

Councilmember Nakawatase

Rooted in Imperial Beach. Committed to its future.

Born and raised in Imperial Beach, this is the place Councilmember Mariko Nakawatase has always called home. From her days at Mar Vista High School to summers at Camp Surf, this community shaped her. After college, returning wasn't a question, it was always the plan.

With a background in public administration and political science, Councilmember Nakawatase brings a results-driven approach to local government grounded in fiscal responsibility, transparent decision-making, and practical solutions that improve residents' everyday lives.

She's dedicated her career to community engagement, leadership development, and building partnerships that turn ideas into action.