

Olivier endorses Brand's Fresno mayoral bid after it was suggested Olivier run

By John
Ellis

The Fresno Bee January 7, 2015

Fresno City Council Member Lee Brand

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Last month, influential Republican businessman Tal Cloud suggested that Fresno City Council Member Clint Olivier should run for Fresno mayor in 2016.

Cloud at the time was unhappy with Olivier's council colleague, Lee Brand, who had voted in support of the controversial 2035 general plan, which Cloud felt was anti-free market. Cloud's dig was directed at Brand, who is the only person thus far to publicly say he'll run for mayor next year.

Brand and Olivier met recently, and Olivier gave Brand a signed endorsement. Both Olivier and Brand are, like Cloud, Republicans.

"I think Lee Brand would make a great mayor," said Olivier, who was one of two "no" council votes for the plan. "I have always felt that way. I look forward to working with Lee over the course of the final two years of his term. I am committed to working with Lee to find free-market solutions to our city's problems. I don't believe the city can ever reach its potential through taxes and over-regulation."

Brand said there is no animosity between him and Olivier.

"We get along for the most part on the City Council," Brand said. "I respect him as a colleague and I think he's a good friend."

Contact John Ellis: jellis@fresnobee.com, (559) 441-6320 or [@johnellis24](https://twitter.com/johnellis24) on Twitter.

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