

NICHOLAS REESE**Financial Operations Manager**

Since 1996, my family has called Rancho Santa Margarita home. Then, the Santa Margarita Marketplace was still the site of the rodeo, and a neighborhood cow greeted our residents in the mornings. Yet, while the landscape has changed, the values of our community certainly have not. These are the values I was raised on: hard work, personal responsibility, and accountability. From Robinson Elementary and Rancho Santa Margarita Intermediate to Saddleback College and UCLA - and from serving lemonade off Plano Trabuco to serving as a Financial Operations Manager, this community has shaped who I am today.

At UCLA, I studied economics and public policy, and majored in political science. While attending, I led an investigation into our campus that brought billions of dollars in losses and the systemic failures behind them to public attention. I also served as Chairman of the Oversight Committee, responsible for helping ensure the student government's multi-million-dollar budget was managed effectively and transparently. These experiences reinforced the values and skills that I will bring to our city: fiscal responsibility, accountability, transparency, and a commitment to protect our tax dollars.

Currently, I work as a Financial Operations Manager, where I oversee and optimize my company's budget and operations. Every day, I am entrusted with making responsible financial decisions, controlling costs, and ensuring resources are utilized optimally - all experiences that I will bring to City Hall.

I remained home as the Airport Fire ravaged the hills above, witnessing firsthand the cost and risks we continue to face. Since then, I have been determined to help keep our homes insurable, our rates lowered, and our families, not our properties, as our only concern during an emergency. Through my planned home-hardening initiative, our city can pursue this by reducing property risk, leveraging state resources, and working directly with insurers - all without the need of our city's finances.

As your councilmember, I will fight to preserve and build upon the achievements and values of our community. This means ensuring our budget stays balanced, maintaining our nationally recognized public safety, and keeping our taxes and costs as low as possible. At the same time, I will lead our city towards supporting our families and properties in new and meaningful ways, working to ensure our homes are insured, and our neighborhoods are best prepared for any emergencies.

I respectfully ask for your vote so I may serve our community with the responsibility, dedication, and transparency necessary to preserve our remarkable city. reese4council.com