

North Park Planning Committee (NPPC)

March 2023 Election Candidates

Barret Bradley

My name is Barret Bradley, and I am thrilled to apply for a position on the committee. As a resident of North Park, I have witnessed firsthand the neighborhood's evolution and growth, and I am deeply invested in ensuring its continued success and vibrancy.

I believe that the North Park Planning Committee plays a crucial role in shaping the future of the neighborhood, and I am eager to contribute my skills and experience to this important task. As a commercial property developer with a decade of experience, I have a keen understanding of the economic and logistical aspects of neighborhood planning, as well as a deep appreciation for the importance of community input and collaboration.

I am particularly interested in working on projects that promote sustainable growth and development, such as expanding public transportation options, improving pedestrian and bike infrastructure, and supporting local businesses. I am confident that my experience in navigating the complexities of commercial property development and my commitment to community-centered planning make me a strong candidate for the North Park Planning Committee. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the future of our wonderful neighborhood



Pedro Cardenas

My name is Pedro Cardenas and I would love to represent the interests of the businesses and residents of North Park by sitting on the North Park Planning Commission. I currently work as a Management Analyst for the City of Escondido's Economic Development Department. My experience working with small businesses and increasing local economic capacity is something I can immediately bring to the table for the NPCC. I also received my Bachelor's and Master's degree in Public Administration. Local government is something I'm passionate about!



As a board member my main priorities will be to advocate for more affordable housing opportunities, increase bike and pedestrian safety, reliable and efficient transit options, and to ensure small businesses don't run into any red tape for approvals.

My local government experience will be an asset to the NPPC and I am excited to play a role in communicating project updates from the City of San Diego and SANDAG. North Park is seeing massive growth and it will be up to the current and new board members to ensure that the growth is feasible and matches the current character of our community. I love living in this neighborhood and as a board member of the Planning Commission I will strive to keep North Park a great place to live, work, and play for everyone.

Carmen Cooley-Graham

I would be honored to continue on the North Park Planning Committee. I am a 4th generation San Diegan, my family moved to our historical home in Morley Field in 1986. I am also the current co-owner and Director of the JA Cooley Museum on Park Blvd and a Real Estate Broker for 23 years. My family has operated our family business for 80 years in NorthPark/ University Heights Frank the Trainman.



There are many reasons I'm running ; I have for many years fought for our community for property and business owners along with my father. It was just recently that I have become outspoken and more aware of the serious issues that our community is facing. A City Council that refuses to listen to the people and avoid planning committees. A City that lacks transparency and communication to the communities they are voted to represent. I'd like to help this Board with new leadership and fresh ideas.

We need to work as a whole with the other organizations and planning committees in the area to hold our City Council, Sandag and Mayor accountable. A serious conversation about housing solutions that will actually work here in North Park and protect the integrity of our neighborhood with reasonable regulated development to help the housing shortage and affordability. Asking the City to stop using "affordable housing" as an excuse when in fact so much of the developments being ok'd in our community is anything but affordable. Growing up with small business owners as parents I know first hand the struggles of owning a business.

As a Real Estate broker and coach I know about marketing and business development; I'd like to help grow and strengthen the small businesses and advocate to bring more customers to support them.

We need to keep them here in this community and help them survive. Most importantly, I want to keep working to create a coexistence and mutual respect for both sides in regards to transportation and land issues. We are all neighbors, and we need to treat one another with courtesy and respect. My experience on many boards of nonprofits in San Diego and also served as Chair of the Human Relations Commission for the City of La Mesa 2008-2011; I intend to find the solution that can unite our neighborhood.

Lauren Dockweiler

As a longtime San Diego resident, purchasing our 1927 Spanish eclectic home in charming North Park (May 2021) was a dream come true. I moved here in 1998 to attend UC San Diego, where I received my BA in Economics. After years of renting in and around the area, my partner Jeff and I knew this was where we wanted to put down permanent roots. I'm an early 40s fundraising professional, currently working full time at [Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest](#) and serving on the board of NGO [Integrate Health](#). I've also consulted and volunteered for a number of other organizations in San Diego County over the years, including Project Concern International, National Association of Music Merchants, Karen Organization, and Malashock Dance.



