

NPPC 2024 Election Candidates

Lynn Elliott



I am a 40 year+ North Park resident. I have been a renter and now a home owner. I have been a bicyclist for over 20 years and have ridden City streets regularly. Now I primarily walk and drive, but haven't forgotten concerns with bicycling.

I have been involved with Many North Park organizations in the past 20 + years: North Park Main Street, Redevelopment, North Park Community Association, North Park Recreation Council where I have attended meetings, assisted, organized, or led events, and advocated for different community concerns, issues. I had been on the NPPC Board for a year prior to the 2021 election and now currently on the NPPC Board and running for re-election.

My specific concerns related to North Park include improved and amicable communication between North Parkers, and with the City; North Park's infrastructure, aesthetics, affordable housing, street safety, and recreation opportunities, etc, all of which are effected by development.

Bob LaRose



My wife and I have lived in North Park for twenty years. We're here because when my job moved us back to San Diego, our oldest son - who had recently purchased a fixer-upper in North Park - said that "North Park is the place to be." We took a gamble, bought a 110 year old house that also needed work, and YES, we found that this is the place to be! We have watched and enjoyed seeing our community continue to prosper. Yes, we do need more housing, especially affordable housing, but developers are not moving us in that direction. We need to do everything we can to maintain the reasons that people want to move here and to support our local businesses.

I recently retired from the wireless/telecom industry and now have more time to spend on giving back to our community. I started volunteering for the NPPC about three years ago and was appointed to the NPPC Board last year to fill a vacancy. I also volunteer two days a week for Forever Balboa Park, have volunteered at one of the City's Homeless Camps, and most recently was credentialed to begin volunteering at Kaiser Permanente.

I would be grateful if you would consider voting for me!

Barton Lynch



I am excited to run in this election to represent a new generation of leadership in North Park. I am a homeowner and would like to focus on issues that will make everyone in the neighborhood safer and happier like making our streets safer, beautifying our shared spaces, and advocating for upgrades to facilities like the rec center. I hope to have your vote this year and help to move our community forward.

Roger McClish



I have lived in San Diego for nearly my entire life, and have lived in North Park since before I can remember. I feel a strong connection with the community and would be proud to have the opportunity to help guide the neighborhood and work to maximize its livability. I recently graduated summa cum laude from SDSU with a degree in Geography and an emphasis in Environment, Sustainability, and Policy, a minor in History, and an Honors minor in Interdisciplinary Studies. I believe that my education will both provide insight on specific issues and enable me to understand general issues about the community. I've also completed an internship at a local urban forestry nonprofit and am currently volunteering on a District 3 City Council campaign.

At age 24, I represent an important demographic for community planning. My generation is facing and will face the brunt of problems like the housing crisis and climate change, yet is also hopeful and passionate about the future of neighborhoods like ours. I feel that I would be able to bring forward these concerns and hopes as a part of the board.

I would appreciate your support.

Kevin Piechota



My name is Kevin Piechota and my wife Maria and I have been living in San Diego (both New York transplants) for 15 years with the past 8 being here in North Park.

After moving here from Downtown San Diego, we knew no one; that changed quickly. The first Friday potluck circuit was a great way to get to know our neighbors and in many ways, has changed our lives.

Shortly after attending these events and meeting many young or aspiring families, I organized "3rd Friday" to create a more kid-friendly event. These people have become like family to us.

My passion in life has always revolved around real estate; From working at Homes.com/Zillow to purchasing a home and now I find myself restoring the old charming homes to their original glory. Sadly, there is often a negative connotation with realtors/home flippers and developers. My stance is that I want to create additional housing but do it responsibly. Given my career choice, I feel like I can offer an alternative perspective to the housing/parking crisis that we face today. Recently, one of our homes was featured in the UT and CBS:

[SDUT Article](#)

[CBS Zevley Zone Part 2](#)

My real estate business has also given me a platform to help others. COVID food drives was the catalyst to start quarterly fundraisers and charity events. Fast forward to having two young children that will be attending Jefferson Elementary, I feel that now, more than ever, I need to be actively involved in the future of our vibrant and growing neighborhood. Preservation of charm and character, while also finding creative ways to allow more to enjoy what we love about north park.

Carolyn Puliafico

As a long time North Park resident, I have witnessed the developmental growth over the decades. I would like to, now, be an active participant in North Park's growth, versus watching on the sidelines.

Jay Robinson-Duff



I am committed to making North Park the best community that it can be. I have the skills to help this great planning commission by providing a different perspective than is typical by being a renter who understands what high rents can do to a community. I graduated from the University of San Diego, but then moved to South Carolina after college due to the high rents in the area compared to the value. But San Diego is too good to not return!

My study of Mechanical Engineering, and professional work evaluating & procuring capital projects as a skill that will prove itself useful when evaluating the different opportunities for our community. I'll do my best to ensure San Diego gets the most meaningful improvements per dollar.

North Park is a community for people to live in, rather than solely a place for people to visit and leave. I'll protect this identity to ensure we are able to continue to have a strong community.

I'm excited to help ensure North Park transition into the future in a way that protect everyone's safety while walking and biking and increases the convenience of public transit.

Let's go North Park!

Mark Spitzer



I have been a resident of North Park for 37 years and I own a commercial building on 30th Street. I have worked as an engineer and a home builder and I have served on the North Park Planning Committee Board and the Board of the Maintenance Assessment District. I am concerned with the increase in traffic congestion and the shortage of parking on some of our streets. We can take simple inexpensive actions to improve these situations. The concept of new housing with very limited parking is based on the premise that most of the new residents in these buildings will not own cars, and will take public transportation. We should survey these new residents to see if the premise holds true. If it does, the concept is a success and these buildings should be built in every neighborhood, not just in the older parts of our city. If this is not the case than the parking requirements should be changed back to where it was, requiring more parking in future buildings.

San Diego's housing shortage has greatly raised the cost of housing and caused severe financial strain on many. Some of our adult children cannot even afford to live here. Is this the kind of city we want? We will not fix this with dogma or oversimplification. We should make decisions based on practicality and fairness. This would be my focus as a Board member.

Mieko Sunbury



My name is Mieko Sunbury. I am a San Diego native and have lived in North Park for 12 years. PO I believe that North Park is beginning a transition, we're already seeing bike lanes, and large apartment buildings for more dense housing. I want to help to make this transition as smooth as possible, for those who have lived here for a long time and have made our neighborhood what it is, and for those who are now moving in and expect to be here moving forward.

Jason Vance



I'd like to get involved in the NPPC because I am a future dad that wants to make the neighborhood safe for my family, neighbors, visitors. Unfortunately, people are dying in our very backyard, and that is unacceptable. In the past year I've attended two memorial services for people who have died in North Park while crossing the street. If we focus on making the neighborhood safe, we can all feel at ease when our families and kids are out biking and playing in the neighborhood. Kids need their independence back.