Election Insight 2018

The Newsletter of the Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
San Benito, Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties

— CLIP AND SAVE —

SIERRA CLUB ENDORSEMENTS
The Loma Prieta Chapter Endorses the Following:

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
CD 14th: Jackie Speier (DI)
CD 17th: Ro Khanna (DI)
CD 18th: Anna Eshoo (DI)
CD 19th: Zoe Lofgren (DI)
CD 20th: Jimmy Panetta (DI)

STATEWIDE CALIFORNIA OFFICE
Governor: Gavin Newsom (D)
Secretary of State: Alex Padilla (DI)
Controller: Betty Yee (DI)
Attorney General: Xavier Becerra (DI)
Insurance Commissioner: Ricardo Lara (D)
Superintendent of Public Instruction: Tony Thurmond (D)

State Assembly Seats
AD 19: Phil Ting (DI)
AD 22: Kevin Mullin (DI)
AD 24: Marc Berman (DI)
AD 25: Kansen Chu (DI)
AD 27: Ash Kalra (DI)
AD 29: Mark Stone (DI)
AD 30: Robert Rivas (D)

State Senate Seat
SD10: Bob Weickowski (DI)

State Proposition 1
(Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018) – YES

State Proposition 3
(Water Supply and Water Quality Act of 2018) – OPPOSE

State Proposition 6
(Repeal of Recently Enacted Transportation Funding) – OPPOSE

State Proposition 10
(Rent Control Initiative) – YES

State Proposition 12
(Prevention of Cruelty to Farm Animals Act) – YES

SAN JOSE BALLOT MEASURES
Measure V
(Affordable Housing Bond Issue) – YES

Measure T
(Public Safety and Infrastructure Bond Issue) – YES

SPECIAL DISTRICT

GRANADA COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
Barbara Dye
Nancy Reed Marsh
Eric Suchomel

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT WARD #1
Pete Siemens

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT WARD #5
Karen Holman

MONTEREY WATER & SANITARY DISTRICT
Jim Harvey
Ric Lohman

SAN MATEO COUNTY HARBOR DISTRICT COMMISSIONER
Ed Larenas

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
Board of Supervisors
Don Rocha
Susan Ellenberg

CITY COUNCILS

Cupertino City Council
Darcy Paul
Tara Sreekrishnan
Savita Vaidhyanathan

East Palo Alto City Council
Ruben Abrica

Gilroy City Council
(4-yr term)
Tom Fischer

Los Altos City Council
Neysa Fligor
Jean Mordo

Los Altos Hills Town Council
Kavita Tankha
George Tyson

Los Gatos City Council
Marico Sayoc
Rob Rennie

MOUNTAIN VIEW CITY COUNCIL
Alison Hicks
Ellen Kamei
Pat Showalter

PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL
Tom Dubois
EricFixeth
Cory Wolbach

San Jose City Council, district 7
Tam Nguyen

San Jose City Council, district 9
Kalen Gallagher

SUNNYVALE CITY COUNCIL
Seat #1
Gustav Larson

SUNNYVALE CITY COUNCIL
Seat #2
Glenn Hendricks

CITY COUNCILS

IN SAN MATEO COUNTY

Half Moon Bay City Council
Robert Brownstone
Deborah Penrose
Debbie Ruddock

Menlo Park City Council Seat #1
Cecilia Taylor

Menlo Park City Council Seat #2
Drew Combs

Menlo Park City Council Seat #4
Betsy Nash

PACIFICA CITY COUNCIL
Mary Bier
John Keener
Andonica Shaw Porter

REDWOOD CITY COUNCIL
Rick Hunter
Diana Reddy
Christina Umhofer

SAN CARLOS CITY COUNCIL
Ken Castle
Sara McDowell
Laura Parme-Lohan
Thank you to our Political Endorsement Volunteers

This fall we covered 24 races across San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties and endorsed 54 individuals for office. The process lets our members and the public know who the Sierra Club considers a strong environmental leader. We would like to thank our members of our Political Committee, Endorsement interview volunteers and our Endorsement article writers: John Battis, Kat Baumgartner, Sue Chou, George Clifford, Gita Dev, Gladwyn d’Souza, James Eggers, Stan Farkas, Mike Ferreira, Kit Gordon, Melissa Hippard, Camille King, Ken King, Gary Latshaw, Mackenzie Mossing, Anne Ng, Dave Olson, Dave Poeschel, Marianna Raymond, Lenore Roberts, Hyysond Robinson, David Roiser, Suzanne Rolencowin, Terry Trumbull, Paula Wallis, Cheryl Weiden, Kristel Wickham and Helen Wisher.

A special thank you to Mike Ferreira and Barbara Kelsey for leading production of the Election Insight newsletter.

