

NAME: Steve Mensinger

AGE: 50

OCCUPATION: Businessman / Appointed Councilmember

Since I joined the council almost two years ago, we accomplished two balanced budgets without using reserves or raising taxes and improved maintenance on streets, alleys, sidewalks, and parks.

Today in Costa Mesa, and cities across our state, we are faced with a necessity to reform unsustainable pensions and benefits for public employees.

We started this process and need to proceed if we are to bring long-term stability and provide the essential services you need and expect.

Costa Mesa residents are the backbone of our community. I've seen this first-hand in youth sports, where I've served with thousands of volunteers dedicated to improving our community. My goal is to put Costa Mesa residents first, not public employee unions.

It's challenging to put residents first when nearly 80% of Costa Mesa's budget is allocated to fund salaries and benefits, and the city's \$225 million unfunded pension debt jeopardizes long-term stability.

Making tough decisions is not easy and does not always win popularity contests. I expect strong opposition from employee union bosses who will do anything to maintain the status quo. With your support, we will be able to continue fair negotiations to attain the savings necessary for Costa Mesa to prosper.

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