

2010

Mayor Ron Gonzales Administrative Papers

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Guide to the Mayor Ron Gonzales Administrative Papers

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Guide to the Mayor Ron Gonzales Administrative Papers

Collection number: MSS-2006-07-18



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2010

Encoded by:

Robert Donahue

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Mayor Ron Gonzales Administrative Papers

Dates: 1989-2006

Bulk Dates: 1998-2006

Collection number: MSS-2006-07-18

Creator: Gonzales, Ronald R. (1951-)

Collection Size: 27 boxes30 linear feet

Repository: San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The Mayor Ron Gonzales Administrative Papers documents the political career of Ron Gonzales. Gonzales contributed to Santa Clara County politics, first serving two terms as the Mayor of Sunnyvale (1979-1987), and an eight-year term on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors (1989-1996). In 1998 he was elected to the office of mayor in San José, where he served another eight years (1998-2006). The bulk of this collection documents San José city politics, which includes interactions between city, state, and the federal government. The collection includes audiovisual materials, correspondence, constituent letters, memos, newspaper and magazine articles, speeches, and press releases. Some of the topics covered include extending BART service to South San José, creation of new jobs for women and minorities, the opening of the Martin Luther King Jr. Library, education, gang prevention, and other civic related issues. The collection is arranged into two series: Series I: Political Records, 1989-2006 (bulk 1998-2006); Series II: VHS Tape Recordings 1992-2006 (bulk 1999-2006).

Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Mayor Ron Gonzales Administrative Papers, MSS-2006-07-18, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Processing History

Collection processed by Robert Donahue. Finding aid EAD encoded by Robert Donahue. Reviewed by Danelle Moon.

Biographical History

Ronald R. Gonzales (1951-) attended De Anza College before moving on to the University of California at Santa Cruz where he graduated with a degree in Community Studies (1973). Gonzales became active in California politics, serving on the Sunnyvale City Council (1979-1987), and the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors (1989-1996). Ron Gonzales briefly left politics to work as an executive at Hewlett-Packard, a Silicon Valley based company. From 1999-2006 Gonzales served as the first Latino mayor of San José since California became a state in 1850, and was one of the first Latino mayors of a large U.S. city.

While in office, Gonzales initiated several programs to help attract new teachers to San José schools including a home purchasing assistance program. Gonzales also advocated extending Bay Area Regional Transport service to downtown San José and used San José Redevelopment Agency funds to help revitalize downtown San José. While delivering a State of the City address on January 28, 2004, Ron Gonzales suffered a stroke but returned to his duties on February 16th of that year. In June 2006 Mayor Ron Gonzales and one of his top aids, Joe Guerra, were accused of corruption involving a waste contract in 2000 with Norcal Waste Systems. Gonzales denied any wrongdoing and in 2007 a judge dismissed the charges. Gonzales was succeeded by Chuck Reed in 2007.

Bibliography

Mayor Ron Gonzales Administrative Papers, MSS-2006-17-18, San José State University Special Collections & Archives San José State University.

"*Biography of Ron Gonzales.*" http://www.nytimes.com/ref/college/coll_opinion_gonzbio.html?8bl (accessed 7/24/2010).

Scope and Content of Collection

The Mayor Ron Gonzales Administrative Papers documents the political career of Ron Gonzales. Gonzales contributed to Santa Clara County politics, first serving two terms as the Mayor of Sunnyvale (1979-1987), and an eight-year term on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors (1989-1996). In 1998 he was elected to the office of mayor in San José, where he served another eight years (1998-2006). The bulk of this collection documents San José city politics, which includes interactions between city, state, and the federal government. The collection includes audiovisual materials, correspondence, constituent letters, memos, newspaper and magazine articles, speeches, and press releases. Some of the topics covered include extending BART service to South San José, creation of new jobs for women and minorities, the opening of the Martin Luther King Jr. Library, education, gang prevention, and other civic related issues.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series: Series I: Political Records, 1989-2006 (bulk 1998-2006); Series II: VHS Tape Recordings 1992-2006 (bulk 1999-2006).

