

## **Answers to Green Party Questionnaire**

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Website:

Current occupation: EBRPD director, Ward 5

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

*I believe the EBRPD parks and trails are essential to the health and vitality of the East Bay. I want to continue working to make environmental and recreational opportunities accessible to all. I love the District and will continue my efforts to connect the wildlife corridors, manage and protect our open space, recreation areas and shorelines. I believe that Global Warming is here and the district must design all projects with that in mind. I believe in Healthy Parks – Healthy People.*

2. Program and Priorities -- Elected office provides the opportunity to proactively lead by placing 2. 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 Answers to?

*I have served on EBRPD for 20 years. I am working on expanding our relationships with the medical community (doctors & hospitals) to prescribe "park visits" to their patients. I am working on joint ventures with the parks and independent districts where ever possible. In Livermore we are completing the Sycamore Park Trail restoration with the Livermore Recreation and Park District. It benefits local and long distant hikers and bikers.*

*I support EBRPD's mission to protect and manage open space, shorelines and wildlife habitats and provide recreational opportunities for all.*

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

*I have served on the Livermore City Council, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, and the Alameda Recycling and Resources Reduction Board, I am currently the chair of the Alameda County Local Agency Formation Commission. I am the EBRPD Ward 5 board member.*

4. Recreation and Conservation -- What balance do you favor between recreational access/development and protection of wildlife, creeks, and lands?

*Most of Ward 5 land is open space with appropriate trails connections. Even well used recreation area parks like Del Valle, Shadow Cliffs, Coyote Hills and Mission Peak have a lot of open space. We try to have a variety of recreation and education opportunities in all parts of the District, from swimming, kayaking, farm programs, hiking, programs on native species, etc.*

*Our mobile units take programs to schools and special events.*

#### 5. Vegetation Management

a. What do you think the EBRPD policy regarding the use of pesticides / herbicides on park district property should be and why? How would you propose to modify current park district policies?

*I continue to support the Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM). The District is reviewing all the use of pesticides / herbicides on park district property at all times. I support minimal use of such products and only where necessary. Park land, park users and park staff must be safe.*

b. What approaches do you support for managing eucalyptus and other non-native or high-fire-risk species on park district property?

*I support our current method for managing eucalyptus and other non-native or high-fire species on district property. We spent many years developing this program to enable our fire fighters to have such areas managed so that they will be better able to fight fires effectively.*

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?

*Our grazing program is constantly managed by park supervisors and with oversight from our Stewardship department. Our grazing program is managed for biotic diversity based on findings from past UC Berkeley studies. The grazing is absolutely necessary for fire protection in our grassland parks. We use cattle, sheep and goats. For instance, sheep are used at Pleasanton Ridge because they skip the native grasses which are rebounding under this program.*

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.

*We evaluate dog off-leash and leash areas continually, There is concern with cattle grazed areas and off-leash dogs. I believe all dogs should be leashed when cattle are grazing. When habitat is threatened by off-leash dogs then they should be leashed also.*

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?

*We are participating in Altamont Wind Turbine studies to reduce bird kills. We have the ability to shut down turbines at the end of contracts. We hope our studies will help so that future turbine locations can be adjusted to reduce/eliminate bird kills. I support wind energy but we must protect birds.*

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?

*We meet often with diverse grassroots organizations and activists and they are welcome to speak at board and committee meetings. If they have information to present they are welcome to ask for agenda time. I believe in listening to diverse opinions/ ideas.*

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?

*It is critical to continue purchasing land that connects our threatened wildlife corridors and also connects with trails. We carefully evaluate our land purchases and only purchase lands that will protect wildlife and add important land to district parks. I believe we do a good job of managing our current parklands while purchasing additional land. The state should focus on preserving Tesla based on its unique cultural and natural resources. I convinced the Board to keep Tesla on our Master Plan as a potential future park.*

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?

*I am supportive of mountain biking in our parks . Our trails department looks for areas where the trails will work for equestrians, hikers and bikers. Every user has to behave responsibly and then such trails can be shared successfully.*

12. Endorsements -- Who has endorsed you so far? Who do you expect to endorse you?

*Alameda County Board of supervisors  
Scott Haggerty, District 1*

*East Bay Regional Park District board Members*

<i>Whitney Dotson</i>	<i>Ward 1</i>
<i>Dee Rosario</i>	<i>Ward 2</i>
<i>Dennis Waespi (President)</i>	<i>Ward 3</i>
<i>Ellen Corbett</i>	<i>Ward 4</i>
<i>Beverly Lane</i>	<i>Ward 6</i>
<i>Colin Coffey</i>	<i>Ward 7</i>
<i>Jocelyn Combs</i>	<i>former board member</i>

*EBRPD Advisory Committee  
Olivia Sanwong  
Ben Yee*

*Tri City Democratic Foun*

*Livermore Are Recreation and Park District  
Maryalice Faltings  
David Furst  
Jan Palajac  
Beth Wilson*

*Livermore City Council*

*Mayor John Marchand*  
*Bob Coomber council member*  
*Bob Carling council member*  
*Cathie Brown, former mayor*  
*Lorraine Dietrech, former council member*  
*John Stein, former council member*

*Pleasanton City Council*

*Mayor Jerry Thorne*  
*Arne Olson, council member*  
*Karla Brown, council member*  
*Kathy Narum, council member*  
*Jerry Pentin, council member*

*Dublin City Council*

*Melissa Hernandez, council member*  
*Tim Sabranti, former mayor*  
*Linda J Sailors, former mayor*  
*Georgean Vonheeder Leopold, former council member*

*Fremont*

*Gus Morrison, former mayor*

*Zone 7 Flood Control Water Conservation Board*

*Angela Remiriz Holmes, Chairmen*  
*Dennis Gambs*  
*Sarah Palmer*  
*Dick Quigley*  
*Olivia Sanwong*

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 \$2585.40 in my account. I hope to raise \$12,000 - \$15,000 from friends, park users, and fellow elected officials. Mine is a very low-key campaign.*

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

*I would appreciate your endorsement.*