

Dear Fellow Citizens of Cupertino,

(Live shot)

It has been an honor and a privilege to be elected by my peers to serve as Mayor. Before this year, I served six and half years on the planning commission, and six years on the City Council. So, I am excited to have this special opportunity.

First, let me give a very special thanks to the staff and volunteers of the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce, and the Cupertino Rotary Club, who have all worked so hard to make this gathering of our community possible. In particular, I would like to acknowledge Chamber president, Mr. Darcy Paul, and Rotary Club president, Ms. Savita Vaidhyanathan, who are both Asian Americans taking leadership roles in our community. Let's give them a round of applause.

As Mayor, it is my pleasure to serve with my fellow councilmembers. As any of them can tell you, it's a very difficult job, with many difficult decisions. This is not my first time as Mayor. I was unanimously elected by my colleagues to serve as

Mayor in 2010 and again in 2013. I would like to acknowledge our City

Councilmembers who all care passionately, about the City:

[Show Picture – Sinks] Vice Mayor, Rod Sinks.

[Show Picture – Mahoney] Councilmember and past Mayor, Orrin Mahoney.

[Show Picture – Santoro] Councilmember and past Mayor, Mark Santoro.

[Show Picture – Chang] and Councilmember, Barry Chang.

[Show Picture - group photo] Please, join me in thanking them for their service.

I also would like to acknowledge my family. Life as an elected official is not possible without their support. [Show Picture - family photo/montage]

I want to acknowledge my wife, Helen, and our two daughters, Alison and Emily. I want to thank my family for their patience, as I attended numerous Council Meetings... Chamber grand opening ceremonies... and Community events over the last 12-and-a-half years on the Council, and Planning Commission. Thank you for letting me be your Council Member and Your Mayor.

[Live shot]

Cupertino is strengthened by our diversity. Though each of us took a different path to get here, we share the vision of what it means to live in a great community.

A great community means exceptional schools... Many people move to Cupertino from all over the world, because of our excellent public schools. They compose the Cupertino Union School District, Fremont Union High School District, and the Foothill De Anza Community College District. Let's have a quick round of applause for our school representatives and superintendents, who are here today.

As Mayor, I would like to strengthen our ties with the school districts. I want to collaborate closely to, mitigate traffic congestion around the schools, partner on after school programs, and continue the joint use agreement of school fields to supplement our public parks. Excellent public education helps us have an even better community.

(Live shot)

A great community means unparalleled government services... Our success is based on our city staff led by:

[Show Picture – Brandt] City Manager, David Brandt,

[Show Picture – Atwood] Director of Parks and Recreation, Carol Atwood

[Show Picture–Shrivastava] Director of Community Development,
Aarti Shrivastava

[Show Picture – Borden] Director of Public Works, Timm Borden

[Show Picture – Korade] and, City Attorney, Carol Korade.

Other senior staff I would like to recognize are:

[Show Picture – Schmidt] City Clerk, Grace Schmidt

[Show Picture – Kitson] Public Affairs Director, Rick Kitson

[Show Picture – Guerin] and, Executive Assistant to the City Council and
City Manager, Karen Guerin

A great community means stellar public safety and access to the world's literature... Cupertino works closely with three other, Very Important County organizations, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office... Santa Clara County Library Joint Powers Authority... and Santa Clara County Fire Department.

[Show Picture – Smith]

Santa Clara County Sheriff, Laurie Smith

[Show Picture – Binder]

Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office,

Captain Ken Binder

[Show Picture – Howe]

Santa Clara County Librarian, Nancy Howe

[Show Picture – Kanth]

Cupertino Community Librarian, Gayathri Kanth

[Show Picture – Kehmna]

and, Santa Clara County Fire Chief, Ken Kehmna

Please, join me in giving a warm round of applause in gratitude and appreciation.

(Live shot)

A great community means economic development... It was only two months ago that we finished the public hearing process for the approval of the Apple Campus

2 project. This continues the legacy of Steve Jobs, and his vision for his company and his employees. Now, let's take a look at a short video about the new campus.

[APPLE VIDEO] (00:03:43)

(Live shot)

We are Fortunate that so many other companies continue to do well in Cupertino. We are proudly the home of many businesses, both large and small. Our City Council has placed a high priority on Economic Development. So, it is especially rewarding to see established businesses Thrive, and new businesses Grow. Why is Cupertino a good place to do business, you ask... These business owners could tell you better than I can.

[Small Business Video] (00:02:48)

The City continues a tradition of support for businesses in partnership with the Chamber. Cupertino Chamber of Commerce's recent efforts includes the STAR awards, recognizing small, medium, and large businesses and the Citizen of the Year... the Lunar New Year luncheon... and the Diwali Festival. Just last week, the

City and the Chamber co-sponsored a successful Small Business workshop on Social Media. Plans are already underway for many other small business events throughout 2014. As Mayor, I want to strengthen our partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and continue to support our local businesses.

