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1. Motivation -- Why did you choose to run for the Park District Board?

I want to:

? Work to make sure our tax dollars are used to maintain our older urban area parks and to improve and expand our newer parks and trails so that our growing population and the next generation of citizens can continue to enjoy them while protecting and enhancing the natural resources that live there.

? Bring my education, small business and environmental background into the budget and policy process at the Park District to help maintain a responsible balance between operating costs (labor), new capital expenditures for park improvements/acquisitions and a continuing expansion of the current trails systems to bridge any gaps between parks and public transportation.

? Work with staff to make sure the large future new park at the Naval Weapons Station in Central Contra Costa County is made available to the public as soon as possible with no future clean up risks assumed by the Park District or with any significant impacts on the funding for Ward 2 Park facilities and trails.

2. Program and Priorities -- Elected office provides the opportunity to proactively lead by placing new ideas on the agenda for consideration and development. What are some specific ideas you intend to pursue if elected? What do you believe are the main priorities for the Park District Board?

? Stewardship of the existing natural resources at each park with an emphasis on providing access to all citizens while protecting native plant and animal species.

? Electric car charging stations at park and trail staging areas.

? Completing the trail systems where connective "holes" exist – examples Jack London Square to the Bay Bridge (Port of Oakland area) and Moraga Commons to Country Club Drive.

? Reducing the use of rodenticides, pesticides, herbicides and continue to minimize grazing in the parks as much as possible.

3. Qualifications -- Please give a brief summary of your background and qualifications for the office of EBRPD Director.

Board Member; Concord Naval Weapons Station Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) and Mount Diablo Audubon. Formerly, East Bay League of Conservation Voters.

Former member: EBRPD Park Advisory Committee, Contra Costa County Fish & Wildlife and Water Committees, Sierra Club Energy Committee.

Bachelor of Science in Conservation of Natural Resources – Emphasis in Political ecology and ornithology – UC Berkeley

Masters of Science in Environmental Management – USF

Resident in District and Ward (and user of park s and trails) for 55 years.

4. Recreation and Conservation -- What balance do you favor between recreational access/

development and protection of wildlife, creeks, and lands? 30/70 – Continue to work to get the cows out of the creeks!! Ratio may change with parks closer to urban areas vs. those in more wildland areas (Tilden vs. Morgan Territory).

## 5. Vegetation Management

a. What do you think the EBPRD policy regarding the use of pesticides / herbicides on park district property should be and why? Limit broad application of pesticides/ herbicides/rodenticides in favor of non-chemical approaches to eradication or control of “pest” species. I like salamanders (see photos) – and they don’t do well with petrochemicals and a lot of them live in the Ward 2 Regional Parks.

How would you propose to modify current park district policies? Not sure it would need more than fine tuning – real issue is budget cost – I would push for more labor intensive approach to eliminate things like thistles and non-native shrubs and trees. I know it is dangerous to say fire ecology – but in certain parks in very controlled situations, that might be a good practice. Minimize or eliminate rodenticides for rodent control as much as possible.

b. What approaches do you support for managing eucalyptus and other non-native or high-fire-risk species on park district property? A long-term removal and revegetation approach while being sensitive to short term micro view sheds and habitat impacts. In some instances we cannot make major changes (large mature trees – but we can limit new growth – thinking of eucalyptus). Confirm a long-term vision for habitat types to replace non-native species. Also need to determine best course for Sudden Oak Death Syndrome threats to our Park forests.

6. Grazing Program -- There are concerns that the District's grazing program does not provide the oversight to meet the District's own goals of enhancing botanic and biotic diversity, reduced erosion and improved water quality. What steps would you take to meet these goals? What is the 'optimum level' of grazing compatible with both biotic diversity and recreational uses of the parks? It is a very complex subject, but start by continuing to limit the intensity of grazing – there are grazing rights that were granted during acquisitions, but in managing those obligations we should be doing best efforts to eliminate animal access to creeks and sensitive watersheds. Certain parks and open spaces are better suited to grazing as part of an integrated fire and vegetative pest management plan, but not in riparian areas. This removal from natural water areas will require new watering holes...and discussion about barriers to water for cattle impacting access for native species (deer). We should establish a goal to get to optimal grassland management with grazing by 2034 – the Districts 100 year anniversary!

