



CFR's rating methodology

CFR's rating methodology measures candidates relative to traits that we believe are critical to responsibly dealing with San Jose's financial obligations: independence, leadership, fiscal responsibility, trustworthiness, communication skills, business experience, knowledge of city government and issues, history of civic involvement, private sector support, stewardship and public service attitude, and understanding of the proper role and limits of government. We do not consider party affiliation or positions on social issues in determining our candidate ratings. We share our analysis to help the voting public decide which candidates are most likely to be aligned with the goal of a fiscally responsible and sustainable city government.

We base our ratings on responses to our questionnaire, reviews of candidate web sites, voting records, available campaign materials and our members' personal knowledge of and experience with the candidates. Our members independently grade candidates using the following three point scale: 1 (little or no alignment with our objectives), 3 (some alignment), and 8 (highly aligned). We consolidate members' ratings, then normalize the totals so that a candidate who is highly aligned across all members for all eleven traits, a "perfect score" so to speak, would receive a rating of 100. The higher the index, the more aligned we believe a candidate is to our objectives.