

Rafael Menis, Pinole City Treasurer – CANDIDATE STATEMENT

"I am Rafael Menis and I am running for Pinole City Treasurer. I believe the city's finances should be accessible and transparent to its residents, so we can hold the city accountable for our money.

However, our budgets are filled with hundreds of pages of data. We need to be able to see quickly and easily where the city is getting money from, what it is spending it on, and what the future of both of those things looks like. We need graphs. I can make those graphs because I am autistic, which means I am better at identifying patterns and focusing on details than most people.

I used this in my education, earning a BA in political science from the University of Chicago. I then used that education to analyze the city's data and form questions on it. Finally, I use the data and the responses to my questions to create graphs.

I have served on the Pinole Planning Commission since 2021. As a Planning Commissioner I improved our housing element through my detailed inquiries and comments. Because of my questions, the planning process has been made more transparent to the public and applicants.

My accounting background includes work in large corporations, small family operations and non-profits. I have reconciled hundreds of receipts annually and turned large quantities of unprocessed data into categorized, machine and human understandable values.

As Pinole City Treasurer I will make the "numbers" make sense for the public.

You can find more information on my website, <https://menisfortreasurer.org>. I humbly request your vote this November."