Each Loma Prieta Chapter member is entitled to vote once in this election. Two selection columns have been included so that both people in a dual membership can vote (see below, to discover whether you have dual membership). If you fail to receive your ballot, contact the Chapter office (650-390-8411) for an extra. Photocopies or other reproductions will not be accepted.

A. Vote for Chapter and regional group candidates. Instructions below tell how to determine your group.

B. Decide whether to use the Voter 1 column or the Voter 2 column. Mark your ballot by placing an “X” in the box opposite candidate names in that column. Ballots marked in both columns by other than two members in a joint membership will not be counted. Print write-in names legibly. Sign validation tab on the line provided (tab will be removed prior to counting).

C. Cut along dashed line and remove the complete ballot from paper. The mailing label on the back must be left in place for validation. In lieu of a label, print clearly on the back your name, member number, and expiration date (EXACTLY as they appear on your membership card) and your mailing address.

D. Place ballot in an envelope and mail to:
   Chapter/Group Elections Sierra Club
   3921 E. Bayshore Rd., Ste 204
   Palo Alto, CA 94303

E. Ballots must be sent in the mail and received by November 19, 2018. Late ballots will not be counted.
The Sierra Club enthusiastically urges the re-election of longtime, dedicated environmental leader Pete Siemens to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) Board of Directors. Prior to serving on the MROSD Board, Pete became the Los Gatos Town Council and as Mayor. As a hillside study committee member, Pete began his tenure into politics, which led to the eventually successful effort between the Town of Los Altos Hills and MROSD to purchase St. Joseph’s Hill Open Space Preserve. Recently Pete advocated for MROSD’s joint land purchase with Sanagas to help make the Saratoga-To-The-Sea Trail possible. Pete also served on the Los Gatos Trails Committee, and was a member of the Santa Clara County Transportation Commission for 10 years. Voters in Ward 7 will still have time to electing Pete Siemens to another term on MROSD’s Board. You can contact Pete at (408) 761-0760, or go to: peteisms.com.

Vote for a Proven Environmental Leader Karen Holman for MROSD, Ward 5 (East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Palo Alto and Stanford)

By Lorraine Roberts, MROSD Endorsement Team Member

The Sierra Club is proud to endorse Karen Holman for the open seat in MROSD’s Ward 5. This seat was recently vacated by Nonette Hanks, one of the District’s Founders who has served on the MROSD Board for 40 years. Nonette’s distinguished leadership in promoting the foothills and baylands of the Peninsula from sprouting development is unparalleled. When she decided to retire from public service, Nonette asked Karen Holman to run for the Ward 5 seat. Karen Holman’s commitment to the environment and open space, is the best choice to continue Nonette’s legacy. Karen Holman’s dedication to environmental protection and community in Palo Alto uniquely qualify her for MROSD Director. She has served as a Palo Alto City Council member and Mayor as well as on the city’s Planning and Transportation Commission with thoughtfulness and courage as the city has hotly debated how best to address urban housing and transportation challenges and maintain its previous environmental resources. Her steadfast advocacy for the environment includes leadership in successfully adding critical acreage to Foothills Park, engraving greater Coastal setbacks to protect sensitive habitats, and working to ensure that Palo Alto’s urban tree canopy is adequately protected and cared for. Karen was the Go-Chair of the city’s Community Advisory Committee that engaged the public in a visioning process that led to the successful passage of Measure A as a 57% Yes vote in 2014. This strong background and knowledge of District policies and priorities uniquely qualifies Karen for a seat on the Board. She is endorsed by all of the seven current MROSD Directors. Sierra Club enthusiastically joins them in supporting Karen’s candidacy.

We Need to Keep Ed Larenas on the San Mateo County Harbor District Commission

By Loma Prieta Political Committee

Ed Larenas ran for this seat 2 years ago and finished as the impressive top vote getter – and no wonder! Ed has an excellent background as the longtime leader of the San Mateo Sur- face Transit District and he is justifiably famed for several environmental victories – both politically and legally. Among his prior accomplishments is the establishment of a Coastside sea-water testing lab not far from the Mavericks and an area that has been operated by volunteers for 15 continuous years. On the District board he is the steady voice of environmental science – exactly what we expected from him. Please reelect Ed Larenas. www.edlarenas.com

Keep Half Moon Bay’s City Council in Responsible Hands

By King, Half Moon Bay’s Political Endorsement Chair

Debbie Ruddock is a lifelong Half Moon Bay resident, works for the California Coastal Conservancy, and has been endorsed by our candidates and board member by voting for Ric Lohman. Ric was a multi-term, multi-endorsed incumbent in an adjoining district. He has always been an environmentally, technical and financial record. Ric has now moved to Montara and will have a near-zero learning curve regarding MWSD’s issues. He is also familiar with the many problem areas of the Sewer Authority Midpeninsula (SAM) and would be an excellent resource for MWSD’s representatives to SAM.

