



Coastside Democrats



COVER SHEET - NOVEMBER 2018 ELECTION

I, Deborah Penrose, hereby apply for the Coastside Democrats Club endorsement for the office of City Council, Half Moon Bay.

My email address is: dbpenrose7@gmail.com

My cell phone number is: (650) 454-5891

The contact person for my campaign is: me

The contact person's email address is: _____

The contact person's phone number is: _____

I am a registered Democrat and have been since 1963.

I certify that the information provided on this application and in any subsequent interview or written submission is true and correct.

Signature: Deborah Penrose Date: 08/18/18

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS - NOVEMBER 2018

Instructions:

Please read and provide responses to the following questions. There is generally no single "right" or "wrong" answer to these questions. General position statements may not be substituted for answers to the questions. Please submit your response on Word in font no smaller than 12pt and limit your total response to 3 pages maximum.

Your responses will be posted on our newsletter, website, Facebook page and Coastside Nextdoor.

Please email your completed cover sheet and responses to these question to:
coastsidedemsendorsement@gmail.com

These materials must be received by email no later than midnight on August 19, 2018.

Questions:

- 1) Why are you running for this office? I am running to work on issues which I have been working on for four years, transparent and responsive governance.
- 2) What will your top priorities be if you are elected? Affordable Housing for our work force and completion of bicycle and pedestrian path to connect our downtown, beaches and the entire Half Moon Bay. I hope to work with the North coast to continue our coastal trail to Devil's slide and provide connection of Half Moon Bay with Montara, Moss Beach and El Granada. Continuing our open conversations with our constituents through Our Quarterly Community neighbourhood meetings with the agenda set by the neighbourhood. I want to begin a program to recruit local folks for city jobs. We have made some progress, but there is lots of untapped talent here on the coast and locals won't move on to jobs over the hill if we can hire them here. I want to work on recycled water and storm water runoff reclamation.
- 3) What do you see as the major issues on the Coastside? There is a lack of connectivity between Half Moon Bay and the rest of the coast and yet we share our resources. The concentration by the Chamber of Commerce on visitor serving services has brought more money, but more traffic and a deterioration of our infrastructure. I want to share our beautiful coast with others, but feel that we have not done enough to protect the interests of our constituents. Driving through Santa Cruz, even on weekends, is a pleasure compared to driving on 92 and Highway 1. If they can manage the balance between local and tourist traffic, we should be able to as well. I don't know the answer, but one idea would be to lower speed limits to avoid the abrupt fast and slow lurching we do now. It works on Mission street and cars can exit and enter and make left hand turns with relative

ease. More important will be getting folks out of cars and on shuttle buses, bicycles and electric bikes. We are looking at rental kiosks for bikes around the city and at our beaches. Most important will be housing our currently commuting work force here on the coast. Downtown Half Moon Bay needs affordable housing, infill housing and more ADUs, so folks who work here, live here. Our shopping centres will be rezoned for two-three story buildings with housing above commercial spaces. I want us to have a Land Trust so we own our own land and can develop it as our citizens wish.

- 4) How will you support the Democratic Party, Democratic Clubs and other Democrats if elected? I am a Coastside Dem. and will continue to support our party.
- 5) What have been your most significant contributions to your organization, city or district? I have been responsible for greater inclusion of our Latino community in our governance. I provided Spanish translation in all of our city publications, headsets and translators for our council meetings and the distribution, in Spanish of our literature in Latino neighbourhoods, markets and housing developments like Moonridge. I am an active participant at ALAS and the Latino advisory board. I initiated the hiring this fall of a Community Outreach employee to work specifically with Seniors, Youth and Latinos. He/She will hire a part-time Latino from the coast to act as an ombudsman for the Latino community. I instituted four Listening sessions to replace our one day annual retreat to develop our Strategic Plan for the coming fiscal year. I have started quarterly neighbourhood meetings with two council members. The first of these will be in Late August or early September at the Lutheran church, with neighbours setting the agenda. It will be open conversation between council and constituents unlike our regular council meetings. I secured a grant from the county to work on a low income housing idea for Half Moon Bay with community meetings to hear what folks want. We have had one meeting and have the second coming up in September.
- 6) How will you work with, lead, motivate and support your city or district's officers and employees? My working relationship has been very active with our City manager, Deputy City manager, head of Community development and Public works. I started a biweekly meeting with contractors, realtors and developers and our head Planner to discuss the barriers to getting things done in Half Moon Bay. Staff has been very responsive to my ideas and to the policy direction of City council.
- 7) Have you ever run for political office, served on a political committee or been identified publicly with a political organization, candidate, ballot measure or issue? If so, please provide the details of your involvement. No, with the exception of my years on council and as mayor.

- 8) Is there anything in your background which, if you receive the Club's endorsement, could cause embarrassment to the club? If so, please provide the details. No.
- 9) How can we resolve the following two major conflicting elements on the Coastside:
- The need to preserve the natural coastal environment for all, including future generations, as spelled out in the CA Coastal Act passed by the voters; and
 - The need on the Coastside for additional housing (both market rate and low-income) and the currently proposed numerous developments on the Coastside (hotels, RV parks, etc.), taking into consideration the Coastside's limited infrastructure (water, sewer, etc.) and the current traffic congestion? We need to concentrate our housing in downtown and prioritise housing for our work force. For too long our emphasis has been on visitor serving to the detriment of our own populous. Our work force, the children of our homeowners are leaving because we can't house them. ADUs will help, but we need more housing especially for those of lower incomes. It needs to be attractive and encourage the use of pedestrian and bicycle paths. We need connectivity for all of us. Our coastal trail needs work and improvements to connect the entire coast and protect the bluffs from erosion.
- 10) What are your ideas for Highway 1 safety and traffic improvements? I like the idea of roundabouts used strategically in Moss Beach and Montara. Safer left hand turns are currently in the plans for Highway 1 in the Case del Mar neighbourhood. I think we need to continue to investigate pedestrian bridges over Highway 1 and 92 at the most dangerous spots.
- 11) If you would like to comment on anything concerning the office for which you are running or any other issues that you care about, concerning the Coastside, please do so here. Open conversation and better access to governance by the public can only help to enrich us. We are a diverse and talented community and we underutilise what we have here on the coast.