

Bios and Contact Info

Belia Ramos Bennett was elected to the American Canyon City Council in 2010. As the chair of American Canyon's Traffic Advisory Committee, she led the charge in updating the City's nearly 20 year old Traffic Circulation Element. Guided by the City's existing SB375 legislation and keeping heavy traffic on the regional route (Highway 29), the City adopted the Updated Circulation Element earlier this year and is moving forward with revised traffic impact fees.

Belia is an educator, professor, attorney and community leader. Born and raised in Napa County, she calls American Canyon home after attending St. Mary's College and UC Hastings College of the Law. Belia is the President of Raise the Bar, LLC (a bar exam preparation company) and a Visiting Lecturer of Law at UC Davis School of Law. In 2012, she was appointed by Governor Brown to the 25th District Agricultural Association Napa Town and Country Fair board of directors.

(707) 738-8184 • bbennett@cityofamericancanyon.org

Brent Cooper, AICP, is the Director for the City of American Canyon Community Development Department. With over 20 years of experience, Brent oversees the Building and Safety, Code Enforcement, Development Engineering, Planning, and Housing functions for the City. Born and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, Brent has worked as a planner for City of Vancouver, Calistoga and in the Southern California cities of Irvine and Lake Forest prior to his arrival in American Canyon.

Brent holds a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from California Polytechnic University-Pomona. He is a certified planner with the American Planning Association. Brent's professional affiliations include the American Planning Association, the International City Managers Association (ICMA), the Urban Land Use Institute, and the Association of Environmental Planners. Brent has been a Boy Scout leader, and a member of the Newport Beach Environmental Quality Advisory Committee.

(707) 647-4348 • bcooper@cityofamericancanyon.org

Cheryl Golden is the Communications Manager for the City of Fremont. With over 20 years of public and private sector experience in communications, public affairs, and community relations, she is currently responsible for the oversight and management of Fremont's communications and public outreach efforts.

Always interested in promoting the City of Fremont's programs, services, and events, Cheryl keeps busy producing the City's community and employee newsletters, maintaining the City's website and Intranet, overseeing the City's municipal cable channel programming, developing brochures and presentations, and writing news releases and speeches. And to top it off, she oversees the City's comprehensive Social Media Program consisting of 16 social networking accounts on various platforms, as well as the City's online forum called Fremont Open City Hall.

(510) 284-4025 • cgolden@fremont.gov

Joanna Jansen is an Associate Principal at The Planning Center | DC&E in Berkeley. Over the past fourteen years, her planning work has focused on general plans, community outreach, and environmental impact reports.

Joanna is an experienced facilitator and workshop organizer, and has worked on a wide range of public participation projects, including general plans for Morgan Hill, Palo Alto, Vacaville, Los Gatos, and Butte County, as well as the *Livermore Visioning Project* for the City of Livermore, the *Bay Area Regional Smart Growth Strategy* for the Association of Bay Area Governments and other regional agencies and the *Measure C Reauthorization Public Outreach, Polling and Strategic Planning* for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority.

(510) 848-3815 • jjansen@planningcenter.com

Mike Moore is the Planning and Building Director for the City of Mill Valley. He has held that position since July 2009. Prior to joining the City of Mill Valley, Mike was Community Development Director for the City of Petaluma (2000-2009) and for the City of Sonoma (1989-1999). He has been a local government planner in Northern California and the San Francisco Bay Area for more than thirty years.

Mike has a Master's degree in City Planning from San Diego State University. He has taught various classes in the Environmental Studies and Planning Program at Sonoma State University since 1990, and has been a speaker at regional, state and national planning conferences on topics ranging from growth management to form-based zoning codes to planning leadership and education. He is a member of the California Planning Roundtable and the BAPDA Steering Committee.

(415) 388-4033 • mmoore@cityofmillvalley.org

Anu Natarajan was elected to the Fremont City Council in 2006 and currently serves as Vice Mayor. Anu is an experienced city planner and architect and has used her wide-ranging skills to advocate for Fremont neighborhoods on the city council. Anu represents Fremont on a variety of regional boards, including, the Alameda County Waste Management Authority (Stopwaste.org), Alameda County Recycling Board, Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor and BART Warm Springs Extension Policy Advisory Board. She also serves on the Local Leaders Council for Smart Growth America and is on the Advisory Board of SPUR San Jose.

Anu earned a Bachelor's degree in Architecture and a Master's degree in Urban Design and Planning from the University of Washington. Her professional experience includes working as an architect, public agency planner, and as an urban planning consultant to cities throughout the Bay Area. She worked as the Program Director for the "Realizing the California Dream" project of the American Leadership Forum, Silicon Valley, which aims to create governance and fiscal reforms in California and promote civic engagement within the context of a twenty-first century democracy.

(510) 284-4082 • anatarajan@fremont.gov

Shawn Spano is a Professor in the Communication Studies Department at San José State University. He teaches courses and conducts research in interpersonal, small group and organizational communication. Shawn earned his PhD from the University of Indiana in 1988, the same year he joined the faculty at SJSU.

In addition to his university position, Shawn is a Communication Consultant and founding member of the Public Dialogue Consortium, www.publicdialogue.org. He has over 17 years of experience working with local government agencies, including multi-year projects with three different municipalities. Shawn is a specialist in designing and facilitating stakeholder meetings, public forums, executive/management meetings, training workshops and strategic planning sessions with local residents, elected officials, commissions, boards and staff. One of his areas of expertise is helping groups in the public sector (residents, staff, developers, elected officials, etc.) manage contentious issues in productive and constructive ways. Shawn has considerable experience working with planning departments on land use issues and projects.

(408) 924-5379 • shawn.spano@sjsu.edu