Multiple Sierra Club endorses Jim Harvey on one of the few people who wish wasn’t so rare. His many years of dedicated attention to the Montara Water and Sanitary District (MWSD) stand as affirmation of our democratic ideals of service to our neighbors. Jim brings years of institutional memory to every meeting of the board. He understands the intrinsic environmental mission of the District and its importance to the residents of Montara and Moss Beach. Jim is a solid choice on the November 6 ballot. ja_harvey@yahoo.com

Ed Larenas

Nancy Reed Marsh

Eric Suchomel

Ric Lohman

Nancy Reed Marsh

Eric Suchomel

Ric Lohman

Debbie Ruddock

Montara Water and Sanitary District – Two Solid Environmental Choices – Jim Harvey and Ric Lohman

By Loma Prieta Political Committee

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Montara Water and Sanitary District (MWSD) voters have an opportunity to choose their new District Board member by voting for Ric Lohman. Ric is a multi-term, multi-endorsed incumbent in an adjoining district. He has always been an environmentally, technical and financial record. Ric has now moved to Montara and will have a near-zero learning curve regarding MWSD’s issues. He is also familiar with the many problem areas of the Sewer Authority Midpeninsula (SAM) and would be an excellent resource for MWSD’s representatives to SAM.

Eric Suchomel is an environmental engineer by profession and can bring that acumen to his service on the MWSD Board. He is also familiar with the many problem areas of the Sewer Authority Midpeninsula (SAM) and would be an excellent resource for MWSD’s representatives to SAM.

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Deborah Penrose is a local family physician who ran for council for the first time in 2014 and surprised many by emerging as the largest vote getter among all candidates, and has set an accomplishment for a political newcomer! Now Deborah has some experience to brag about having worked closely with Delbhie Reddick to confront issues like plastic bags from erosion, planning for sea level rise and managed retreat, working with the chronically homeless and helping remove the homeless from Plover Park, which is designated sensitive habitat, and overseeing the completion of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan involving a project aimed at linking Marin’s disparate neighborhoods as part of the General Plan so that people wouldn’t necessarily need their cars for most trips. She also instigated a new plastic bottle ban in Half Moon Bay State Park to ban plastic consumption for accessing town. She also instigated a disparate neighborhoods as part of the General Planning for sea level rise and managed retreat,。“I am not what I want to accomplish for a local TV station, and eventually for network advertising,” she says. “But I have a strong environmental record, and she has owned several small businesses, is a motivational speaker, and has several TEDx talks available online, including a speech delivered through Pacifica’s public schools, which also provides her strongest reason to run for council, because her family is intimately tied into Pacifica’s future. Adonica is inspired by the turnout of women across the US to seek elective office in order to change status quo, and she feels compelled to do her part. She’s been involved with beach cleanup for years and supports finishing Pacifica’s Main Beach project and implementing the policies dealing with potential sea level inundation and retreat. The 3 opposing candidates are running on competing visions of what Pacifica could be in the future. One focus on the negative impacts of development that include traffic, infrastructure, air pollution and demands on the City’s finite water supply. As a second term planning commission member, he ran as a write-in candidate in 2014 and was re-elected in 2016. He helped Champion-endorsed Deirdre Martin campaign successfully for council, who along with Sue Digre, also endorsed John’s campaign. John Keener is a first-term incumbent who serves on the Sierra Club’s Coastal Program (LCP), a Climate Action Plan for necessary retreat in projected inundation areas. This is controversial with the real estate and business interests, and some residents who live in this area, who oppose flagging long-range problems that may cost them revenue or affect their property values. Pacifica is a city with deep roots in the environmental and fiscal health, and some of whom face incumbents asking for a third term. Whoever gets elected to the Council will have to work closely with them for these development proposals have already exceeded the 2.3 million square feet of office space approved as part of the 2016 General Plan update. Accordingly, that plan failed to adequately address or fund the associated infrastructure necessary to mitigate the impacts of this huge increase in commercial density. This is the first Menlo Park City Council election under the new format. Districts 1 and 2 are up for election this year. A map of the City’s Council election districts can be found here: www.menlopark.org/DocumentCenter?View=18069/Approved-CityCouncil-Districts-map

District 1 (Bell Haven): Cecilia Taylor

Cecilia Taylor is well known in the community as an active with deep roots in the Bell Haven Community. The District is the City’s fastest growing, with Facebook’s rapid expansion dramatizing to overwhelm the City’s infrastructure. Taylor’s efforts to bring people into the Bell Haven a much needed and long overdue voice on the Council, providing the community with a direct say in upcoming developments. Facebook’s impact, and planning decisions related to the Bay, the City is the City’s most valuable asset to sea level rise, an issue Taylor has prioritized. This District opens so many opportunities to move important decisions in the Bell Haven. Taylor ran a strong campaign for Council in 2016, receiving over 1800 votes city-wide for her campaign website www.taylor4menlopark.com

