

SURESH REDDY REPORT



JUNE 2022

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BIOGRAPHY

Name: Suresh Guda Reddy

Birth: March 25, 1966

Family: Wife, Chandra; Two children

Education: Bachelor's degree in electronics and communication engineering, Gulbarga University, India

Master's in computer science, Bradley University

MBA, Iowa State University, 2016

Military: None

Professional Experience: Founder, Caas, LLC
Software Engineer, HyVee

Political Experience: Johnston City Council (2019-Present)
Johnston Planning Commission (2017-2019)

TIMELINE

March 25, 1966	Born in Bangalore, India
1984	Graduated high school in Ballari, India
1988	B.E. Electronics & Communication, Vijayanagara Eng College, Bellary
1991-1992	Programmer, Nortel
1994	M.S., Computer Science, Bradley University
1994	Married Chandra
2000-2002	Project Manager, Motorola
2004-2008	Lead IT, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company
2009-2011	Senior Software Engineer, UnityPoint Health
2011	Started CAAS LLC
2011-2016	Senior Project Engineer, John Deere
2016	M.B.A., Iowa State University
2017-2018	QA Manager, Granular
2017-2020	Board Member, Johnston City Planning & Zoning Commission
2019-present	Council Member, Johnston City Council
2022	Candidate, Iowa House District 43

COVID

Editor's Note: In the Nov. 15, 2020 city council meeting, Suresh Reddy said he lost his father-in-law to Covid-19 complications in November 2020. At the meeting Reddy spoke in favor of a mask mandate in Johnston.

- **In September 2021, Suresh Reddy shared a Facebook post encouraging participation in a special school board meeting to support a mask mandate**



- **In November 2020, Suresh Reddy voted for a measure requiring face coverings in city-owned buildings in Johnston County for anyone over the age of 2 years, which passed unanimously**
 - On Nov. 23, 2020, Suresh Reddy voted for a resolution supporting and approving the proclamation of emergency: mitigation measures including use of face masks in response to the continuing covid-19 public health emergency (Passed 5-0).¹
 - In a Nov. 23, 2020, article, KCCI reported, “The Johnston City Council approved a measure Monday requiring face coverings in city-owned buildings.

“Effective immediately, anyone over the age of 2 years old must wear masks in buildings owned by the city.

“The proclamation also ‘strongly and urgently’ encourages Johnston residents, employees and visitors to wear face coverings at all times.

“Exemptions to the mask requirement include those with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from wearing masks.

¹ Johnston City Council minutes, Nov. 23, 2020

“Masks are not required for those working alone or when 6 feet of distance can be maintained, while eating and drinking with social distancing measures in place or while giving or receiving a service that requires temporary mask removal.”²

² “Johnston City Council approves mask requirement for city buildings,” KCCI, Nov. 23, 2020

TAXES

➤ **Suresh Reddy does not support a total elimination of the Iowa income tax**

- In a June 4, 2022, Q&A with the *Des Moines Register*, when asked if he supported a total elimination of the state income tax, Suresh Reddy replied, “No. In my experience as a city councilor, when people are empowered to see where their tax dollars are being invested and how that improves their family's future, they are generally supportive. Let's be clear, slashing taxes means fewer opportunities for Iowans. If I am elected, I promise to make every effort to be accountable and show voters how I voted to invest our money and how that helps them. The bottom line is that I believe in the people of Iowa. That’s why I’m confident every investment in our people and communities will pay dividends.”³

➤ **In 2021, Suresh Reddy voted for a budget that maintained the same property tax rate as the previous year, but due to an increase in the rollback rate, would cost \$14.19 in increased property taxes for an owner of a \$100,000 home**

