

Candidate Statements – PPCC Elected Representatives Election 2018

Area Representatives



Joanna Spak – Area One
jlspek@yahoo.com

I have lived in Pacific Palisades for 57 years and at my Area 1 residence on Quadro Vecchio Drive for nearly 50 years. I recently retired from Disney after a 30-year career in finance and operations, and bring to my candidacy a strong track record of success in planning, strategy and collaboration. As your Area 1 representative, I will provide inclusive representation on issues that are important to our neighborhoods, including development, traffic, fire safety, and the continued revitalization of our community while preserving our small-town charm. I would be honored to serve as your Area 1 representative.



Adam Handler – Area Two
amhandler@msn.com

I have been a resident of the Highlands for 28 years and live at 16682 Calle Jermaine. I am the Vice-Chair of the Summit at Palisades Highlands HOA, a lawyer with over 30 years of experience in tax and real estate, and serve on the board of an LA charity that helps the homeless. I am concerned about future development, increasing crime, maintenance of Palisades Drive, and the responsiveness of local government to residents' valid concerns. Any development must be carefully vetted for its impact on the residents and the overall environment.



Steve Cron – Area Two
smcron@gmail.com

I'm running for the position of Area 2 Representative to make sure that the opinions and needs of Highlands residents are heard and acknowledged at PPCC. I've lived in the Palisades since 1983, and on Palisades Drive in the Highlands since 2005. I previously served as PPCC Secretary and Area 2 Alternate. I've also served as vice president of Kehillat Israel synagogue, president of the Santa Monica Bar Association, and on the board of my Highlands HOA. I am a practicing attorney and Adjunct Professor at Pepperdine Law School. I welcome your support.



Haldis Toppel – Area Three
hrtoppel@aol.com

I am a 43-year resident of Enchanted Way, a retired Information Systems Manager for the City of LA, past-President of MKPOA, past-President of the Woman's Club, and past board member of PPCC. I am author of e-cam, the community service e-mail notices about fire, crime, lost dogs, and other noteworthy events. Over the last decade I have used my administrative, communication, and organizational skills to improve and protect the quality of life for the residents of Pacific Palisades, and those of Area 3 specifically, with care, thoughtfulness and dedication. Please support me as representative of your voice on the PPCC.

Area Representatives cont'd.



Rick Mills – Area Four

rickmills1301@yahoo.com

I've been honored to be your Area 4 Representative for the past four years. I am a 32-year Palisades resident (on El Medio) and a local Realtor, Chamber of Commerce member, past Chair of our Pacific Palisades Design Review Board, previous city planner for the City of Santa Monica, and a graduate of Stanford and U.C. Berkeley (Masters in City Planning). I love our neighborhood and believe in our community. As we navigate into a challenging yet promising future, I believe the PPCC should redouble its efforts to help the Palisades remain the special and vibrant home we all cherish.



David Kaplan – Area Six

dkaplan6@gmail.com

My name is David Kaplan. I have been a resident of Pacific Palisades residing on Haverford Ave. for over 7 years. I have been on the Board of the PPCC for the past 4 years. During the past two years I represented Area Six as the elected representative. During that time I chaired the Village Project land use committee, which vetted the project and made recommendations to the full board. I also served on the executive committee and bylaws committee. I am a retired lawyer and would like to continue using my skills for the community.



Sue Kohl – Area Five

suekohl@gmail.com

I have lived at 861 Iliff Street in Area 5 for 25 years, where I raised 5 children. Professionally, I am a realtor and assistant manager at Berkshire Hathaway Home Services California. I have been on the PPCC for 5 years - 1 year as Youth Sports Advisor and 4 years as Area 5 Representative. During that time, I have served on the Nominating Committee and the Village Project Liaison Committee. As Area 5 Rep, I have worked to have streets and sidewalks repaired, trees trimmed and on a resident parking project and various other neighborhood projects.



Steve Boyers – Area Seven

srboyerslaw@gmail.com

I have been a resident of the Pacific Palisades for more than 40 years, all of which time I have lived at 528 Latimer Road, Santa Monica, California 90402. My two primary goals in wishing to serve as the Area 7 Representative are to achieve a greater integration of the canyons (Rustic and Santa Monica), and Will Rogers State Park and adjacent streets, into the greater Pacific Palisades area as represented by the PPCC, and to find an energetic, relatively newer resident to replace me at the next election.

Area Representatives cont'd.



Reza Akef – Area Eight
reza@metrocapital.build

Palisades Area 8 Resident living on Pontoon Place for 25 years. I am running for re-election as your Area 8 Representative. It is an honor to represent our community. I love our Polo Fields and we need to protect our quality of living. As your voice, I defended us against the golf course and Paul Revere MS. No more Traffic for the Polo Fields! We are over capacity with cars. With my professional career ranging from Gov't to Private Sector – I understand the intricate working dynamic within the City to get us Results! Please Vote for me.

At-large Representatives



Alan Goldsmith – At-large
alanbike@yahoo.com

Highlands homeowner since 1977, three homes in north; one since 1997 on Palisades Dr, in Searidge. Twelve previous years and currently on Searidge HOA Board as Pres, VP, etc. Delegated mediator for homeowner dispute resolution. Lifelong West LA resident. Beverly Hills High, Cal State Northridge, Univ San Diego School of Law. Member, CA State Bar. Owner & CEO of Supergo Bike Shops, a multistate store, mail order, & E-comm retailer of high tech bicycles employing 200+. Retired. Operated a bike shop in PP in 1972. Pac Pal Issues: Aging/degrading infrastructure (road, culvert, trees, etc), New property developments, Homeless, security, traffic.



John Padden – At-large
johnpadden@kw.com

I have lived in the Palisades for over 36 years residing in The Highlands, The Huntington, Lower Swarthmore Bluffs and The ABC's. I currently live on ILIFF residing there for just over 4 years. I grew up in and have raised my family in the Palisades and have a fond appreciation for the community and its residents. I currently serve on the Palisades PRIDE Board as VP and am currently Chairing an effort with a group of other community leaders and Caruso representatives to renew and remodel the business district of the Palisades. Past experience: Westside Neighborhood Council (WLA).