Robert Brownstone is a local fixture who has always been a community activist with deep roots in the Bell Haven Community. The District is the City’s fastest growing, with Facebook’s rapid expansion dramatizing to overwhelm the City’s infrastructure. Taylor’s efforts to bring people into the Bell Haven a much needed and long overdue voice on the Council, providing the community with a direct say in upcoming developments. Facebook’s impact, and planning decisions related to the Bay, the City is the City’s most valuable asset to sea level rise, an issue Taylor has prioritized. This District opens so many opportunities to move important decisions in the Bell Haven. Taylor ran a strong campaign for Council in 2016, receiving over 1800 votes city-wide for her campaign website www.taylor4menlopark.com

BETSY NASH

Betsy Nash will be a strong environmental leader on the City Council. She is passionate about global and local environmental issues, particularly fighting climate change, sea level rise, protecting the City’s urban forest and expansion of open space. Her priorities for Council include reducing the use of single-use disposable vehicles, improving walking/biking infrastructure, developing a parking management system, improving the first/last mile connections, and promoting sensible, balanced growth and development. Nash is not accepting donations from developers and has limited campaign contributions to a maximum of $250. betsnash2018@gmail.com www.betsnash2018.com

MENLO PARK CITY COUNCIL

Sierra Club Endorses
Taylor, Comb and Nash for Menlo Park City Council

By Hyrdon Robinson, Menlo Park Endorsement Committee Chair

Menlo Park is facing a number of challenges, including intense development pressure from Facebook, Stanford, and others, development-related traffic congestion; and a skyrocketing
Laura Parmer-Lohan is a small business owner, specializing in product launch strategy and execution, especially in the biotech field. She has also written for the Single-Family Housing Advisory Committee and other various youth sports and educational committees. Her focus on City Council will be smart water management, smart and affordable housing development with access to public transportation, maintaining open space, and minimizing the impact of sea level rise on the city. www.LaurForSanCarlos.com

As a member of the San Carlos Economic Development Agency, Sara McDowell has a solid understanding of how the city works, and the challenges of thought development, affordable housing, public transit, and land use policies.

Ken Castle brings extensive environmental experience to his candidacy, as an environmental reporter for Sparks Newspapers (southern Alameda County), writer of the weekly Venture outdoor section of the San Jose Mercury News, columnist of the San Francisco Chronicle’s weekly outdoor section, and author of the book Tahoe: The Complete Guide. He worked as an international trade consultant, and as a Public Relations Manager for several tech companies. He helped establish a Neighborhood Watch organization in town. His city council focus will be on preservation of open space and the city’s bike routes, encouraging use of public transportation to reduce traffic congestion, and encouraging smart development in neighborhoods. Kentcastlecouncil.com

Santa Clara County Supervisor

In the race to re- place termed-out Sup. Ken Yeager, both of the preferred candidates made it through to this November’s general election runoff with victories. Don Rocha has a proven record on San Jose City Council of putting people and the planet first. And, San Jose Unified School District Board Member Susan Ellenberg’s keen intellect has made her a quick study on the myriad of issues confronting San Jose City Council.

Don writes, “As your Supervisor, I’ll do what I’ve always done on the City Council, and on the School Board: ensure our tax dollars are spent responsibly; soonin funding for parks, libraries, senior services and community centers; protect our public safety; and ensure every resident has a place to call home.”

Susan writes, “Together, we can protect access to affordable healthcare and make the lives of all families easier with a more efficient transit system, quality parks and schools, expanded early education opportunities, and safe neighborhoods.” Good luck to them both, we can’t lose!

San Carlos City Council

By San Carlos Belmont Endorsement Team Co-Chair

Laura Parmer-Lohan, Sara McDowell, and Ken Castle for San Carlos City Council

With three open seats on the City Council, San Carlos has an opportunity to elect new leaders with new ideas and diverse backgrounds, both professionally and within the community. These three candidates have expressed and demonstrated views that closely align with the Sierra Club on major environmental issues.

Reelect Ruben Abrica to East Palo Alto’s City Council

By Luna Pricia Political Committee Chair

The Loma Prieta Chamber of Commerce Mayor Ruben Abrica for reelection to the East Palo Alto City Council because many of the best things that have happened to this town since its incorporation in 1983 (on which he played a role) have the markings of Ruben’s efforts. In particular we recognize his creativity and courage that cities have sound environmental laws and policies.