- According to the minutes of the March 15, 2021, Johnston City Council meeting, Suresh Reddy voted for a resolution adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and Authorizing Tax Levies on all Taxable Properties within the City of Johnston (Passed 5-0).⁴
- According to the Johnston City Council 2021-2022 Budget Review presentation, the City of Johnston’s 2021-2022 property tax levy was set at the rate of 10.63042, the same as tax year 2020-2021. According to the document, the rollback percentage in 2021-2022 rose to 56.4094%, up from 55.0743%, and the property tax for a \$100,000 home increased from \$585.46 in 2020-2021 to \$599.66 in 2021-2022, an increase of \$14.19 per \$100,000 home.⁵

Editor’s Note: The 2022-23 property tax rate increased by \$0.05, from \$10.63 to \$10.68. The budget’s rollback rate dropped to 54.13%, and the tax bill for a \$100,000 home dropped by \$21.81. For a chart of Johnston’s property taxes, see

<https://www.cityofjohnston.com/DocumentCenter/View/9414/Exhibit-H--Annual-Property-Tax-100000-Home-per-Function>

³ “Democrats: Tiara L. Mays and Suresh Reddy,” *Des Moines Register*, June 4, 2022

⁴ Resolution 21-70, Johnston City Council minutes, March 15, 2021

⁵ Property Tax Levies: Amounts & Effect on Typical Property Owner, March 15, 2021

RATE INCREASES

➤ **In June 2022, Suresh Reddy voted for second reading of a resolution that would increase the sewer rate three times, with 9 percent adjustments each year beginning July 1, 2022**

- According to the minutes of the June 6, 2022, Johnston City Council meeting, Suresh Reddy voted for second reading of a resolution establishing Sewer User Charges effective July 1, 2022 (Passed 5-0).⁶

Editor's Note: Third reading vote is expected June 20, 2022. Researcher will update this document once minutes are posted from that meeting.

- According to the agenda of the June 6, 2022, Johnston City Council meeting, “Based on cash flows, future projected capital improvements, bond covenant requirements, and changes to WRA expenses based on flow allocations, a rate adjustment is needed. The committee is recommending three 9% adjustments each year beginning July 1st. 9% July 1, 2022; 9% July 1, 2023; and 9% July 1, 2024; with close reviews of the utility cash flow each spring.”⁷

➤ **In June 2021, Suresh Reddy voted for a five percent increase in the sewer rate in Johnston**

- According to the minutes of the June 7, 2021, Johnston City Council meeting, Suresh Reddy voted for a resolution establishing Sewer User Charges effective July 1, 2021 (Passed 5-0).⁸
- According to the agenda for the June 7, 2021, Johnston City Council meeting, “Sewer: Based on cash flows, future projected capital improvements, bond covenant requirements, and changes to WRA expenses based on flow allocations, a rate adjustment is needed. The committee is recommending a one-year adjustment of 5% on July 1, 2021 and another close review of the utility cash flow in the spring of 2022. PFM Sewer Cash Flow is attached.”⁹

➤ **In 2020, Suresh Reddy voted to approve the solid waste and recycling fees, which included a \$0.02 rate increase (pass-through fee to the provider) for the Curb It! Recycling program**

- According to the agenda for the June 15, 2020, Johnston City Council meeting, “Per an email received from Metro Waste Authority on February 17, 2020, the rate for the Curb It! Recycling program is increasing by \$0.02 beginning July 1. The current rate is \$3.43 and the new rate will be \$3.45/household/month.

⁶ Johnston City Council minutes, June 6, 2022

⁷ Agenda, Johnston City Council, June 6, 2022

⁸ Ordinance 1051, Johnston City Council minutes, June 7, 2021

⁹ Agenda, Johnston City Council, June 7, 2021

“The rate increase is provided for in the contract MWA has with Waste Management of Iowa and is based on a nationally published Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the compressed natural gas index.

