



COVER SHEET - NOVEMBER 2018 ELECTION

I, Eric Suchomel, hereby apply for the Coastside Democrats Club endorsement for the office of Board Member for the Granada Community Services District.

My email address is: eric.suchomel@gmail.com.

My cell phone number is: 678-984-2337.

The contact person for my campaign is: myself.

I am a registered Democrat and have been since 2018.

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

Signature: Eric Suchomel Date: 8/19/18

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS – NOVEMBER 2018

1) Why are you running for this office?

I am a relative newcomer to the Coast, having moved here in 2013, and am interested in serving my new community. I see oversight of the GCSD resources and the potential to provide parks and recreation services to the area as opportunities to make a meaningful difference at the local level.

2) What will your top priorities be if you are elected?

My top priorities are: (1) provide strong stewardship of GCSD finances to maintain infrastructure while keeping the rates as low as feasible, and (2) work with the Parks Committee to implement plans to improve the medians and make them more attractive and functional.

3) What do you see as the major issues on the Coastside?

In the short- to intermediate-term, I see the conflicting pressures of sustainable development versus affordable housing for working-class residents as the key challenge for the Coastside. In the long-term, the Coastside should be planning and preparing to address the impacts that can be expected from climate change.

4) How will you support the Democratic Party, Democratic Clubs and other Democrats if elected?

I would be happy to provide support to other democratic candidates where needed. We are fortunate in the Bay Area to have strong democratic leadership and should be looking to provide support in races outside the area where we can make a difference.

5) What have been your most significant contributions to your organization, city or district?

As mentioned above, I am a newcomer to the area. I see this as an opportunity to begin contributing to my community in a more meaningful way.

6) How will you work with, lead, motivate and support your city or district's officers and employees?

My current professional responsibilities include direct supervision of multiple staff and management of a 14-person department. My leadership style is based on an "open door" policy designed to foster open, respectful communication among staff. Where there are areas for improvement, I would rely on the experience and expertise of district employees, balancing their needs against those of the district.

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.

None.

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.

None.

9) How can we resolve the following two major conflicting elements on the Coastside:

- a. 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
- b. 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?

This is clearly the key challenge facing our community in the near-term. It is important to consider the housing needs of our more vulnerable local populations while recognizing that any development needs to be done in a sustainable way. Key to this is ensuring that potential developments are sited appropriately, studies to evaluate potential impacts from development are technically sound and transparent, and stakeholders are meaningfully engaged during the planning process.

10) What are your ideas for Highway 1 safety and traffic improvements?

Similar to the above item, there is a need from improvements to Highway 1 safety and traffic flow. However, it is important that as stakeholders we continue to occupy a place at the table and that we continue to push Caltrans to be transparent in their methodologies for evaluating potential improvements.