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Gonzales, Ronald R., 1951-

United States -- Politics and Government

San José (Calif.) -- Politics and Government

Santa Clara County (Calif.) -- Board of Supervisors

Santa Clara County (Calif.) -- Politics and Government

Local Transit -- California -- Santa Jose

Series I: **Political Records 1989-2006 1998-2006****Physical Description:** 11 boxes**Series Scope and Content Summary**

The material in this series documents the political career of Mayor Ron Gonzales. Gonzales served the city of San José from 1999-2006. The bulk of this collection documents San José city politics, which includes interactions between city, state, and the federal government. The contents include files pertaining to his efforts to extend BART service into San José, the renaming of the San José airport to the Mineta International Airport, creation of new jobs for women and minorities, the opening of the Martin Luther King Jr. Library, education, gang prevention, and other civic related issues. Also included are records of the Federal Aviation Administration's plan to use San José airspace to help alleviate overcrowded approach vectors at San Francisco International Airport. Gonzales and other San José politicians fought the over flight plan on the grounds that it would disturb air traffic at Mineta International Airport and would violate San José's air traffic curfew law.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by subject and chronologically by date range.

Box 1	BART Line to San José, Correspondence, Newspaper Clippings, Press Releases, Memos 1989-1998
Box 2	Memos, Press Releases, Budget, Art Groups 1990-2006
Box 3	Getting Families to Work, Coyote Valley Plan, SJ Proposal for Regenerative Stem Cell Research, Cinequest 1995-2006
Box 4	Bond Survey, BART Extention Fact Sheets, Public Relations Material, FAA Overflight Proposal & Response, Tobacco Settlement Fund Allocation 1998-2000
Box 5	Budget 1998-2006
Box 6	Creating Jobs, Woman and Minority Owned Businesses, Employment Training 1998-2006
Box 7	Press Releases, 9/11 Remembrance, Airport Curfew, Santana Row and Moorpark Fires 1998-2006
Box 8	Notes, State of the City, MLK Library Opening, John Kerry Visit, Letters to Mayor, Legislative Priorities: Housing, Transportation, Schools 1999-2006
Box 9	Civic Center, Letters to Mayor: New City Hall Letters of Support, Meeting Notes and Agenda 1999-2006
Box 10	Gang Prevention Task Force 2000-2005

Box 11 **School-Related Issues, Gang/Crime Prevention, Strong Neighborhoods Initiative, Affordable Housing 2000-2006**

Series II: **VHS Tape Recordings 1992-2006 1999-2006**

Physical Description: 16 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

The VHS tapes in this series provide a snapshot of some of the local public events that Mayor Gonzales attended or participated in during his tenure as mayor. As Mayor of one the largest cities in the U.S., Gonzales appeared on television to talk about city governance, social issues, and local and national disasters, such as hurricane Katrina disaster relief, as well as speaking to local problems such as homelessness, gang prevention, anti-graffiti initiatives, and state of the city addresses.

Arrangement

This series is arranged chronologically by date range.

Box 12 **VHS Tapes: Local Events, Helicopter Crash, Gonzales Interview 1992-1999**

Box 13 **VHS Tapes: State of the city, BART 1999-2002**

Box 14 **VHS Tapes: News and Local Events, Mineta Airport, Same Sex Marriage 1999-2004**

Box 15 **VHS Tapes: Homelessness, Gonzales, City Hall 2000**

Box 16 **VHS Tapes: Federal Aviation Administration, City Council, BART, Democratic National Convention 2000**

Box 17 **VHS Tapes: Airport Overflight Plan, Ronald Gonzales 2000**

Box 18 **VHS Tapes: Downtown Development Plan, Energy Issues 2000-2001**

Box 19 **VHS Tapes: Calpine Agreement, Gonzales Re-Election, National Guard, Airport Overflight 2001-2001**

Box 20 **VHS Tapes: BART, Calpine, Re-Election 2001-2002**

Box 21 **VHS Tapes: San José Safety, Various Speeches, Downtown Zoning, Diridon/Arena Re-Development 2001-2003**

Box 22 **VHS Tapes: Election Night, Santana Row Fire 2002**

Box 23 **VHS Tapes: Public Info Office Video Library, 9/11 Events, Mineta Airport, Santana Row 2002-2003**

Box 24 **VHS Tapes: Gangs, Cisco, Anti-Graffiti Initiative, Measure S, Safe Surrender Law 2002-2004**

Box 25 **VHS Tapes: Stem Cell - Ron Newsome, City Council Meetings, New San José City Hall 2003**

Box 26 **VHS Tapes: State of the City, Senator, Feinstein, San José Re-Development, Blue Ribbon Task Force
2004-2005**

Box 27 **VHS Tapes: Katrina Disaster Relief, State of the City 2005-2006**