Outside of nonprofit work, I'm an avid reader (much love for all the local bookstores in our neighborhood!), yogi, former dancer with company [bkSOUL](#), and proud "mom" to two our two cuddly cats, Butch and Sundance. Additionally, I've recently begun volunteering with [Landmark Historic Designation](#), helping research historical designation and Mills Act detail for President Kiley Wallace. My latest passion has been diving into the history of San Diego, and in particular, North Park.

Having lived in our home for nearing two years, I'm looking to become more engaged in local efforts that impact the future of North Park. I'm a lifelong learner and seeker and love being engaged behind the scenes. This neighborhood is so special and I'm interested in the work that goes into the delicate and difficult balance of making improvements and experiencing growth, while preserving its history. I frequent our local businesses, attend the weekly farmer's market, and am deeply proud to be a part of this incredible community.

Sean Elliott

I want to become a member of the North Park Planning Committee because I believe this an important outlet for helping shape the developments of this community.

I grew up in Carmel Valley, San Diego, and after years of adoration for North Park, I finally moved to my current apartment here, with hopes of purchasing a condo in the near future. I want to see North Park thrive. The “dangerous-by-design” roads and infrastructure that have blighted our cities for years has motivated my passion for the development of safe, economically sound, and robust communities. North Park is beloved throughout San Diego for its shops, walkable neighborhoods, and character, yet it still suffers the detrimental effects of car-dependent infrastructure. As member of NPPC, I would transform my obsession of researching projects of the city planning department and SANDAG into an official voice of the North Park community.



Patrick Garbani

I am an advocate for the neighborhood which I love. I earned my Bachelor's in Business Administration, majoring in Finance and my Master of Accountancy. I hold an active CPA license with over 15 years in finance, accounting and banking. My wife and I own a boutique shop, Home + Hound, in North Park. Additionally, I am currently a Senior Manager of Accounting at Qualcomm. My previous experience includes positions at Tyler Technologies, a software company for state and local governments, and a Big Four accounting firm, KPMG, which included audit work for the city of Detroit, Michigan.



Donald Goff

I grew up in North County and have had the pleasure to live University Heights these last 30 plus years. I have watched our neighborhoods grow, improve and have also seen a few problems. I am now in a position to have the time available to give back to my community and represent the best interest of the people that live here. We live in such a unique and historical part of San Diego at a time when many things are changing, I would like to be part of the planning of those changes. I believe my knowledge of the area and love for our neighborhoods will serve me well as a member of the North Park Planning Committee.



My current profession is real estate sales. I spent the first part of my career (and most of my life) in the hospitality industry. Managing the Food & Beverage Department of a large casino prepared me to work with a variety of people and focus on the numbers and compliance.

I previously served on the board of Mama's Kitchen for over ten years and actively participated in board meetings and functions. I believe in open and honest communication, while respecting the viewpoints of others.

In my free time I enjoy travel, dining out, especially at small neighborhood restaurants, and spending time with my family and Siberian Husky.

I would be honored to have the opportunity to work on the North Park Planning Committee.

John Hartley

I would like to serve on the North Park Planning Group and I ask you for your vote.

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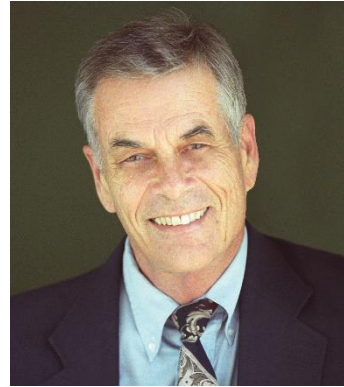
I moved to North Park two years ago from Normal Heights and I would like to contribute as much as possible to my new home.

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I lived 15 years in Normal Heights where I was on the board of the Normal Heights Planning Group, the Recreation Council and the co-founder of Safe Neighborhoods where we worked to keep Normal Heights and Kensington safe by helping to organize neighborhood watch groups and citizen patrols.

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I am a neighborhood advocate and I would like to help protect North Park. I was born and raised in San Diego, lived briefly in North Park and attended Wilson Middle School, before my folks moved to the Grossmont area. I graduated from Grossmont High School in 1960 and San Diego State College (before it became a university) in 1966.



Rear Admiral Dr. Gregory Horn (ret)

Gregory Curtis Horn^{[1][2]} (born May 6, 1953) is a [Rear Admiral](#) in the [United States Navy](#). He retired in 2013 as 17th Deputy Chief of Chaplains for Reserve Matters and Director of Religious Programs, Marine Forces Reserve.