There are many other places for economic growth. We have a real opportunity to find a vision for Vallco Mall... just like Steve Jobs did with the Apple Campus 2 project. This year, the City started the General Plan Amendment. This will be the land-use plan, that will incorporate our vision for the City in the near future. Now is the time to be pro-active with our mall, and work on a Specific Plan in conjunction with the General Plan Amendment. Apple Campus 2, Main Street, and other projects, have created a tipping point for re-envisioning this mall. We can have a crown jewel, located right in the middle of our city. We just have to polish it.

(Live shot)

A great community means diversity... This is nothing new for Cupertino. We get much of our economic success, and vitality from our multiculturalism. I hope that our city can also continue to broaden its economic ties with Asia. There are already many programs underway, and I hope we can build on this success and expand other opportunities in the future.

A great community means supporting our youth... As Mayor, I want to focus on two important investments in our youth: our library and sports. Let's take a few moments to enjoy a video on our community's youth.

[YOUTH VIDEO] (00:02:50)

One of the most important and valuable resources for young people in our community is our library.

The Cupertino library is the busiest educational institution in our city. Some recent successes are the Planetree Health Center and the Tech Toolbar. Because of these and other programs, it is essential that we keep the library's doors open for as many people as possible. Let's take a quick look at our library.

[LIBRARY VIDEO] (00:02:36)

I have been a supporter of our libraries for many years. I previously served on the joint powers authority board representing Cupertino, and as Mayor I will work to ensure that the Cupertino library continues to be open seven days a week.

Another key resource for our youth is sports. Through sports, players learn important lessons about teamwork, character, and hard work. As Mayor, I will propose to the City Council adding a new Cricket Batting Cage to the Capital Improvement Project. We will partner with CUSD and the California Cricket Academy. This proposal is an investment in our community, and most importantly, it's an investment in our children.

This year, the City will be looking at expanding our world-class library. I believe it is important that we move the teen center from the sports center to a New facility in our library. Just as youth are the center our Family Life, I want there to be a place for our Youth in the center of our Civic Life.

(Live shot)

Other important programs for youth in our community are the Sister City programs. We have two remarkable community-led programs that have been providing an education exchange for our local middle and high school students. The Toyokawa Sister City committee and the Hsinchu Sister City committee have successful programs that appropriately focus on youth. I am happy to say that our oldest Sister City, Copertino, Italy, visited us for the first time last fall. I am pleased to report that we already have a community group, led by members of the St. Joseph's parish and the Cupertino Historical Society, that is working to create a new youth exchange program.

Along with our newest relationship with Bhubaneswar, our community is very active and places a high priority on education. So, there may be other youth exchange programs and partnerships that we can look forward to in the future. In the past three years, it was my privilege and honor to visit our Sister Cities. Through the sister cities program, we will continue to promote education, cultural understanding and mutual friendships. If I may, I'd like to share with you a presentation from all four of our Sister Cities.

[SISTER CITY VIDEO AND SLIDE PRESENTATION] (VIDEO 00:01:29, SLIDE SHOW ?)

(Live shot)

Looking back, it was a privilege to represent Cupertino. Now, let's look forward...

I am proud to announce that in the upcoming weeks, we will have two Grand Openings from our Capitol Improvement Project. On the morning of Saturday, February 8th, my daughter, Emily, the entire Council, and I will be at the opening of the City's first Dog Park. A special thanks is due to Councilmember Santoro for allowing Emily to walk your four-legged friend, Sasha. Please, join us at the end of Mary Avenue near the Don Burnett Bridge... Thank you, Park and Recreation Commissioners... City Staff... and residents. This project took years of hard work, and you made the park possible for this dog-loving community.

Also, the grand opening of the Stevens Creek Trail from Blackberry Farm to the Stocklmeir House, will be this Spring. This completes the Stevens Creek Trail from McClellan Ranch, through Blackberry Farm, to the Stocklmeir House. This will be our Central Park. A place for trails, wild life, and habit restoration. It is another example of the City's commitment, to our environment and open space. I am proud to Open these two wonderful projects this year.

Before we depart, I'd like to acknowledge just a few more people. Doing the State of the City address would not be possible without the assistance of the City Manager's team. I want to give the heartfelt thanks to Louis, Michelle, Nidhi, Pete, Rei, Robert, Andrea, and many others. Please give them a round of applause.

To really appreciate this great community, all we need to do is look around. Let's take a look at, "A Day in the Life of Cupertino."

["Day in the Life" Video] (00:02:42)

And lastly, a great community means wonderful volunteers. Please help me thank the people and organizations that make Cupertino what it is today.

(Two Slides – Cupertino Volunteer organizations)

To conclude, my family and I, recently, visited the Walt Disney Museum in San Francisco. At the end of the museum tour, there was a quote by Mr. Disney that reminded me of Cupertino. I would like to leave you with his thought... "You can dream, create, design, and build the most wonderful place in the world, but it requires people to make the dream, a reality."

I believe the words of Walt Disney apply to Cupertino.

We have the right people to make Cupertino a better community and a better City.

Thank you.