EndorseEmEnt Issue October 2018

sea level rise. As a planning commissioner, he voted with the majority against changing the City’s General Plan to allow taller buildings in the Harbor View office towers. Regrettably, the Council voted to go forward with the review. Rick will work to correct the serious jobs/housing imbalance and will support transit-oriented development, along with affordable housing. Protection of existing communities against sea level rise is another area of serious focus for Rick. As the City grows, he is committed to retaining “the hometown feel” we all love. www.rickhunter.org

LadyForSanCarlos.com

As a member of the San Carlos Economic Development Agency, Sara McDowell has a solid understanding of how the city works, and the challenges of thoughtful development, affordable housing, public transit, and land use policies. As a board member of the San Carlos Parks and Recreation Foundation, she has worked hard to renovate and protect local parks and open space. She is also keenly aware of San Carlos’ vulnerability to sea level rise, especially in the East San Carlos neighborhoods, businesses, and infrastructure. www.saramcdowell.org

Ken Castle brings extensive environmental experience to his candidacy, as an environmental reporter for Sparks Newspapers (southern Alameda County), writer of the weekly Venture outdoor section of the San Jose Mercury News, columnist of the San Francisco Chronicle’s weekly outdoor section, and author of the book Tahoe: The Complete Guide. He worked as an international trade consultant, and as a Public Relations Manager for several tech companies. He helped establish a Neighborhood Watch organization in town. His city council focus will be on preservation of open space and the city’s bike routes, encouraging use of public transportation to reduce traffic congestion, and encouraging smart development in neighborhoods. Kentcastlecouncil.com

SANTA CLARA COUNTY SUPERVISOR

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, District 4: Don Rocha and Susan Ellenberg Make it Easy

By Dave Poulson, Open Space Committee Chair

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Move Forward with Darcy Paul, Savita Vaidyanathan, and Tara Sreekrishnan

by Dave Poulson, Open Space Committee Chair

Council Member Savita Vaidyanathan pledged faithful housing and transportation to her focus on youth, seniors, and the environment. Savita is experienced on the council and proud of her work to promote the development of bike trails, along former Union Pacific rail property, promotion of POGO carpool application, study for transit solution for I-880, and support of the new developed Community Choice Energy program.

Among the crowded field of new comers, Tara Sreekrishnan, stands out as a fresh young face. But don’t be fooled; Tara brings experience working for the City of Berkeley and has developed practical skills in environmental sustainability. And being home grown in Cupertino, she knows the town well. She currently serves on an advisory committee to Silicon Valley Clean Energy, the community’s nascent community choice energy agency. Don’t be shy in your support for this new talent. Tara has extraordinary knowledge of housing and environmental issues that are confronting the City.

With an urbanizing city, our environmental eyes are often focused on transportation, clean energy, and active recreation. So the “nature” of our parks and streams that still provide habitat for wildlife and natural resources are often overlooked. But Council Member Darcy Paul has remained protective of the natural resources that support the wildlife we cherish and he has been open to hearing Sierra Club concerns as these issues arise. We look forward to his continued support for the natural environment. darcy.paul@sva.com, savita-spergirt.com, tara@ecoperkins.com

CUTFIPERTO CITY COUNCIL

Cupertino City Council

DIANA REDDY

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By San Carlos Belmont Endorsement Team Co-Chair

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Ruben Abrica

East Palo Alto City Council

By Luna Pricia Political Committee Chair

The Loma Prieta Chamber of Commerce Mayor Ruben Abrica for reelection to the East Palo Alto City Council because many of the best things that have happened to this town since its incorporation in 1983 (on which he played a role) have the markings of Ruben’s efforts. In particular we recognize his creativity and courage that cities have sound environmental laws and policies.

 engraved views that closely align with the City Council’s new ideas and diverse backgrounds, and will support transit-oriented development, along with affordable housing. Protection of existing communities against sea level rise is another area of serious focus for Rick. As the City grows, he is committed to retaining “the hometown feel” we all love. www.rickhunter.org

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San Francisco Business Times

SARA MCDOWELL

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San Francisco Business Times

SARA MCDOWELL
Neyya is specific about how she would consider the environmental impact of decisions she would make as a council member. Her ideas include incorporating green initiatives into City programs and policies, increasing solar on City buildings, homes and commercial buildings; making sustainable design a priority; and exploring ways to partner with the schools and business community to increase awareness and implementation of more green initiatives. To increase water conservation she would require that the City review and update the Los Altos codes to ensure they promote water conservation and identify ways to work with the community to ensure compliance. On transit she supports having a variety but one size does not fit all. This includes carpool lanes, car shares, driving less cars, more accessible public transportation options, and more connectivity among these different projects. She supports affordable housing and understands that Los Altos must work with other cities and employers on a master long-term plan that allows for affordable housing and real transit solutions that mitigate the impact on the environment.