Rear Admiral Horn, a Pasadena, Calif., native, attended the University of Southern California and transferred to Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, CA where he graduated with a BA in Psychology in 1976. He then earned a Master of Divinity in 1979 and the Doctor of Ministry in 1985 from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif. In 2007, he was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy in Practical Theology and Ethics from Fuller Seminary's Center for Advanced Theological Studies.

Commissioned a lieutenant in 1988, Horn's Navy Reserve tours included: USS Bristol County (LST 1198); Naval Hospital San Diego; Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 17. He also served as Assistant Fleet chaplain, Commander, Submarine Forces Pacific.

Horn's Reserve Marine Corps assignments as command chaplain included: 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion; 23rd Marine Regiment (lead Reserve element in Advanced Warfighting Experiment: Urban Warrior); and Marine Aircraft Group 46.

In February 2003 Horn was recalled to active duty in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom as Command Chaplain, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing RBE, and subsequently as the acting Wing Chaplain.

After mobilization, Horn returned to the Reserve Component and was selected to be Deputy Force Chaplain, Reserve Matters, Marine Forces Pacific, Camp Smith HI. In December 2006, he was promoted to [captain](#)^[2] and selected to serve as the Deputy Chaplain of the Marine Corps for Reserve Matters, Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps, Pentagon, Washington DC. This was followed in December 2009, when Horn was selected as the Deputy Chaplain, Commander Navy Installations Command at the Washington Navy Yard..

On October 7, 2010, Horn was promoted to rear admiral (lower half) and assumed the position on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations as the 17th Deputy Chief of Chaplains for Reserve Matters and Director of Religious Programs, Marine Forces Reserves. He retired from the Navy on October 1, 2013.

An ordained Presbyterian Church USA minister, Horn has been the Pastor and Head of Staff at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, Calif. since January 1986, where he continues to serve. Rear Admiral Horn is married to Katherine Marie (Mackel) Horn of Pasadena who is a CPA with a major Oil Company. They have two children. Jessica is a Navy chaplain on active duty, and Evans is a beverage director in the hotel and restaurant industry.



Rear Admiral Horn is authorized to wear the Legion of Merit (2 awards), Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards) and the Navy Achievement Medal (3 awards). In addition he was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Navy Unit Citation, the Navy and Marine Corps Meritorious Unit citation, the Fleet Marine Force ribbon and various service awards.

Don Leichtling

Basil Mournian

My name is Basil Mournian. I hold a BS in Business from the University of Phoenix and I work at Cox Communications as a dispatcher. I was born here in San Diego and have rented in North Park since 1996. Proximity to everyday destinations, affordable rents, and a comfortable feeling of community were some reasons that attracted and compelled me to stay here.



Lately, this sense of home has been threatened by rapidly rising rents, snarled automobile traffic, and noise. Much of this has been driven by our success as a nationwide destination. It's great for business and entertainment but we need to preserve some quality of life, if not just for our sanity and safety.

That's why I'm running again for a seat on the board. Previously, I helped bring attention to street safety issues such as broken lighting and pavement repair. I also voted for recent wins like the North Park dog park. We may be an advisory board but the City still listens to what we have to say on local issues and capital improvement priorities.

Choose me and I'll listen to what you, my neighbors, have to say at meetings and convey those sentiments to our City Council. I enjoy living here as much as you do so I want to make sure we have a future here. I'm on board to work with the Committee to do that. Thanks for your vote!

Heidi Orcino

Hi. I'm Heidi Orcino. I've lived with my husband and five year old daughter in North Park for 8 years. I am upset by the street changes that have been happening in our neighborhood, I do not believe they improve the flow through our neighborhood or quality of life. I would like to use my experience as a resident of North Park and voice my concerns to the city to hopefully make some changes.

Janine Rochelle

I moved to San Diego in 1999 and was immediately drawn to the area and promptly purchased a home here. Since then I have raised two wonderful children, been involved in the community schools, coached both North Park Little League and North Park Fastpitch and was the co-chair of the beautification committee that was the catalyst for a local joint use park so I know the shortcomings of parks in our community. I have a Bachelors of Architectural Studies and have been fortunate to design high-rises, mixed use and Fortune 500 facilities. In 2000 my husband and I opened our architectural firm here; several residential and commercial spaces of our work can be spotted around. I love to ride my bike to jobsites but I only ride on the lesser traveled streets and I live directly off the 30th Street bike route! Speaking of 30th Street, where I used to be able to park in front of my house I'm now lucky to find parking a block away, I really feel for the residences and businesses along 30th and University. To sum this up I guess I'm saying North Park has changed tremendously in the past 23 years; some for the better, some maybe not. One thing is for sure we all care about North Park and I believe I would be a strong but fair candidate to hear all sides of any issues and try to assist North Park with growing forward.



