My name is Dave Johnson, and I am running for San Mateo City Council, District 5. I currently serve as the Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of San Carlos. I'm also the Head Boys Golf Coach and Assistant Girls Golf Coach at Hillsdale High School.

I have worked at First Baptist Church of San Carlos for the past 11 years and have been in full-time ministry for 16 years. I have also coached at Hillsdale High School for the past six years. Throughout my career, I have remained committed to serving others both professionally and through community involvement.

I am an active volunteer with Street Life Ministries in Redwood City, where I serve individuals experiencing homelessness several times each month. I also serve on the board of its Transformation House, a sober living home that helps men recovering from drug and alcohol addiction rebuild their lives.

Although I have never held public office, my career has provided extensive leadership and public service experience. I worked as a paramedic in San Mateo County for eight years, where I learned to remain calm under pressure, make sound decisions, and serve people during some of the most difficult moments of their lives. I also served for three years as the Rescue Mission Manager at a homeless shelter in downtown Oakland, giving me firsthand insight into the challenges facing unhoused individuals and the importance of compassionate, practical solutions.

As a pastor, I meet with people from all walks of life every day. I listen to their concerns, help resolve conflicts, and work to strengthen families, organizations, and our community. Leadership, collaboration, and bringing people together for the common good have become the foundation of my professional life.

My educational background includes an Associate of Arts degree in Fire Science, Associate of Science degree in Paramedicine, and a Bachelor of Science in Theology, which I earned in 2009.

If elected, my top priorities will be supporting responsible housing solutions, investing in the infrastructure our growing community needs, and preserving the quality of life that makes San Mateo a great place to live. I am committed to fiscal responsibility by eliminating waste, prioritizing essential city services, and ensuring greater transparency and accountability in how taxpayer dollars are spent.