



2022 City Council Candidate Questions

EXPERIENCE

What experience with Palo Alto community issues would you bring to the council?

PAT BURT

I've been a city Councilmember 2008-2016, 2020-2024, Mayor 2010, 2016, and 2022

And I've served on the following committees:

- Current Chair, Finance Committee
- Current Chair, Rail Committee
- City/School Liaison Committee
- Sustainability and Climate Action Ad Hoc Committee
- Retail Ad Hoc Committee
- Cubberley Ad Hoc Committee
- Stanford Ad Hoc Committee
- VTA Board Member
- Caltrain Board Member
- Bay Conservation and Development Commission Board Member

Regionally, I served on the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Board Member (and former Chair), the Caltrain Board, Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) Director, and as a former Delegate to the California Democratic Convention. I've also been in former leadership positions on a number of regional, state, and national environmental organizations including:

- Santa Clara County Pollution Prevention Committee
- California EPA Pollution Prevention Task Force
- Vice-Chair, Sustainable San Mateo County
- California EPA Comparative Risk Project

In my career, I'm a former tech founder and CEO. I began my involvement in advocacy by serving as the President of the University South Neighborhoods Group (leading the SOFA Coordinated Area Plan), a co-founder of the Community Center Neighborhood Group, and then served 9 years on the Planning and Transportation Commission, including two terms as Chair.

I have extensive experience in leading the city through a variety of economic upturns and downturns which I think will serve the city well.

My candidacy has been endorsed by the Sierra Club and 350.org along with many community leaders, and local and regional elected officials including Joe Simitian and Josh Becker.

KATIE CAUSEY

I am a lifelong Palo Alto resident and a proud graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly. I've volunteered actively in the community since I was a teenager. I bring years of experience working in our local nonprofits and I also hold a degree focused on local policy. Currently I professionally work with city governments on the Peninsula on their street infrastructure, ensuring repairs happen quickly and

streets are safe to walk and bike. I also serve as a member of the City of Palo Alto Human Relations Commission.

Like many candidates in this race I bring a background in housing and transportation policy, but there are a few aspects of my experience that are particularly valuable.

Having worked in our local housing nonprofits with Palo Alto seniors and families when they are facing eviction or close to having nowhere to live, I know the process many of our seniors and families go through in navigating our cities resources and where improvements need to occur.

Working professionally with city governments on their street infrastructure I know how to effectively work with state partners and identify when breakdowns in communication are happening internally so cities can operate more effectively.

As a member of the City of Palo Alto Human Relations Commission and a former nonprofit worker I know how to have a productive relationship with advocates when they approach a city on sensitive issues.

ANNE CRIBBS

I started at Palo Alto's Parks and Recreation Department in 1984 as an hourly worker, was promoted to full-time, then supervisor, and then superintendent. I left the recreation department in 1991 to join Gary Cavalli in Cavalli and Cribbs. I am now serving my third term on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

I had a major role in creating and supporting many community activities like the May Fete Parade, Black and White Ball, Recreation Foundation, Palo Alto Jazz Festival, Moonlight Run, Chili Cook-off, Grand Prix Run Series, Meet Me at the Plaza (Friday night entertainment at City Hall), TGIF in the Parks, Dogs Best Friend Fun Run, Cal Ave Art Festival, Cubberley Black Box Theatre, Masters Games, Japanese Cultural Festival, Baylands Clean Up days with EPA and PA, Willie McCovey League, Senior Golf Tournament at PA Muni, Junior Golf Tournament at PA Muni, Rapps Triathlon in Rinconada Park, The Run Club Stanford Centennial Parade, World Cup 94 Community Celebrations and the Soccer Center, Stanford Athletics Kids Club, New Years Eve Celebration, at Neiman Marcus, and a few more.

I served on an earlier Cubberley task force and I have a continuing interest in making Cubberley a vibrant community center for all ages.

HENRY ETZKOWITZ

Did not respond.

GEORGE LU

I currently serve as a Planning and Transportation Commissioner, where I've worked on key issues like our Housing Element, El Camino Bike Lanes, and retail streamlining.

As a Peninsula native, I've studied, visited, worked, and lived in Palo Alto over two decades. I grew up coming to Palo Alto for Chinese school and visiting friends Downtown. Later on, I studied Economics at Stanford and worked at a Palo Alto startup.

In my professional career, I've worked closely on civic issues. At Bird, I enabled millions of electric scooter rides around the world, while building equity programs to improve affordable access. During the Pandemic, I volunteered full-time at the US Digital Response, implementing a state-funded food aid program from local restaurants to seniors in need across nearly a dozen cities.