Finally, Neyya takes pride in her leadership style being “deliberative, balanced and collaborative. It enables me to work effectively with the City staff and residents, and it is how I approach working with the City council candidates to ensure that we achieve our shared vision for our community.”

KAVITA TANKHA
KAVITA TANKHA

Marico Sayoc will passionately continue to advocate for green building standards, water reclamation strategies and more public transportation options. As Mayor she ensured that funds could be set aside to protect watersheds. She continues to advocate for green building standards such as reducing water demands, using grey water and water efficient fixtures for new construction. Marico is mindful that development should stay as flat and within developed areas so that the community continues to have a greenbelt that is accessible to the public. She continues to advocate for public transportation on Highway 280 to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles. She will also insure that state mandated development also addresses the critical community needs of Los Altos. For previous work on the San Francisco Estuary Project will provide her with important insights on issues rising sea levels will have on our communities. Marico advocated for Measure A to buffer against sea level rise.

Marico has worked for the U.S. EPA, NRDC, Fish and Wildlife, Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment and helps a Masters in Environmental Management. She will be a strong, well informed voice for the environment on the Los Altos Town Council. www.maricossayoc.com

Robby Rennie has been a supporter of environmental issues many times in his career. In addition to being a member of the Sierra Club he has had a long history of active involvement as a volunteer in the Loma Prieta Chapter. He is successfully organized and led a team to lobby the town of Los Gatos to put the Climate Protection Plan on the ballot. He is a strong proponent of mass transit and developing new housing and commercial space near light rail so as to lessen the impact on surrounding communities. He believes mixed use spaces would also insulate that residents can walk and bike.

As Mayor Rob worked to update the sustainability plan to take advantage of SCE’s 100 percent carbon free electricity. Rob also supported projects to rebuild the marshlands and prevent storm surges. He has been a champion of open space parks and chair of a member of the council created and finalized master bike lanes plan. We feel confident he will be a valuable and vocal advocate for the environment. www.redefinemobility.com. robrennie3@aol.com

Jose Esteves, The Mayor Milpitas Needs

Jose Esteves has a reliable environmental vote and community leader for over a decade. He develops a growth BART station plan that has been endorsed by the Sierra Club for 6 terms as Mayor and one as a 4 year councilman. He was on the Council that passed Measure Z on the ballot to protect Milpitas’ hillside from development, and as Mayor, led the fight to institutionalize Measure Z for 20 years. That has so effective that no one even mentioned hillside development as an issue in Milpitas. Jose Esteves is running again because he wants to ensure his legacy, to bring his leadership, knowledge and experience to help solve important projects such as the Bicycle Master Plan forward, and protect Milpi- tas’ quality of life. We strongly support Jose Esteves for mayor of Milpitas.

To learn more visit: estevesformayor.com

MARCO SAYOC

The Los Altos Hills Council candidates

GEORGE TYSON

GEORGE TYSON

Beltran

Beltran

Los Altos Hills City Council

Los Altos Hills City Council

MORGAN HILL CITY COUNCIL

MORGAN HILL CITY COUNCIL

Greener Footsteps for Morgan Hill with Julie Makrai Hutchenson, City Council, District D

By Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

Morgan Hill voters have an exceptional opportunity to add an additional voice for the environment with the candidacy of Julie Makrai Hutchenson.

As a long time resident of Morgan Hill, Julie has served her community in many ways. And with her long list of accomplishments, Julie provides the experience and sophistication needed to shift the City in a more environmentally progressive future. Julie served as Treasurer for Measure A for a Vibrant Downtown (2002), worked with the encourage density and transit-oriented development in the downtown area. She founded the community group called the Morgan Hill “Hill” that sought solutions to issues related to the community’s quality of life especially in regards to downtown development, high speed rail, and fighting the city’s plan for sprawl in the Southeast Quadrant.

Julie serves on the Morgan Hill Community Working Group for high speed rail, the County’s Agricultural Preservation Task Force, is an active member of the Clara Valley Habitat Agency Public Advisory Committee. With your support of Julie Makrai Hutchenson, an enhanced conservation vision will be taking shape on the Morgan Hill City Council.

www.julieforcitycouncil.com

Planning for a Better Morgan Hill with Yvonne Martinez Beltran, City Council, District B

By Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

Yvonne Martinez Beltran has an electro- rational background in planning. Now serving on the Morgan Hill Planning Commission, Yvonne is gaining national recognition for her leadership as the Morgan Hill City Council. In addition to the Sierra Club, Yvonne has been endorsed by the Morgan Hill Conservation League, the Morgan Hill Citizens for a Better Morgan Hill, Julie Makrai Hutchenson’s campaign, and Julie Makrai Hutchenson herself. Yvonne believes green planning will make Morgan Hill safe and walkable with connecting trails and pathways. Your support of Yvonne Martinez Beltran will help the Council achieve the majority needed to preserve open space while providing for sustainable and smart growth.

