my service record in the community and the workplace bear witness to this statement. This approach has been the formula to a successful career in both the non-profit and the financial services sector. Furthermore, my business acumen skills were cemented in these environments.

All it takes is an open heart and mind; and honest words to collectively solve problems and find solutions that work towards the greater good of our Great City. I promise to demonstrate active listening skills so that we can work as a community and Council to address the needs of Oxnard residents and their families. My career and life experiences and my approach to leadership are the reasons why I would make a good representative for the residents of District 2.

3. Please discuss any experience you have with policymaking, legislation, budgeting or other related experience. This can include the private, public or non-profit sector. (If more space is needed, please continue on a separate page.)

Learning about the fundamentals of advocacy and public policy making started during my college years. As student body government president, I was actively involved as a student representative on college shared governance committees at the local, regional and state level. Our advocacy on issues of higher education created the opportunity to help shape public policy making at the state level. In 1998, the ASBG of Los Angeles City College was the first in the state to hire a lobbying firm to represent our interests around common course numbering to ensure a seamless transfer for community college students into the CSU/UC system of higher education. We used the student representation fee as the funding source to make our advocacy efforts possible. Furthermore, it was through these advocacy efforts that our bill sponsor, California State Senator Dede Alpert was able to force policy changes within the community college system without taking further legislative action. We were the catalyst for creating change in such policies which impact community college transfer students even today.

After leaving the college experience behind, I followed my personal passion to fight for the civil rights and social justice of gay & lesbian Americans by starting a career in non-profit. Those rights and responsibilities were personal to me and our ability to achieve equality meant that we fought for recognition of our relationships through means of marriage equality. I worked at various non-profit organizations in Los Angeles and Washington D.C. and was exposed to advocacy & public policy making at the local, state, and federal level.

Today, I continue to be involved in creating change by using my voice and advocacy skills to address community needs like those around access to affordable housing, sustainable homeownership and homeowner rights and responsibilities.

As I previously mentioned, my background in both the non-profit and financial services sector has cemented my business acumen and provided a level of skills that includes developing budgets and balance sheets, financial audits, managing profit and loss, program development, setting and exceeding fundraising targets, to providing leadership and management of human resources and sweat equity.

4. How would you approach constituent service for District 2? (If more space is needed, please continue on a separate page.)

Serving on the City Council means that our role and responsibility is to conduct ourselves as public servants, plain and simple. We are the voice and representative for our District's constituents and their needs on the Oxnard City Council. We must be accessible and use all communication mediums to share knowledge and information on the City's most pressing issues. We are entrusted to represent the needs of our community's residents and their families and serve as ambassadors for promoting economic growth and prosperity in the City of Oxnard.

A major part of city government's role is to deliver taxpayer funded services to our residents. These include access to economic development, small business permitting process, cultural and community services, utility and public works, rental and housing assistance, to youth and senior services, just to name a few. Our role is to connect our residents and their families, along with other community stakeholders with such services through a transparent and open process.

5. How would you approach balancing City-wide needs with District-specific needs? (If more space is needed, please continue on a separate page.)

The City of Oxnard is the largest in Ventura County with a population of 208,154 residents based on 2019 data. We rank number 114 of 200 cities in population in the United States and rank 21st in California. We are a burgeoning City and one of the fastest growing in population across our Country. It is the mission of the City government to ensure that we have clean, safe, prosperous, and attractive neighborhoods with an open and transparent government. I believe in that mission and making tough decisions starts by listening to both sides of the argument, setting accurate expectations around those issues most pressing to our residents and their families. As a City Council member, one has a fiduciary responsibility to oversee the expenditure of public funds and to ensure a balanced budget.

The City Council members now represent specific districts, and each member must be directly accountable and receptive to their constituents' needs. Councilmembers are no longer elected as representatives at large. We must take this electoral re-organization as a sign that the voters want greater access and accountability of their elected representatives. This re-organization is a positive step in our Democracy and I fully support it.

However, there will be times that the needs of the many might outweigh the needs of the few. That is where good judgement, effective communication and negotiating skills come into play. Finding solutions that benefit the greater good might mean that we prioritize certain areas of our City above others. Making those tough decisions is a large part of the job and I fully understand the role and responsibility that I will potentially undertake. Furthermore, I take this as a moral imperative to the duties and responsibilities of this appointment. For me, measuring the difference between right and wrong is based on exercising values and principles and not on popularity. It is our role to study each issue independently without bias that comes before this governing body and exercise our due diligence by enacting sound public policy.