KEITH RECKDAHL

I've served as a Commissioner for Palo Alto for 12 years and I'm honored to have received the endorsement of the Sierra Club for my focus on housing and the environment. I have nine years of experience serving on Palo Alto's Parks and Recreation Committee, where I played a key role in shaping the Parks Master Plan. During my tenure, I focused on addressing the community's evolving needs by promoting sustainability, reducing water usage, limiting harmful chemicals, and creating outreach programs for teens, seniors, and underserved groups. I also advocated for enhanced recreational facilities and park accessibility for all residents.

Currently, I serve as Vice Chair of the Planning and Transportation Commission, where I've worked over the past three years to improve transportation options for cars, bikes, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities. I've been involved in developing solutions for critical transportation issues, such as eliminating railroad crossings and advocating for accessible retail to support local businesses.

I have also been actively involved in housing policy, serving on the Housing Element Working Group and the North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan. My focus has been on advocating for affordable housing while ensuring that new developments provide the same quality amenities, such as parks and bike lanes, that current residents enjoy. While serving on the Planning and Transportation Commission, I also led the campaign for Measure K, which secured funding for public safety, affordable housing, and transportation improvements in Palo Alto.

I've spent over 25 years as an aerospace engineer leading complex projects to get them delivered on time and on budget. With a background in Mechanical Engineering, and holding a Ph.D. from Stanford, I bring a rigorous, analytical approach to problem-solving. My education and experience in city planning, housing, and transportation make me well-qualified to contribute effectively to the City Council, ensuring our community remains livable and vibrant for all.

I've lived in Palo Alto for 28 years and I care deeply about this community. My wife, Becky Epstein, and I have raised our kids here where they attended Palo Alto Schools (Ohlone, JLS, Gunn) and played team sports. I want to focus on Palo Alto, so I've committed to not run for higher office.

GREER STONE

As a longtime Palo Alto resident and public servant, I bring a deep understanding of the community's needs to the City Council. I grew up in Palo Alto and attended our city's venerable schools from Duveneck to Paly. I worked in the District Attorney's Office in the Palo Alto Courthouse and even taught at JLS, Gunn, and Paly. Prior to being elected to the Palo Alto City Council, I served as chair of the Midtown Residents Association, the city's largest residents association.

Having served as mayor and a council member since 2020, I've worked on issues ranging from housing affordability to environmental sustainability. I've also led initiatives on youth mental health and wellbeing, helping to advance policies like establishing a new teen center in north Palo Alto. My experience as a public school teacher further grounds me in the concerns of families and youth, allowing me to advocate effectively for all residents.

DORIA SUMMA

I have 17 years of experience working on appointed boards and commissions.

- Planning and Transportation Commission
 - Member from 2016 to present
 - Chair from January, 2023 to May, 2024

- 2030 Comprehensive Plan Citizens Advisory Committee Member
 - Land Use Subcommittee for 2030 Comprehensive Plan
 - Natural Environment Subcommittee for 2030 Comprehensive Plan
- College Terrace Residents' Association, Board Member (2009-2016, President 2016)
 - College Terrace Neighborhood Traffic Calming Project
 - College Terrace Residential Parking Permit Program Committee
 - JJ&F / College Terrace Centre Task Force (2008-2014)
 - College Terrace Library Advocacy
- Citizen's Committee to update Palo Alto Tree Ordinance
- California Avenue Concept Plan workshops
- California Avenue Tree Replanting and Streetscape Project
- Palo Alto Art Center tree and greenspace preservation
- North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan Working Group Member
- Development Center Advisory Group Community Representative

Through this work I have developed in-depth knowledge of the most important issues facing Palo Alto.

CARI TEMPLETON

During my 6+ year tenure on the Planning and Transportation Commission, I have reviewed development proposals, transportation plans, program and policy initiatives, and more. Some example projects from my tenure include:

- Housing
 - Affordable Housing Combining District
 - RHNA updates
 - BMR program
- Sustainability
 - Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan
 - CEQA updates
 - Sustainability and Climate Action Plan
- Infrastructure
 - Improvements in bike safety infrastructure (bike lanes and paths, and most recently the addition of bike lanes on El Camino Real)
 - Stormwater drainage improvements to protect the Baylands and flood safety
 - Bike and pedestrian safety and accessibility
 - Parking lot exceptions to allow more EV charging stations in existing lots to accelerate adoption of electric vehicles
- Major projects
 - Cubberley Master Plan
 - The North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan/Fry's Site redevelopment
 - Housing Element Ad Hoc Committee
 - Expanded Community Advisory Panel (safer rail crossings)

Beyond the City of Palo Alto, I have also had the opportunity to work for other agencies:

- State Senator Josh Bekcer
 - Worked in State Senator Josh Becker's office, running events for Sen. Becker which focused on consumer education.
- Valley Water's Measure S Oversight Committee
 - Vice Chair of the Renewed Safe, Clean Water & Natural Flood Protection: Independent Monitoring Committee