Yvonneforcouncil.com

MORGAN HILL CITY COUNCIL

Yvonne Martinez Beltran

Yvonne Martinez Beltran

LAKE MENDOZA HUTCHENSON

LAKE MENDOZA HUTCHENSON

Marlisa Grills Deserves Your Vote

by Melissa Hippard, team leader

Marlisa Grills continues to get our support because she has demonstrated her commitment to the environment and her ability to work with her colleagues and community members to get good policy adopted. Marlisa has championed a more regional approach to solving vexing problems such as traffic, housing and traffic congestion from nearby waste facilities. She also led the charge to ensure Milpitas joined Silicon Valley Clean Energy and currently serves on the board. Ensuring organized energy is directed from the landfill Milpitas now has one of the most progressive recycling programs in their recently approved garbage contract. Thank you Marlisa for being a green champion for our community.

Please vote for Marlisa Grills on November 6th. For more information visit www.facebook.com/redefinemobility

MILPITAS CITY COUNCIL

MILPITAS CITY COUNCIL

MARSHA GRILLI

MARSHA GRILLI

MILPITAS CITY COUNCIL

MARISHA GRILLI

Compassionate Constantine for Mayor of Morgan Hill

by Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

While serving on the Morgan Hill City Council, Council Member Rich Constan- tine has proven to be thoughtful and environmentally sensitive.

Rich initiated the ban on plastic grocery bags, voted for and approved the conversion of all city street lights to LED, voted to convert all the City’s garbage trucks to natural gas, and voted to acquire all power from renewable energy sources. He also signed the Statement of Purpose for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District initiative, “Diesel Free by 33.”

And, when Morgan Hill attempted to annex the Southeast Quadrant – hundreds of acres of prime agricultural land – for urban develop- ment, (at that time) he was the lone vote of opposition to the misguided plan. (The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) rejected the plan.)

Rich is a firefighter, family man, and while low-key, his compassion for others shows. He has volunteered his time coaching youth football, and dedicated his time to March of Dimes, Susan G. Komen foundation, MDA, San Jose Firefighters Burn Foundation and American Red Cross Hero Celebration selection committee. He also volunteered at the Bernard Mev Hospital in Haiti to treat critically injured and ill Haitians after the 2010 earthquake.
**Hicks, Kamei and Showalter Will Save Quality of Life and Environment for Mountain View**

By Gita Diz, Endorsement Team Lead

Issues of how to balance rapid growth and development with health, housing, habitat and an enriched quality of life dominate our discussions with all the candidates. The following three candidates garnered your vote because they clearly demonstrate how their knowledge and concern about the environment influence their plans to address the other critical issues.

**Alison Hicks**

A city planner who brings experience and passion for walkable, nature-friendly neighborhoods, housing and green spaces. She is knowledgeable and experienced about planning, walkable neighborhoods, growing a vibrant urban park system, preserving open space, creating more affordable housing and revitalizing downtowns. With this background, she is poised to hit the ground running on joining the Council and work to protect and enhance the environment while shaping and controlling growth.

“I am devoted to using my planning experience to make Mountain View a sustainable and people-oriented growth, rather than one that exploits our environment and the importance of our open spaces. She has also supported efforts to provide clean energy, improved trails, safer biking, open space, and a green city. We are pleased to endorse Tam Nguyen for District 7 in San Jose.”

**Tam Nguyen**

Incumbent Tam Nguyen has proven himself to be a strong voice of the environment and the community. He is mindful of the plight of the less fortunate in his district, and has helped the community heal from the devastating Coyote Creek Flood of 2017. Council Member Nguyen has consistently supported creek cleanups and the education of the community about natural resources and the importance of caring for our watersheds. He has also supported efforts to provide clean energy, improved trails, safer biking, open space, and a green city. We are pleased to endorse Tam Nguyen for District 7 in San Jose.

**San Jose City Council District 9: Vote Kalen Gallagher**

By Dave Poudel, Open Space Committee Chair

Kalen Gallagher’s boots are firmly planted in the future. He has a law degree and passed the bar exam, taught middle school social science, now serves for a small education software company, and serves on the Campbell Union School District’s board. A native of Mountain View, Kalen is running for the District 9 seat, the last open seat on the Sunnyvale City Council.

