

Candidate Name: Aijaz Zaheer Syed
Job Title: Program Manager / City Planner



About me:

I have been a resident of the ICQC neighborhood for **12** years and have witnessed our community's tireless efforts to establish a full-fledged Islamic Center. I fondly remember the early days of hosting evening congregational prayers in our homes. Those humble gatherings planted the seed that blossomed into the ICQC we are blessed to have today.

Professionally, I hold a **Master's in Computer Science**, a **Master's in City and Regional Planning**, and a **Bachelor's in Civil Engineering**.

Personally, I am passionate about community service. At the IACC Health Clinic, I helped automate and integrate patient data in a secure cloud environment. In Connecticut, I helped establish a seven-day-a-week after-school maktab program. I have also served on the Board of the Child Guidance Center, participated in Toastmasters, and volunteered with United Way, Habitat for Humanity, and the North Texas Food Bank.

My strengths:

I strive to lead with integrity and a strong sense of servant leadership, placing community needs and shared values at the heart of every decision. I bring a strategic and transparent approach to problem-solving, grounded in clear communication and active listening. I believe in building and empowering teams, fostering collaboration, and creating an environment where every voice is heard and valued.

Experience:

With over 25 years of diverse experience in technology and planning management, I have successfully led cross-functional teams and delivered large-scale infrastructure and digital transformation initiatives. My background spans local government and corporate environments, where I have driven innovation in construction and land management, technology integration, and operational excellence. I bring proven expertise in PMO governance and project management methodologies, with a strong track record of managing multi-million-dollar budgets and guiding programs from strategy to execution.

My Vision: Prompt Action Plan

- **Personal Connection:** Get to know every community member (musallee) to strengthen brotherhood and unity.
- **Community Spaces:** Explore the creation of designated gathering spaces for after prayer chats, multi-use trails, and safe, supervised play areas for youth (boys/girls) and children.
- **Children, Youth & Family Engagement:** More programs for elementary and middle school children; Quran competitions, Seerah competitions, Qirah Competitions, monthly Quran nights, etc. Expand the youth and young adults programs, Build on the success of our boys' retreats by organizing similar retreats for girls/families.
- **Membership Growth:** Develop initiatives to welcome new families and encourage active participation.
- **Neighborhood Outreach:** Strengthen relationships with surrounding communities through outreach and partnership initiatives, and explore the need for a community food pantry.
- **Jummah Parking Solutions:** Implement practical strategies to improve parking efficiency, safety, and accessibility.

Delayed Action Plan: ICQC Vision – "Empowering Faith, Family, and Future"

- **Musallah To Masjid Transition:** Set the ground work at the community level to pave the path towards the envisioned masjid. We will establish clear, achievable yearly goals towards: After School Programs for all ages, Qiraah and Tajweed Programs, Nasheed/Poetry Club, Calligraphy classes, Robotics Team, Part-time and Full-time Hifz, an Islamic School, a Food Pantry, Health Clinic, Funeral services, and more.
- **Populating the masjid:** Endeavor to work with the community at large to maximize attendance for all **5** obligatory prayers.
- **Masjid Construction:** Persevere to build our masjid on a stipulated timeline.
- **Community Endowment and Masjid Sustainability:** Develop a long term plan for masjid self-sustainability.
- **Civic Engagement:** Collaborate with Frisco City Hall, elected officials, neighborhood HOAs, local businesses, and community partners to strengthen outreach, foster mutual understanding, and enhance ICQC's presence in the broader community.

Why should you choose me as your Shura Member?

I bring a combination of deep community roots, professional expertise, and a lifelong commitment to service. With a professional background in technology, city planning, and project management, I am well-equipped to provide strategic direction, ensure operational excellence, and help ICQC transition from a musallah to a full fledged Islamic center.

I am committed to servant leadership, transparency, and inclusive decision-making. If elected as your Shura Member, I will work to strengthen ICQC's programs, enhance member engagement, support our children, youth, and families, and guide our community towards a vibrant and sustainable future - a **"Second Home"** that *welcomes everyone with open arms and a smile*.