7. Dog Leash Law - What do you believe the EBRPD's policy should be regarding a leash law for dogs on district lands? Please explain your answer, including the issue of compatibility of off-leash dogs and park wildlife. I have walked my dogs on and off-leash in our regional parks. But it comes down to training – some dogs are easy to control – others are not. In most instances it is cattle/dog engagement that causes problems. But if they need to be on a leash to protect the resource – then put them on leash...they really do not mind as long as they get to go. There may be areas in certain parks where off-leash can be allowed. That has worked down at the

Berkeley Marina with some minor problems. Remember our job as Park Directors are to protect and enhance the resource (steward) for the long-term human (tax payer) enjoyment. Dogs may be part of that but they are not a priority.

8. Altamont Wind Turbines -- EBRPD owns land at Altamont Pass that includes a wind farm. How would you attempt to reduce bird kills at the turbines on the district's land and help solve the larger problem of bird kills by the turbines Altamont? Newer technology (slower blade speeds and sited in lower bird kill and park view shed sites, better setbacks, eliminate the use of rodenticides by the ranchers that own adjacent land to our parks where the machines are installed as conditions of windfarm development approvals.

9. Public Participation -- Though EBRPD spends millions of dollars annually on its public relations department it continues to receive criticism for being out-of-touch with supportive grassroots organizations and activists that are occasionally critical of District policies and operations. What policies would you help implement to foster communication and inclusiveness with those that have much to contribute? Promote listening by all parties. Many times people talk past each other – and in some instances hidden agendas confuse open discussion.

10. Expansion and Development -- Should EBRPD focus its efforts on continuing to expand its land holding to protect open space from future development, or should it focus on just doing a good job of maintaining its current parklands? Both. We need to be aggressive in our acquisitions to not only protect current open areas with great habitat value, but to start to acquire corridors for species movement and trails for human not vehicular movement. And if we need to go back to the tax payers to ask for more tax dollars to do both the right way we should! But before we ask them we need to make sure we are efficiently using the dollars we have today.

11. Balance of Mountain Bikers and Equestrians -- Historically, mountain bikers are neglected and given the short end of the stick in conflicts with equestrians on trails. What will you do to promote mountain biking in the parks so that these users actually feel welcome and are given the maximum amount of trail usage possible? Not all trails are multi-use. I have almost hit walkers with ear plugs so loud they can't hear my yell on your left (I am not a mountain biker but a paved path rider). Then I have seen mountain bikers ride cross country off trail, or speed through a trail section. The parks and trails are for everyone...but the "everyone's" have a responsibility to respect others interest in using the parks safely. Horses and bikes do not mix to well unless they are on wide trails (like Iron Horse in Danville). I would like to see each interest group outline where in each park they do not think they should go to see if that might help us find some common understanding. But there is no one right answer and we should be trying to accommodate as many users as possible as long as it does not significantly impact our two major priorities – public safety and protection of the natural resources. As we open newer parks, efforts should continue to make new trails which are mountain bike and hiker friendly (fire access roads that are wider).

12. Endorsements -- Who has endorsed you so far? Who do you expect to endorse you? Michele Perrault, past National President for the Sierra Club, Jimm Edgar, President of Mt. Diablo Audubon and John Moilan, former Piedmont Police Chief. I will not seek other individual

endorsements.

13. Campaign Funding -- How much money do you currently have for this race? How much money do you plan to raise? Where will the money come from? Describe sources of financial contributions for your campaign that you would refuse to accept (if any).

I have \$1,500 for this effort. I will not accept campaign donations, nor will I do annoying mailers or phone calls.

14. Anything Else? -- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

As a 55-year resident of the East Bay, I have enjoyed hikes, celebrations and bike rides with my children and grandson in our great regional parks and trails. As your representative in Ward 2, I will work to make sure our tax dollars are used to maintain our older urban area parks and to improve and expand our newer parks so that our growing population and the next generation of citizens can continue to enjoy them. My education and private/public sector experience make me a very strong candidate for Ward 2 Director. I thank you for your consideration and support.