An example of this might mean an emphasis on budget priorities for public safety in areas where crime is most prevalent. That might mean a re-allocation of resources and funds that benefit one district over another. Will I support such action if it means putting the greater good of the City above those of my District's constituents? The answer will be a resounding yes. Addressing community needs means prioritizing and sharing the logic and reasoning behind such decisions with my constituents.

At one point, this elected body put a priority on growing the economic development needs of our City's North side. This elected body enacted policies that helped bring a business and housing development project called the "The Collection". Today's District 2 residents reap the benefits of sound public policy thusly fulfilling the greater need of our municipality.

Furthermore, I believe that we can always shift priorities as needed to deal with current economic challenges. My longtime experience in the public and private sector will produce "out of the box" thinking strategies that the Council and our community will deem as a valuable attribute.

SECTION III: EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Please include a brief background on your education and employment history. You may also attach a copy of your resume for this purpose.

Career Experience – Private Sector, Banking & Financial Services

2019 – Present

Community Lending Officer

Bank of America, N.A.

The Community Lending Officer (CLO) is focused on supporting Low to Moderate Income (LMI) clients in underserved markets by managing the end-to-end consumer mortgage referral requests that originate within Financial Centers, Real Estate professionals, Builders, Connect to Own partners, Trade Partners, professional and personal contacts, as well as other valuable referral sources. For 2020 ranked #1 in both mortgage loan origination applications and funded loans as a Community Lending Officer within the Retail Sales Division.

2018 - 2019

Senior Home Lending Advisor, Affordable Lending & Chase Private Client (CPC)

JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Delivered strong results in mortgage and home lending products, demonstrated strong interpersonal skills as well as provided exceptional service throughout the sales process.

Responsible for serving as the mortgage lending specialist at affordable lending branches in Camarillo, Oxnard and Port Hueneme by coaching and mentoring the branch team and providing training on products and services.

2013 – 2018

Retail Sales Supervisor & Home Mortgage Consultant, Diverse Segments

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

Responsible for coaching, directing, and managing the sales activities of a residential Home Mortgage Consultant team. Produced high quality loans that met Wells Fargo Home Mortgage guidelines while promoting sustainable homeownership by building relationships with realtors, bank stores, consumers, and local community partners.

2005 – 2007

Assistant Vice President and Banking Center Manager

Bank of America, N.A.

Served as a banking center leader for a Fortune 25 company with direct reporting of 18 team members. Solely responsible for leading a team of sales and service professionals to meet and exceed annual sales goal of \$32 million in retail banking products and services, including home purchase and refinance loans and home equity lines of credit. Responsible for all operational excellence including audit, staff scheduling, teller hiring, performance management, staff payroll, hiring, wage increases, exit interviews and employee annual reviews.

Career Experience – Public Sector

2012 – 2013

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ventura County

Director of Education & Public Affairs

Responsible for developing public education, marketing, and communications strategies to increase brand visibility through media, business, and community partnerships. Led community outreach and recruitment efforts to secure mentors and mobilize sweat equity from the private and public sector. Deepened relationships with community stakeholders that increase revenue in support of youth mentoring programs and services.

2007 - 2011

United Way of Ventura County

Director of Workforce Investment & YLS Staff Liaison

Relationship management with Ventura County business and corporate investors that generated \$1.1 million in revenue to fund United Way programs and services. Executed fundraising strategies that include management and operations, marketing, and communications for a portfolio of 180 businesses, companies and organizations throughout Ventura County.

Responsible for program management of the Young Leaders Society (YLS), a youth empowerment initiative for young professionals committed to improving the lives of children and youth by focusing on education, income and health.

Work experience prior to 2005 was in the Non-Profit sector in Los Angeles and Washington D.C. Area of focus ranged from the civil rights and social justice to the health of human services for LGBTQ Americans.

Educational Experience

1997 - 1999

L.A. City College

Liberal Studies, President's & Dean's Honor Roll

ASBG President & Student Trustee for the Los Angeles Community College District

1994

High School Diploma

Fairfax High School, Los Angeles Unified School District

I attest that the information in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  _____

Printed Name: Pedro A Chavez _____

Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 _____