Kalen Gallagher has the vision to make Mountain View a model for what the world would be proud of. As city council he works to pass initial seed money to SVCE, implement a food waste collection system (despite a rocky rollout and initial resident resistance), and to update zoning for more dense housing near transit. He serves on the VTA Board, advocated for small electric vehicles, and to date has worked to “Accelerate Climate Action” (a Council priority for 2018). Kalen will thoughtfully consider how to turn innovative ideas into cost effective and efficient solutions. www.hendricksforsvcouncil2018.com

**For bold leadership on climate elect these leaders to Sunnyvale City Council**

Gustav Larson is the incumbent running for Sunnyvale’s Seat 1. In his first term on the City Council he has been a constant voice for the environment and sustainability. This includes making “Accelerating Climate Action” a Council Priority in 2017 and 2018, support for Sunnyvale’s lead role in creating Silicon Valley Clean Energy, planning for more and denser housing near CalTrain and along El Camino Real, adopting Vision Zero to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, funding for Safe Routes to School, implementing an innovative food scrap collection program, local match fund- ing for Stevens Creek habitat restoration, and design guidelines for bicycle facilities. Using his career experience in software engineering, he brings measured thought and reach to bold decisions. He currently serves on the board of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BawSCA) and previously held a seat on national advisory com- mittees and commissions relating to transit, housing, land use, and planning.

With a seat on the dais, Gustav will stand up for local, sustainable and equitable solutions to our most complex regional and global issues. www.GustavForSunnyvale.com
Measure T Could be a Breakthrough in Conservation of Coyote Valley

by Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

Measure T would issue $450 million in general obligation bonds to fund the acquisition, construction and completion of affordable housing in San Jose. At a time when the cost of housing in the Bay Area has far surpassed unprecedented rates, Measure T aims to provide affordable housing for our most vulnerable populations, including working families, seniors, teachers, students, and nearly 4,500 people who are homeless in San Jose.

The City intends to use Measure T to lever age funding from Measure A – Santa Clara County’s affordable housing parcel tax passed by voters in 2016 – as well as state and federal grants in order to reach its ambitious goal of 10,000 affordable units within the next decade. Measure T is a meaningful solution to the housing crises that will fund a significant supply of housing, easing the burden of housing costs on current and future generations.

The measure will require a 2/3 vote to pass. You can read the measure’ text and resolutions at www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=5694

Measure V Could Help House Thousands in San Jose

By Markanez Masing, Chapter Volunteer

Coming to San Jose voters this November, Measure V would issue $450 million in general obligation bonds to fund the acquisition, construction and completion of affordable housing in San Jose. At a time when the cost of housing in the Bay Area has far surpassed unprecedented rates, Measure V aims to provide affordable housing for our most vulnerable populations, including working families, seniors, teachers, students, and nearly 4,500 people who are homeless in San Jose.

The City intends to use Measure V to lever age funding from Measure A – Santa Clara County’s affordable housing parcel tax passed by voters in 2016 – as well as state and federal grants in order to reach its ambitious goal of 10,000 affordable units within the next decade. Measure V is a meaningful solution to the housing crises that will fund a significant supply of housing, easing the burden of housing costs on current and future generations.

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LETTER FROM THE LOMA PRIETA CHAPTER

Hello friends,

I am pleased to present the Loma Prieta Chapter’s 2018 Election Insight Newsletter which represents hundreds of hours of volunteer work, just a part of the thousands of hours of volunteer work in conservation, outings, political activism and public education.

Our chapter is blessed with some of the most spectacular nature in all the world, and what we still have thanks to dedicated environmental advocates like those in our chapter who have worked for decades and are still working to protect: local outdoor enthusiasts who plan and guide hundreds of hikes and other outings for thousands each year, local political activists who research and interview hundreds of candidates in order to make trustworthy endorsements, local environmental educators who teach and mentor our region’s current and future leaders, and local environmental experts who spend thousands of hours on conservation projects of nearly unimaginable complexity. A survey asked people around the world what they thought was “most beautiful in the United States”. No one mentioned The Empire State Building, or Rodeo Drive, or even Scarlett Johansson. Few noted anything made by humans, but instead the vast majority recalled what has been protected by humans. The top two answers were The National Parks and the California Coast. Our Chapter has both.

The nature that we still have is also in large part thanks to local financial supporters who share our values and give generously for today’s work for tomorrow’s generations. These wise donors, who truly understand “investing in futures”, both inspire and enable our work to protect irreplaceable places that we all depend upon for the health of our bodies, minds and spirits. Our chapter receives only a sliver of members’ dues which are paid to Sierra Club National, so your gifts to the Chapter really do provide the breath and blood for the muscle and sinew of our work. We could not survive without your gifts, so I take this special opportunity to thank all those generous foresighted individuals and organizations.

Thanks to all of you for all your help to Explore, Enjoy and Protect this land that we love.

Sincerely,
James Egggers, Director
Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter