



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

BOARDS/COUNCILS

Granada Community Services District 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

Montara 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

IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

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

Milpitas, Mayor

Jose Esteves

Milpitas City Council

Marsha Grilli

Morgan Hill, Mayor

Rich Constantine

Morgan Hill City Council (District B)

Yvonne Martinez Beltran

Morgan Hill City Council (District D)

Julie Makrai Hutcheson

Mountain View City Council

Alison Hicks
Ellen Kamei
Pat Showalter

Palo Alto City Council

Tom Dubois
Eric Filseth
Cory Wolbach

San Jose City Council, district 7

Tam Nguyen

San Jose City Council, district 9

Kalen Gallagher

Sunnyvale City Council Seat #1

Gustav Larsson

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 Parmer-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 Bartas, Kat Baumgartner, Sue Chow, 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, Lennie Roberts, Heyward Robinson, David Roise, Suzanne Rubenstein, Terry Trumbull, Paula Wallis, Cheryl Weiden, Kristel Wickham and Helen Wolter.

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



Check that Box

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.

Dual Membership and Group Affiliation:

A typical Election Insights mailing label looks like this:

1205436 JNT 203
JAN AND LESLIE MEMBER
1213 MUIR DRIVE
BAYLANDS, CA 94308

To discover whether you have a dual or joint membership, look at the second row on your mailing label. If the second group of characters is "JNT," both members can vote. If not, only one person can vote; in that case, ballots marked in both columns will not be counted. Our example shows "JNT," so both Jan and Leslie can vote.

To discover your regional group affiliation, look at the second line on your mailing label. The three-digit number beginning with "20" is your regional group code.

203 = San Carlos/Belmont and Chapter ExCom

204 = Peninsula and Chapter ExCom

205 = Guadalupe and Chapter ExCom

Loma Prieta Chapter and Group Ballot

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

5 Two-Year Seats
Vote for no more than five

VOTER 1

- Mary Buxton*
 Nathan Chan
 Gladwyn d'Souza*
 Shani Kleinhaus*
 Darren Ponce*

VOTER 2

-

PENINSULA REGIONAL GROUP

Members with Group code
204 vote in this column
3 Two-Year Seats
Vote for no more than three

VOTER 1

- Gita Dev*
 Laura Brown
 Kristel Wickham

VOTER 2

-

SAN CARLOS/BELMONT REGIONAL GROUP

Members with Group code 203
Vote in this column
3 Two-Year Seats
Vote for no more than three

VOTER 1

- Gladwyn d'Souza*
 Pam Miller*
 Paul Wendt*

VOTER 2

-

GUADALUPE REGIONAL GROUP

Members with Group code 205
Vote in this column
2 Two-Year Seats
Vote for no more than two

VOTER 1

- Gary Latshaw*
 Dave Poeschel

VOTER 2

-



SIERRA CLUB

LOMA PRIETA

BE SURE TO VOTE!

Place ballot in an envelope and mail to:

Chapter/Group Elections Sierra Club
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Palo Alto, CA 94303

Voter 1 signature

Voter 2 signature

Ballots must be received by November 19, 2018. Late ballots will not be counted.

* Incumbents



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LOMA PRIETA

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To join the Sierra Club

Contact the Chapter office. Annual dues

are \$39, of which \$1 is for the Election

Insights. Membership is not tax-deductible.

Subscription/mail problems

Please report to the Chapter office.

Submissions

Election Insights encourages members to

submit news, stories, reviews and letters.

See the submission guidelines at

sierraclub.org/loma-prieta/newsletter.html.

You can contact the editorial board

by e-mail at

publicity@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org

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MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

Re-Elect Pete Siemens to MROSD, Ward 1 (Cupertino, Los Gatos, Saratoga, and Monte Sereno)

By Lennie Roberts, MROSD Endorsement Team Member

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 served on the Los Gatos Town Council and as Mayor. As a hillside study committee member, Pete began his venture 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 Saratoga 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 1 will be well served by electing Pete Siemens to another term as MROSD Director. You can contact Pete at (408)761-0760, or go to: petesiemens1.com.



PETE SIEMENS

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

By Lennie 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 is being vacated by Nonette Hanko, one of the District's Founders, who has served on the MROSD Board for 46 years. Nonette's distinguished leadership in protecting the foothills and baylands of the Peninsula from sprawling development is unparalleled. When she decided to retire from public service, Nonette asked Karen Holman to run for the Ward 6 seat. Sierra Club agrees that Karen, a strong advocate for the environment and open space, is the best choice to continue Nonette's legacy.



KAREN HOLMAN

Karen Holman's dedication to environmental protection and community service 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 precious environmental resources. Her steadfast advocacy for the environment includes leadership in successfully adding critical acreage to Foothills Park, enacting greater Creekside 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 Co-Chair of MROSD's Community Advisory Committee that engaged the public in a visioning process that led to the successful passage of Measure AA by 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 seven of the current MROSD Directors. Sierra Club enthusiastically joins them in supporting Karen Holman's election. To contact Karen, phone (650) 224-2627, or go to: HolmanForOpenSpace.com

SAN MATEO COUNTY HARBOR DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

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

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 Surfrider Chapter and he is justifiably famed for several environmental victories – both politically and legally. Among his prior accomplishments is the establishment of a Coastsides sea-water testing lab not far from the Mavericks surfing 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



ED LARENAS

GRANADA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD

Granada Community Services District Best Served by Barbara Dye, Nancy Marsh and Eric Suchomel

by Loma Prieta Political Committee

There are 3 seats up for election this year for the Granada Community Services District and the Sierra Club endorses 3 candidates that we believe will serve the District with sensitivity to its inherently environmental mission.

Barbara Dye has been, and doubtless will continue to be, an excellent parks and open space advocate for the District. She has also been active in environmental issues regarding the entire San Mateo County Coastsides area, both professionally and as a volunteer. In addition to the Sierra Club she has the endorsement of several former board members. That speaks to the regard in which she is held by those folks who understand the District's mission.



BARBARA DYE

Nancy Reed Marsh also has been a dedicated advocate for the protection of open space and natural areas on the Coastsides and in the District. She understands the environmental necessity of preventing spills into the natural environment. She also has the endorsement of several former District officials. The Sierra Club believes Nancy will serve the community as the community wants to be served – environmentally. www.nancyreedmarsh.com



NANCY REED MARSH

Eric Suchomel is an environmental engineer by profession and can bring that acumen to his service on the District's board, especially with regard to decision-making for the agency's wastewater responsibilities. He too is solidly endorsed by former and current board members. The Sierra Club sees his talents as complimentary to the above candidates and we recommend his candidacy to our members with the anticipation of being able to appreciate his contributions to the Midcoast environment.



ERIC SUCHOMEL

MONTARA WATER & SANITARY DISTRICT

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

by Loma Prieta Political Committee

Multiple Sierra Club endorsee **Jim Harvey** is one of those rare people who we 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 selfless 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



JIM HARVEY

Montara Water and Sanitary District (MWSD) voters have an opportunity to choose an excellent board member by voting for **Ric Lohman**. Ric was a multi-term, multi-endorsed incumbent in an adjoining district where he had a solid environmental, technical and financial record. Ric has now moved to Montara and will have a near-zero learning curve regarding MWSD's issues.



RIC LOHMAN

He is also familiar with the many problem areas of the Sewer Authority Midcoastsides (SAM) and would be an excellent resource for MWSD's representatives to SAM.

HALF MOON BAY CITY COUNCIL

Keep Half Moon Bay's City Council in Responsible Hands

By Ken King, Half Moon Bay's PolCom Endorsement Chair

Debbie Ruddock is a longtime Half Moon Bay resident, works for the California Coastal Conservancy, has been elected four times to the city council, served three times as mayor, and is now endorsed by our chapter for the fifth time! She also served as a California Coastal Commissioner, and with her unique background, often takes the lead in dealing with our issues in the Coastal Zone. Debbie is committed to preserving Half Moon Bay's unique urban-rural balance, not easy with the tide of money behind every large-scale project proposed for development. Debbie's authorship of the city's 1999 Measure D that passed and limited residential growth to 1%, with 0.5% additional in the downtown core has much to do with the city's character and look today.



DEBBIE RUDDOCK

Crucially, the city is updating its General Plan and Local Coastal Program, and the stakes are high for dictating what the next 25 – 50 years hold. Daily traffic congestion within the city during the morning and evening commute rates Level Of Service F, and summer and fall weekend days often rate considerably worse. Residents want relief, but not at the cost of giving up the open space feel that makes the Coastsides unique in the Bay Area. Debbie Ruddock's leadership experience as a committed and successful conservationist is sorely needed to ensure that Half Moon Bay maintains its desirable position as an attractive, countrified, beach town.

(Continued on next page)

(Half Moon Bay City Council, continued from previous page)

Deborah Penrose

is a recently retired physician who ran for council for the first time in 2014 and surprised many by emerging as the largest vote getter among all candidates, an amazing accomplishment for a political newcomer!

Now Deborah has some experience to brag about having worked closely with Debbie Ruddock to confront issues like protecting bluff-tops from erosion, planning for sea level rise and managed retreat, working with the chronically homeless and helping remove them from Pilarcitos Creek, which is designated sensitive habitat, and oversaw the completion of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan intended to connect all Half Moon Bay's disparate neighborhoods as part of the General Plan so that people won't necessarily need their autos for accessing town. She also instigated a revised contract with Republic Refuse to collect food waste for composting, and she's intent on passing legislation to ban plastic water bottles and straws in town, and wants to work with Half Moon Bay State Park to ban plastic containers there, as well.

The thing that stands out about Deborah is her refreshing openness and her penchant for tackling new projects in an ever-expanding set of interests. She's like the original "Can do!" person. No wonder she's in place to help solve Half Moon Bay's ongoing issues. Few could match her energy and dedication to learn more about everything around her. It's a winning combination!



DEBORAH PENROSE

Robert Brownstone

is a local resident whose background as a human relations expert who specializes in helping organizations succeed through inclusive and collaborative decision-making offers a unique spin for a progressive candidate seeking political office.

As a thought experiment, what if everyone elected to the council learned through example how to listen and accommodate the ideas of others, without rancor, into expanding their own vision of doing good by their own ideals? Robert Brownstone thinks that's not a radical idea, but an ideal democracy at work, and he wants to participate in that process, while helping others bridge apparent differences with less strain than politics often entails.

Not that Robert is equivocal in any way about what he wants to accomplish. He loves this seaside haven and wants to protect it from large-scale despoliation. He has serious concerns about a project imminent on the north side of Half Moon Bay--a large, planned hotel complex with a 200-space RV park that could induce increased traffic and visual blight in one of the rustic areas of San Mateo's coastal preserve. Robert's vision is to work to achieve thoughtful long-term planning and balanced solutions with the aid of the community whose leaders regularly reach out to residents for their creative ideas and support for implementing those ideas. Robert's lack of political experience is offset by his professional ability to work well with others. He will make a terrific fit with our other experienced candidates. Vote for Robert Brownstone, a progressive visionary!

robertbrownstoneforhmb2018@gmail.com



ROBERT BROWNSTONE

MENLO PARK CITY COUNCIL

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

by Heyward 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 skyrocket-

ing jobs to housing imbalance. These are top priorities for three Council challengers, two of whom face incumbents asking for a third term. Whoever gets elected to the Council will have their work cut out for them: development proposals have already exceeded the 2.3 million square feet of office space approved as part of the 2016 General Plan update. And unfortunately, 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, district format. Districts 1, 2 and 4 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-City-Council-Districts-map

District 1 (Belle Haven): **Cecilia Taylor** is an educator and community activist with deep roots in the Belle Haven Community. The District is the City's fastest growing, with Facebook's rapid expansion threatening to overwhelm the City's infrastructure.

Taylor will give Belle Haven a much needed and long overdue voice on the Council, providing the community with a direct say in upcoming development, traffic, and job/housing decisions. Adjacent to the Bay, the District is the City's most vulnerable to sea-level rise, an issue Taylor has prioritized. This is an open seat as no incumbent currently resides in Belle Haven. Taylor ran a strong campaign for Council in 2016, receiving over 6800 votes city-wide. taylor4menlopark@gmail.com • www.taylor4menlopark.com



CECILIA TAYLOR

District 2 (Willows, Flood Triangle, Suburban Park, Lorelei Manor): Planning Commissioner **Drew Combs** received the Club's endorsement in a strong 2014 Council run. He is now running in District 2, with a 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 commissioner, Combs has had a front row seat to the relentless development overwhelming the City. He wants development to be properly balanced with supporting infrastructure, including transportation improvements and affordable housing. Combs is not accepting donations from developers or others with current or potential business before the Council. He is running on a platform that emphasizes transparency and the highest standards of ethical governance. If elected, he will introduce a policy requiring that Council Members disclose any and all contacts with anyone who has business before the City. drew@drewcombs.com • www.drewcombs.com



DREW COMBS

District 4 (Allied Arts, Downtown, parts of West Menlo): Current Complete Streets Commissioner, Sierra Club Member and 30-year Menlo Park resident **Betsy Nash** will be a strong environmental leader on the City Council. She is passionate

about global and local environmental issues, particularly rising greenhouse gas emissions, sea level rise, protecting the City's urban forest and expansion of open space. Her priorities for Council include reducing the use of single-occupancy vehicles, improving walking/biking infrastructure, developing a parking management system, improving 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. betsynash2018@gmail.com • www.betsynash2018.com



BETSY NASH

PACIFICA CITY COUNCIL

Pacifica Will Survive Only By Intelligent Decision Making

By Ken King, Half Moon Bay's PolCom Endorsement Chair

Pacifica is a medium-sized seaside town with abundant open space that faces several significant challenges, both environmental and financial. Rising seas are already impacting its beaches and eroding cliffs, and traffic increases as the Midcoast expands to its south. Financially, it's supported through property taxes and fees on small businesses, but deficits loom as pension obligations come due.

John Keener is a first-term incumbent endorsed by Sierra Club in 2014 and elected to Pacifica's City Council after a hard-earned victory achieved mainly through John's door-to-door precinct work where he met voters

while opposing the Calera Parkway Highway #1 widening project that agencies pushed for decades. John handily won his seat, and then in 2016 he helped Chapter-endorsed Deirdre Martin campaign successfully for council, who along with Sue Digre, also endorsed by us, then voted to finally kill the Calera Parkway project!

Since being elected, John's been an excellent ally of the Chapter in his inter-agency roles by helping pushing for modern, non-automotive transportation solutions—i.e. searching for funds to reduce congestion and increase safety along the Highway 1 corridor, with additional public transit, ride sharing, and pedestrian bridges. He is also a founding member of Peninsula Clean Energy, which provides San Mateo County residents with electricity that is cheaper and greener than PG&E's.

Under John's leadership, Pacifica's staff drafted a new section on sea level rise for its Local 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 lacks a strong tax base and faces potential bankruptcy in as little as ten years if it doesn't realistically plan its future and begin lining up resources soon. Denial does not serve the city or residents' long-term interests. Re-elect John Keener to sustain Pacifica's future viability.

Mary Bier, a lifelong Pacifica resident, chairs its Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission and is involved in myriad aspects of Pacifica's social and environmental life. She's been involved with the Pacifica Beach Coalition since 2007

as a site captain for Coastal Cleanup and Earth Day. She is the director of Pacifica Prevention Partnership which implements substance abuse prevention strategies throughout Pacifica and San Mateo County, and is the coordinator of Pacifica Collaborative that connects people and supports community services that help people stay in their homes, as well as responsible development to increase the number of affordable housing units. She actively advocated for the recently passed bond measure to develop 80 affordable units for school district teachers and staff.

Mary is a strong advocate of the new LCP and wants to help build Pacifica's capacity by seeking outside grants and funding opportunities. She recently participated in a regional coalition working on transportation justice, getting people out of their cars and onto public transportation to reduce



JOHN KEENER



MARY BIER

greenhouse gas emissions. As a council member she's committed to implementing the Climate Action Plan to reduce total community-wide emissions by 35% below 2005 levels by 2020, and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. As chair of Parks, Beaches and Recreation Department, Mary values Pacifica's rich resource of open space and safe parks. For a sustainable future, vote for Mary Bier for Pacifica City Council!. www.marybier.com

Andonica Shaw

Porter has perhaps the most varied and interesting background of any of the candidates running for Pacifica's City Council.

A past weather anchor for a local TV station, and earlier for network affiliates in Monterey and Santa Barbara, as well as having been an environmental reporter, she has owned several small businesses, is a motivational speaker and has several TEDx talks available online, is a board member for the San Mateo County Health Care (HCH/FH) Co-Applicant Board that helps reduce barriers to health care, and participated in helping create useful policies for disenfranchised people as a member of the San Francisco District Attorney's Women's Advisory Group. She is also the mother of three school-aged children coming 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 the status quo, and she feels compelled to do her part. She's been involved with beach cleanup for years and supports finishing Pacifica's LCP and implementing the policies dealing with potential sea level inundation and retreat. The 3 opposing candidates, all realtors, oppose mention of these issues, let alone confronting them in a proactive way. Endorsed by Pacifica's Progressive Alliance, Adonica will work closely with the environmental progressives on the council. Keep the council green and vote for Adonica Shaw Porter! www.electradonica.com



ANDONICA SHAW PORTER

REDWOOD CITY CITY COUNCIL

Redwood City Council Candidates Support Sustainable, Balanced Growth

by Marianna Raymond, Endorsement Team Leader

Redwood City is experiencing growing pains! Its rapid growth has resulted in problems of traffic congestion, increased greenhouse gases, a severe jobs/housing imbalance, and threats to our baylands and open space. Housing is increasingly unaffordable so that workers must travel miles to get to their jobs. Better public transit options are needed to keep people out of their cars and able to live and work here. Our chosen candidates will address these problems and eye new projects critically, guided by environmental concerns and social justice. Further criteria were the candidates' independence from special interests and openness to sharing ideas with Sierra Club.

Rick Hunter

a thoughtful and dedicated public servant, has a long record of service on numerous boards and commissions. He has been a consistent advocate for parks and open space, as his time on the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission shows. An avid trail runner, Rick appreciates the importance of open space "for peace and emotional well-being." He hopes to add more parks and a walking trail next to Redwood Creek. He seeks to protect our wetlands, which along with being a sensitive ecosystem, can serve to mitigate



RICK HUNTER

(Redwood City City Council, continued from previous page)

sea level rise. As a planning commissioner, he voted with the majority against changing the City's General Plan to allow development of 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

Diana Reddy has been working tirelessly for the people of Redwood City, listening to and responding to their needs. Her principle focus in recent years has been on promoting truly affordable housing such as HIP (Human Investment Project) for underserved, and often unheard, residents. Existing affordable housing, such as Harbor Village, must be protected. Providing affordable housing reduces long commutes, lowers greenhouse gas emissions, and enables people such as teachers and service workers to live and work here. Better transit infrastructure and improved bike/pedestrian safety would also help get people out of their cars. Diana has worked with Democracy for America's Environmental Task Force and has supported the initiatives that came out of that body. She emphatically opposes any new construction east of 101, including the Harbor View office towers. She supports restoration of our remaining wetlands, mitigation of sea level rise, and flood protection of the most vulnerable areas, such as the mobile home parks. Those who know Diana speak of her hard work, generosity, independent thought, and calm approach to problem-solving. www.dinareddy.com



DIANA REDDY

Born and raised in Redwood City, **Christina Umhofer** is an energetic contributor to community life, and has coached sports teams, run school auctions, and participated in coastal cleanups. Having been raised by a single mother, vulnerable to rent hikes, she now, as a property owner herself, is sensitive to the needs of everyday people. The heartfelt testimonials on her website provide anecdotal evidence that she has worked with tenants to keep their rents reasonable. She has recently partnered with the non-profit HIP to ensure that one of her family's rental properties continues to house lower-income families. She is fiercely opposed to big new projects by the Bay, such as Harbor View and Cargill. Preserving and restoring our wetlands, parks, and other open space are among Christina's priorities. She has even offered some of her family's land to the City for additional parkland. She has put a lot of thought into housing solutions and improved transit infrastructure. Christina is a smart, energetic, "can do" person with fresh perspectives that will benefit our city. www.christina4RWC.com



CHRISTINA UMHOFFER

SAN CARLOS CITY COUNCIL

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

By San Carlos Belmont Endorsement Team Co-Chair

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.

Laura Parmer-Lohan is a small business owner, specializing in product launch strategy and execution, especially in the biotech field. She has served on the Single-Family Housing Advisory Committee and 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.LauraForSanCarlos.com



LAURA PARMER-LOHAN

As a member of the San Carlos Economic Development Advisory Commission, **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



SARA MCDOWELL

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 heritage trees, encouraging use of public transportation to reduce traffic congestion, and encouraging smart development in neighborhoods. KencastleforCouncil.com



KEN CASTLE

SANTA CLARA COUNTY SUPERVISOR

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

by Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

In the race to replace term-out Sup. Ken Yeager, both our preferred candidates made it through to this November's general election runoff; well done voters. **Don Rocha** has a proven record on San Jose's 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 Santa Clara County.

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; secure funding for parks, libraries, senior services and community centers; protect our public safety; and ensure every resident has a place to call home."



DON ROCHA

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!



SUSAN ELLENBERG

CUPERTINO CITY COUNCIL

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

by Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

Council Member **Savita Vaidhyathan** pledges to add 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 a bike trail along former Union Pacific rail property, promotion of POGO carpool application, study for transit solution for HWY85, and support of the newly developed Community Choice Energy program.



SAVITA VAIDHYATHAN

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 county'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.



TARA SREEKRISHNAN

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 respite 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 continuing support for the natural environment. darcypaul.com. savita4cupertino.com. tara4cupertino.com



DARCY PAUL

EAST PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL

Reelect Ruben Abrica to East Palo Alto's City Council

by Loma Prieta Political Committee

The Loma Prieta Chapter supports 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 (in which he played a role) have the markings of Ruben's efforts. In particular we respect his recent successful efforts (and those of his fellow council members) to arrange for the transfer of water rights from the neighboring cities of Mountain View and Palo Alto and to enlist development and philanthropic entities to cover the bulk of initial costs. Ruben has also been a good environmental steward on agencies with responsibilities beyond East Palo Alto's borders such as the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority. He's been a busy man for many years, always with the interests of East Palo Alto at heart. Ruben Abrica is more than deserving of reelection to the East Palo Alto City Council. rubenabrica@gmail.com



RUBEN ABRICA

GILROY CITY COUNCIL

Tom Fischer for City Council, 4-Year Seat

by Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

Planning commissioner **Tom Fischer** has supported and encouraged higher density and affordable housing, especially when located on or near transit corridors and public transportation.



TOM FISCHER

Tom will defend Gilroy's new urban growth boundary to reduce sprawl and protect agricultural lands. He supports water conservation and insists that new developments install drought tolerant landscaping. He would like to work with regional transportation agencies to improve public transportation systems like Cal-train and supports local programs to encourage people to get out of their cars and walk or bike whenever possible.

Tom would encourage Gilroy to join the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority. He wants to see the City install solar panels over city parking and install electric vehicle charging stations in city owned lots to reduce its carbon footprint. And Tom would encourage and support more street striping for bike lanes.

Cast a vote for Tom Fischer to bring a progressive environmental voice to the Council! tom4gilroy.com

LOS ALTOS CITY COUNCIL

Fligor and Mordo endorsed for Los Altos

by Cheryl Weiden, PRG ExCom

Neysa Fligor is a young woman with a wealth of experience. She is Chair of the Los Altos Parks and Recreation Commission and a member of the El Camino Healthcare District Board. Professionally, she is an attorney and was formerly Deputy County Counsel, Santa Clara County Counsel's Office. With this background she understands how local government can influence and ensure that cities have sound environmental laws and policies.



NEYSA FLIGOR

READ, SHARE AND RECYCLE



(Continued on next page)

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Neysa 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 request 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 because one size does not fit all. This includes carpool lanes, car shares, self-driving 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, Neysa takes pride in her leadership style being “deliberative, balanced and collaborative. It enables me to work effectively with the other Council Members, Commissioners, City Staff and residents and build bridges in our community.” www.voteneysa.org

Jean Mordo has a great deal of experience as a city council member. He served eight years on the city council for Los Altos Hills and is now finishing his first four-year term on the Los Altos City Council. His accomplishments include supporting the formation of Silicon Valley Clean Energy, the implementation bicycle lanes in the city, and the acquisition of a city park. He looks forward to reducing non-recyclable plastics, upgrading the storm water system and increasing permeable surfaces on roadsides.

John understands that major issues of housing, development and transportation face Los Altos as well as Silicon Valley. He supports higher density housing, including dozens of affordable housing units, along El Camino Real. As the City of Los Altos is narrow and long he would like to see a mini-shuttle running between North and South Los Altos. votemordo.com

LOS ALTO HILLS CITY COUNCIL

Tankha and Tyson for Los Altos Hills Council

by Kit Gordon and George Clifford, members

High property values put the Los Altos Hills open space environment at risk of exploitation by subdivision but council candidates **Kavita Tankha** and **George Tyson** believe in adherence to Los Altos Hills General Plan, “a community dedicated to maintaining a semi-rural atmosphere, where people can live in the midst of open space.”

Both candidates have a record of public service. Tyson served as president of the Los Altos Hills County Fire District and Tankha has served as planning commissioner for six years. Tankha is especially concerned about the health and environmental impacts of a nearby quarry through which a significant creek runs.



KAVITA TANKHA



GEORGE TYSON

LOS GATOS CITY COUNCIL

Sayoc and Rennie will advocate for the environment as Los Gatos Town Council members

by Suzanne Rubenstein

Marico Sayoc will passionately continue to advocate for Green building standards, water reduction 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 tighter ordinances for new construction. Marico is mindful that development should stay as infill 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 85 to reduce the number of single occupancy vehicles. She will also insure that state mandated development also addresses the critical community needs of Los Gatos. Her previous work on the San Francisco Estuary Project will provide her with important insights on the issues rising sea levels will have on our communities. Marico advocated for measure AA to buffer against sea level rise.

Marico has worked for the U.S. EPA, NRDC, Fish and Wildlife, Heintz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment and holds a Masters in Environmental Management. She will be a strong, well informed voice for the environment on the Los Gatos Town Council. www.Marico4LG.com. maricosayoc@yahoo.com

Rob 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 successfully organized and led a team to lobby the town of Los Gatos to sign on to the Mayors Climate Protection Plan. He is a strong proponent of mass transit and developing new housing and commercial space near light rail so as to lessen the impact of traffic on surrounding communities. He believes mixed use spaces would also insure that residents can walk to services and entertainment.

As mayor Rob worked to update the sustainability plan to take advantage of SVCEA's 100 percent carbon free electricity. Rob also supports project to rebuild the marshlands against storm surges. He has been a champion of open space, parks and as 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.reelectrobrennie.com. robrennie3@aol.com



MARICO SAYOC



ROB RENNIE

MILPITAS MAYOR

Jose Esteves, The Mayor Milpitas Needs

by Melissa Hippard, Team Leader

Jose Esteves has been a reliable environmental vote and community leader for over a decade. He developed the smart growth BART station plan that has won awards. Jose was endorsed by the Sierra Club for



JOSE ESTEVES

6 terms as Mayor and one as a 4-year councilman. He was on the Council that put measure Z on the ballot to protect Milpitas' hillsides 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 Estevez is running again because he wants to ensure his legacy, to bring his leadership, knowledge and experience to help move important projects such as the Bicycle Master Plan forward, and protect Milpitas' quality of life. We strongly support Jose Esteves for mayor of Milpitas.

To learn more visit: estevesformayor.com

MILPITAS CITY COUNCIL

Marsha Grilli Deserves Your Vote

by Melissa Hippard, team leader

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

Please vote for Marsha Grilli on November 6th. For more information visit www.facebook.com/relectgrilli



MARSHA GRILLI

MORGAN HILL MAYOR

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 Constantine** 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 development, (at that time) his 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 Mevs Hospital in Haiti to treat critically injured and ill Haitians after the 2010 earthquake.

A vote for Rich Constantine is a vote for compassion for people today and a sustainable environment for the future. richformayor.com

MORGAN HILL CITY COUNCIL

Greener Foothills for Morgan Hill with Julie Makrai Hutcheson, City Council, District D

by Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

Morgan Hill voters have an exceptional opportunity to add an unequivocal voice for the environment with the candidacy of Committee for Green Foothills Environmental Advocate **Julie Makrai Hutcheson**.

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 council toward a more environmentally progressive future. Julie served as Treasurer for Measure A for a Vibrant Downtown (2009) — working to encourage density and transit-oriented development in the downtown area. She founded the community group “Thrive! Morgan 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, and the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency Public Advisory Committee.

With your support of Julie Makrai Hutcheson, an enhanced conservation vision will be taking shape on the Morgan Hill City Council.

www.julieforcitycouncil.com



JULIE MAKRAI HUTCHESON

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 educational background in planning. Now serving on the Morgan Hill Planning Commission, Yvonne is gaining the experience she needs to join allies of a healthy environment on the City Council. In addition to the Sierra Club, Yvonne has been endorsed by Council Member Renee Spring who has been a leader in promoting environmentally sound policies.