“Fees collected for garbage and recycling services are pass-through fees, the city collects the fee from residents that have service available and sends the fees to Metro Waste Authority. The new fees go into effect on July 1, 2020 and will appear on the August utility bill.”¹⁰

- According to the minutes of the June 15, 2020, Johnston City Council meeting, Suresh Reddy voted to approve resolution 20-142, to a resolution establishing solid waste and recycling fees for 2020/21 (Passed 5-0).¹¹

***Editor’s Note:** Some trash fees were decreased with this resolution.*

¹⁰ Agenda, Johnston City Council, June 15, 2020

¹¹ Resolution 20-142, Johnston City Council minutes, June 15, 2020

TRANSGENDER SPORTS

- **In a February 2022 Facebook post that linked to an article regarding legislation banning transgender women and girls from competing in girls' sports, Suresh Reddy wrote, "Seeing the hatred and bigotry that just came out of the Iowa legislature breaks my heart. Let's face the facts, transgender youth will suffer, Iowa students and our schools will suffer, and people WILL leave the state because of this bill"**
 - In a Feb. 21, 2022, Facebook post, Suresh Reddy wrote, "Seeing the hatred and bigotry that just came out of the Iowa legislature breaks my heart. Let's face the facts, transgender youth will suffer, Iowa students and our schools will suffer, and people WILL leave the state because of this bill. All for politicians wanting to make headlines."¹²
 - In a Feb. 21, 2022, article, the *Des Moines Register* reported, "Transgender women and girls would be banned from competing in girls' sports offered by Iowa's schools, colleges and universities, under a bill passed Monday by Iowa House lawmakers.

"The House voted 55-39 Monday to pass the bill, with all but one Republican — Rep. Michael Bergan, R-Dorchester — voting in favor and every Democrat opposed."¹³

¹²www.facebook.com/sureshforiowa/posts/pfbid033iZ21t4tDZQGj73XMFigrqSgYMvGcvhXrepX4npo3tnp5RBi8m7SRgpTnry5eJiql

¹³ Stephen Gruber-Miller, "Iowa House passes ban on transgender girls playing K-12 and college girls' sports," *Des Moines Register*, Feb. 21, 2022

ABORTION

- **Suresh Reddy said he will unapologetically defend reproductive rights in Iowa**
 - On May 4, 2022, Suresh Reddy tweeted, “Suburban GOP legislators like my opponent try to paint themselves as ‘moderate,’ but the Iowa GOP’s moves to strip Iowans of reproductive freedoms are radical and will cause irreparable harm. I pledge to unapologetically defend reproductive rights in Iowa.”¹⁴

¹⁴ twitter.com/SureshForIowa/status/1521866065256529920

LIBERAL POLICIES

- **In 2022, Suresh Reddy said in the state house, he would “bring Iowans together with progressive policies”**
 - In a Jan. 22, 2022, Facebook post, Suresh Reddy for Iowa posted, “Suresh Reddy is a member of the Johnston City Council who is running for Iowa House District 43 to bring Iowans together with progressive policies, experienced leadership, and a vision for what Iowa can be if we invest in the future. You can learn more about Suresh Reddy at his website www.SureshReddyForIowa.com.”¹⁵

- **Suresh Reddy was a 2020 Joe Biden donor**
 - According to the Federal Election Commission, in the 2020 election cycle, Suresh Reddy, a software engineer for Workvia from Johnston, IA gave a total of \$55 to Joe Biden for President.¹⁶

¹⁵www.facebook.com/sureshforiowa/posts/pfbid06h79nYM7uMfkDc3hmCR73qLmuyExENMJP82An66tNF5NSjHSzfs6yWNhD8H9AGnl

¹⁶ Individual Contributor: Suresh Reddy, Federal Election Commission, Accessed June 13, 2022

MARIJUANA

➤ **Suresh Reddy supports legalizing marijuana and expunging the record of anyone currently in jail for a non-violent, marijuana-related offense**

- According to the Suresh Reddy for Iowa website, “Polls have shown that Iowans are in favor of legalizing Marijuana for Iowans over the age of 21. Along the way, I believe we should also overturn the convictions and expunge the record of anyone currently in jail for a non-violent, marijuana-related offense. These people have already paid a heavy price for something that is legal in so many other states. It’s time to put politics aside and get people back to their families, jobs, and communities.”¹⁷

¹⁷ Issues, Suresh Reddy for Iowa website, Accessed June 10, 2022