Jen Ortega

Hello! My name is Jennifer Ortega (go by Jen) and I'm a current resident of the great community of North Park. I am a San Diego Native and am lucky and proud to say I have spent the majority of my life in San Diego (26 out of my 30 years)! While I grew up in the Ocean Beach and Point Loma communities, I have found a special place in my heart for North Park. The North Park community provides so much for me that I would like to give back and be able to contribute to maintain the positive aspects of this community and also help improve where needed. I believe my professional skills as a production planner will benefit me in being able to execute the responsibilities of a board member. I am passionate about my city and my neighborhood and if elected as a board member, it will be my goal to give my best efforts to help all residents and visitors alike of North Park to have the same wonderful experience that I have had here.



Liz Saba

I am a single and proud mom of a 19-year college student. I have been a homeowner in North Park since 1999 and, as of April 2018 I became a small business owner in the neighborhood. I own Presley & Co. Fine Jewelers. It was important for me to start my business in the neighborhood I love so that I could also give back to the community.



I have seen a lot of changes in the neighborhood over the years- both positive as well as some that have affected us negatively. I am running for a seat on the North Park Planning Committee board, so that I may be able to represent the concerns of residents and business owners on changes that will impact us directly.

We need to work together to make North Park thrive while keeping the small town feel that makes North Park so charming.

As a homeowner and business owner in North Park, I really want NP to be a vibrant neighborhood in San Diego. Please consider voting for me for the NPPC Board.

Brian Saull

I have owned my condo in North Park since 2014. My wife and I enjoy walking our bulldog, Hanks, throughout the neighborhood and at our many wonderful parks. I have served on the NPPC board for the last several months, filling an open vacancy in the last special election. I'm humbled by the opportunity and responsibility to continue to serve my community as a board member. I have seen plenty of great and bad developments in North Park over the last 9 years. I am a licensed California Civil Engineer, and therefore have experience in land use compatibility, stormwater and environmental compliance, urban fill developments, traffic plans, and city permitting. I value the protection of our existing neighborhood diversity and creating an environment for small local businesses to thrive, while balancing a proper implementation of transit and housing initiatives to provide economic opportunities for all. I look forward to getting to the work of the North Park Planning Committee: reviewing and discussing development and land use issues in conformance with the Community Plan; increasing community engagement; and facilitating proactive communication from developers and capital projects staff.



Douglas Schueler

My name is Doug Schueler and I am running for a position on the North Park Planning Committee. For any community to thrive it takes residents and business owners to contribute time and energy, as they have available, to give back to the place they call home. I do not enter this race with any particular agenda, but realizing I am at a point in my life where I have the ability to give back to our community, I want to do just that. By joining the North Park Planning Committee, I hope to contribute to the future of North Park with calculated and deliberate planning in a manner that takes the long view of progress in our neighborhood.

I have lived in San Diego since 2012 and have been a resident of North Park since 2015, initially as a renter and currently as a homeowner. My wife and I love the neighborhood, with its charm, diversity, and walkability; we couldn't imagine living anywhere else. I arrived in San Diego towards the end of a 26-year career in the U.S. Marine Corps. My time in service took me around the world, serving as a helicopter pilot in combat and humanitarian missions, test pilot, and commanding officer for a squadron of over 400 Marines and Sailors. I also served in a senior leadership role in emergency response management and as a program manager for major defense procurement programs. Since retiring from the Marine Corps as a Colonel in 2014, I have continued to serve in key program management positions as a defense contractor. I also regularly volunteer my time with the Marston Canyon clean-up group, and Outdoor Outreach whose mission is to grow the aspirations of disadvantaged youth through excursions to the amazing recreational activities we have here in San Diego.

My ambition for joining the North Park Planning Committee is simple, I love this incredible community that we live in, and I want to contribute my time and energy to ensuring the future of North Park is as bright and positive as it is today.