Yvonne enjoys the outdoors and hopes to enhance the city parks and protect its open spaces with projects including parklets and community gardens. She also wants to protect agriculture and promote the development of a Climate Action Plan for Morgan Hill to be implemented locally and regionally as part of the City's sustainability initiatives. Yvonne believes good 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.org



YVONNE MARTINEZ BELTRAN

MOUNTAIN VIEW CITY COUNCIL

Hicks, Kamei and Showalter will Save Quality of Life and Environment for Mountain View

by Gita Dev, Endorsement Team Lead

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

Alison Hicks, a city planner by education, brings experience and passion for walkable, nature-friendly neighborhoods, housing and green spaces. She is knowledgeable and experienced about planning friendly, walkable neighborhoods, growing a vibrant urban park system, preserving open space, creating equitable housing and revitalized 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.



ALISON HICKS

“I am devoted to using my planning experience to make (our) growth quality, sustainable and people-oriented growth, rather than growth that exploits our environment and overlooks human needs. I will use my experience to make Mountain View a model for what a growing city, which has a vision, can become, so our residents will be proud of what we build now and for generations to come.”

Ellen Kamei is an alumnus of our Chapter’s important Environmental Stewardship Program where members learn about critical environmental issues, work on how to lobby politicians and learn how to be an effective activist for the environment.



ELLEN KAMEI

She grew to become a friend of the environment during her tenure on the Environmental Planning Commission. She will add balance and depth of experience to the City Council with her many years as a Planning Commissioner, community volunteer and also as a public policy professional in her career. Her service in governmental offices has given her a breadth of experience in how to effectively work with regional agencies to serve Mountain View effectively.

Her interest in environmental issues includes growing Mountain Views parks and the network of trails to access the parks and open space sustainably and pragmatically.

“I’ve worked to ensure that as we change and grow, Mountain View maintains its unique character, diversity, and high quality of life. Our City needs multi-modal transportation options, solutions for our vehicle dweller population, pragmatic ways to address environmental sustainability, and access to open space and parks that are walkable and bikeable.”

Pat Showalter, as a City Council member and Mayor, brought her strong environmental background born of 35 years of work solving tough issues for the Santa Clara Valley Water District. Of particular value to our chapter has been her work for ensuring protection of Mountain



PAT SHOWALTER

View’s Shoreline Park and Wildlife Refuge and bird-friendly design guidelines as plans for rapid growth in North Bayshore move ahead. As a Planning Commissioner, she made sure to include environmental concerns in all the City’s Specific Plans.

“Before joining the water district, I ran the San Francisco Watershed Council, ... a collaboration of 23 signatory organizations. I also worked as a hydrologist for the US Geological Survey.

As a volunteer, I have advocated for strong environmental candidates as a board member of the Santa Clara County League of Conservation Voters for 14 years. I have also served as Natural Resources Chair for the Los Altos-Mountain View League of Women Voters. I helped organize the fall conferences of the Santa Clara Creeks Coalition for almost 10 years and was recognized as the Creek Advocate of the Year in 2010.

Her commitment to the community has been clearly demonstrated by her work with many non-profit groups and agencies including, currently, the San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission, the Santa Clara County Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission and the National League of Cities’ Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee.”

PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL

Elect Tom DuBois, Eric Filseth, and Cory Wolbach to Palo Alto City Council

by Sue Chow and David Olson, Peninsula Regional Group, Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club

The Sierra Club endorses incumbents Tom DuBois, Eric Filseth and Cory Wolbach for the Palo Alto City Council.

Tom DuBois is concerned about residents’ quality of life and over development in Palo Alto. He supports cautious growth and favors housing over more commercial development. DuBois voted to cut by half the allowed office development between now and 2030. DuBois advocates for protecting our parks and increasing use of recycled water. He also supports fiber to the home, better coordination with PAUSD and transparent government. For more information or to volunteer for Tom’s campaign, please go to votedubois.com.



TOM DUBOIS

Eric Filseth, currently Vice Mayor, has also been a strong advocate for resident’s quality of life and limiting commercial development. Eric has led the finance committee where he has identified and anticipated budget issues Palo Alto will face in the coming years. His contribution to regulating parking downtown has been significant and timely. He too, supported the halved office cap. For more information or to volunteer for Eric’s campaign, please go to ericfilseth.com.



ERIC FILSETH

Cory Wolbach has been a strong advocate for increasing the housing supply in Palo Alto. Although we think he could be more selective in the projects he supports, he did vote to cap office development between now and 2030 at the same levels as did Tom and Eric. Cory has been supportive of initiatives to improve sustainability and transportation in Palo Alto. For more information or to volunteer for Cory’s



CORY WOLBACH

campaign, please go to corywolbach.com.

All three Council Members were responsive when concerns were brought to them regarding Palo Alto’s natural environment – a key characteristic for us — and the Sierra Club recommends their reelection.

SAN JOSE CITY COUNCIL

Tam Nguyen for District 7 in San Jose.

by Loma Prieta Political Committee

Incumbent **Tam Nguyen** has proven himself to be a caring steward 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 winter 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 greener city. We are pleased to endorse Tam Nguyen for District 7 in San Jose.



TAM NGUYEN

San Jose City Council District 9: Vote Kalen Gallagher

by Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

Kalen Gallagher’s boyish charm is misleading; he has a law degree and passed the bar exam, taught middle school social science, now works for a small educational software company, and serves on the Campbell Union School District’s board.



KALEN GALLAGHER

We urge a vote for Kalen because he displays an enormous energy and enthusiasm for changing culture and policy to better the environment and make better use of technology. He’s eager to learn and partner with the Sierra Club and will likely join with the other environmental progressives on the City Council. Kalen is running his campaign without the influence of large donations but he’s receiving an outpouring of grassroots support. He’s clearly very bright and will be a quick study on the transportation, urbanization, open space, and the other environmental issues before the Council.

Vote Kalen Gallagher for San Jose City Council, District 9! www.kalengallagher.com

SUNNYVALE CITY COUNCIL

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

Gustav Larsson is the incumbent running for Sunnyvale’s Seat #1. In his first term on the City Council he has been a consistent vote for the environment and sustainability. This includes votes for 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



GUSTAV LARSSON

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 funding for Stevens Creek habitat restoration, and design guidelines for bird-safe buildings.

Using his career experience in software engineering, he brings measured thought and reason to his decisions. He currently serves on the board of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) and previously held roles on various advisory committees 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

Current Sunnyvale Mayor **Glenn Hendricks** is endorsed for reelection to Seat #2. Elected in 2013 and mayor since 2016, Glenn has served the city well with a focus on listening to the people, running efficient meetings and his commitment to public service. In 2017 he signed the US Climate Mayors commitment to adopt, honor and uphold Paris Climate Agreement goals after the announcement that the US would withdraw. As the city works to update its Climate Action Plan, Glenn has noted that the easy wins (such as Silicon Valley Clean Energy) are already done and the more difficult actions are to come including electrifying transportation (now the largest component of the city’s GHG emissions) and an outreach campaign to educate and promote behavior changes. In his first term he has voted to provide 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 BART service to San Jose and is working to add electric buses. There is much work to be done to “Accelerate Climate Action” (a Council priority for 2018). Glenn will thoughtfully consider how to turn innovative ideas into cost effective and efficient solutions. www.hendricksforsvcouncil2018.com



GLEN HENDRICKS



SIERRA CLUB

LOMA PRIETA

BE SURE TO VOTE!

Ballots must be received by November 19, 2018.

Mail your ballot:
Chapter/Group Elections Sierra Club
3921 E. Bayshore Rd., Ste 204
Palo Alto, CA 94303

SAN JOSE BALLOT MEASURES

Measure T Could be a Breakthrough in Conservation of Coyote Valley

by Dave Poeschel, Open Space Committee Chair

Measure T would issue \$650 million in general obligations bonds to upgrade of 911 communications, police, fire and paramedic facilities to improve emergency and disaster response; repair deteriorating bridges vulnerable to being damaged in an earthquake; repave local and neighborhood streets and potholes in the worst condition; and prevent flooding and water quality contamination, including the acquisition

of open space in Coyote Valley for these purposes.

Passage of Measure T would transform the vision for Coyote Valley, particularly for parts of North Coyote which is currently designated in the SJ General Plan for industrial development. The measure would provide up to \$50 million for purchase of land in Coyote Valley to provide for flood protection. What this likely means is the agricultural drainage ditch known as Fisher

Creek, which today spills into Coyote Creek and aggravates flooding downstream during storm events, would be restored to more closely function as it did prior to the development of agriculture in the area and the draining of the swamp. Today we understand that this seasonal wetland, known as Laguna Seca, had functioned well to recharge the underground aquifer that flows to Silicon Valley providing clean, fresh water to over 2 million residents and

provided a rich wildlife habitat.

These measure require 2/3 vote to pass. Measure T was placed on the ballot with a unanimous vote of the SJ City Council.

Recent study shows that poor roads cost San Jose drivers \$863/yr., www.tripnet.org/docs/Urban_Roads_TRIP_Report_November_2016.pdf

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 Mackenzie Mosing, 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 unprecedent-

ed rates, Measure V aims to provide affordable housing for our most vulnerable populations, including working families, nurses, teachers, seniors, and nearly 4,500 people who are homeless in San Jose.

The City intends to use Measure V to leverage 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 it's ambitious goal of churning out 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 bur-

den of housing costs on current and future generations.

The measure will require a 2/3 vote to pass. You may learn more at <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=5694>

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 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 is 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 Eggers, Director

Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter



SIERRA CLUB

LOMA PRIETA

sierraclub.org/loma-prieta

We have a wide variety of opportunities for volunteers to become involved!

- Promote a conservation issue dear to your heart: www.sierraclub.org/loma-prieta/conservation
- Get involved in a political action in support of the environment: www.sierraclub.org/loma-prieta/political-action
- Help educate new members through the efforts of a regional group: www.sierraclub.org/loma-prieta/regional-groups
- Get involved in outings for your own health and to promote the value of open spaces: www.sierraclub.org/loma-prieta/outings

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