



NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE ELECTION 2022

VOTER GUIDE



north park planning committee
www.northparkplanning.org

TWO WAYS TO REGISTER & VOTE:

1. ONLINE from 8 am March 8, 2022 - midnight on March 14th, 2022

2. IN-PERSON:

- Sat., March 12, 2022; 9am-noon
@ North Park Mini-Park
(3812 29th St.)

OR

- Tuesday, March 15, 2022;
4:30-6:30-pm
@ North Park Mini-Park
(3812 29th St.)

NEW for 2022! Voters no longer have the requirement to have attended a NPPC meeting in the last year; however candidates running for a seat must have attended at least one NPPC meeting since Sept. 2020.

Election results will be announced at the March 15, 2022 North Park Planning Committee Meeting.

how many seats are open?

Eight (8) board seats are up for election. Each has a two-year term.

how do I run?

See below for requirements. Candidates must announce their intention to run by the end of the Tuesday, Feb. 15th. NPPC meeting. During the meeting candidates will have the opportunity to make a two-minute statement. Candidates' written statements and photos will be hosted on the NPPC website.

what are the candidate requirements?

- you must submit CANDIDATE information by Tuesday, Feb 15th, 6:30pm
- you must live within the North Park boundaries and/or own a business within the North Park boundaries
- you must have attended (signed-in) at least one NPPC meeting from Sept 2020 through Feb 2022
- the Candidate needs to submit the following information to info@northparkplanning.org:
 - name, address, phone number and email (if available)
 - photo identification (i.e., driver's license)*
 - proof of North Park residency or North Park business ownership (i.e., utility bill)*
 - Date of at least one NPPC meeting you attended (signed-in online) from Sept 2020 through Feb 2022. If meeting date is unknown, it can be looked up with assistance.

do I have to register before I can vote?

YES, you have to register as a North Park Resident/Business Owner before you can vote. You can register ONLINE or at one of the IN-PERSON events. See below for more information.

*alternate forms of ID are acceptable if 4 out of 5 of the election sub-committee agrees.

how do I register to vote online?

- in order to vote ONLINE you MUST submit a ONLINE VOTER registration form
- online VOTER registration forms will be available from Tuesday, Feb. 15 thru Monday, March 7, 2022, at midnight
- NPPC mailing list members will receive an email from email@northparkplanning.org with a link to a Typeform form which will collect:
 - name, address, phone number and email
 - image of your photo identification (i.e., driver's license) *
 - image of proof of North Park residency or North Park business ownership (i.e., utility bill) *
- the link to the Typeform registration will also be on the NPPC website <http://www.northparkplanning.org/resources/documents> or <https://7dwxd2qzxx7.typeform.com/to/xwXQKex8?typeform-source=www.northparkplanning.org>
- Typeform will also ask if you'd like to vote ONLINE or IN-PERSON. Please be thoughtful in your choice.
- ID documents are stored with Typeform and will be deleted 90 days after the election, per NPPC bylaws.
- if you prefer not to have your ID documents stored for the 90-day period, please redact your ID or attend an IN-PERSON voting event

once I register, how do I vote online?

- once your voter registration is confirmed, you will be sent an email from NPPC with a link to vote via our online voting vendor, **Election Buddy Voting**
- each voter is assigned unique code to ensure that all voting will be anonymous
- online voting will be held from 8 am, March 8 thru March 14, 2022 at midnight
- we encourage voters to vote online to help ballot processing
- after you vote online you will receive confirmation that your vote has been received via email from Election Budding Voting

are write-in candidates allowed?

yes, write-in candidates are allowed with online and in-person (paper) ballots

*alternate forms of ID are acceptable if 4 out of 5 of the election sub-committee agrees.

how do I register and vote IN-PERSON?

- you can register ONLINE and choose IN-person voting as an option **OR** you can attend one of two IN-person voting event and register and vote at the same time:
 - **1.** Saturday, March 12, 2022, from 9am-noon at the North Park Mini Park (3812 29th Street)
 - **2.** Tuesday, March 15, 2022, from 4:30-6:30 pm at the at the North Park Mini Park (3812 29th Street)
- at the IN-person event you must submit VOTER registration information, if you have not already done this online via Typeform.
 - voter registration information needed:
 - name, address, phone number, email (if available)
 - photo identification (i.e., driver's license)*
 - proof of North Park residency or North Park business ownership (i.e., utility bill)*
 - ID documents will be verified by a member of the NPPC Election sub-committee member, photos of ID documents will NOT be required
- each voter is assigned a unique code on the spreadsheet and given a paper ballot to vote at that time
- the paper ballot will have the unique code on it that can be torn off and kept by voter and the rest of the ballot will be placed anonymously in the ballot box and secured
- current COVID-19 protocols related to mask wearing and social distancing will be posted at in-person voting locations
- electioneering is prohibited within 500' of the polling locations
- in-person voting locations will be accessible for people with disabilities

can I vote for someone else?

no, voting for someone else (proxy voting) is NOT permitted, per NPPC bylaws

can I vote online and in-person?

no, when a person votes at an in-person event they will be checked against the registered online voters to avoid double voting

*alternate forms of ID are acceptable if 4 out of 5 of the election sub-committee agrees.

candidate - incumbent

Daniel Moliter

I'm humbled and honored to have had the opportunity to serve the community on the North Park Planning Committee over the past year as a member, and more recently as treasurer. I made the move to North Park after falling in love with its lively yet relaxed character and its wonderful vibes.

As a progressive community fighting homelessness, high rents, climate change, sprawl, and long commutes, so much comes down to building more homes: more homes near where the jobs are, and more homes where people want to live. I see the Planning Committee in a position to help our community rise to these challenges by supporting innovative policies to boost the housing supply.

With as beautiful and walkable as our neighborhood is, there remains huge potential yet for us to encourage car-free habits. That includes taking opportunities like planning infrastructure and new developments to prioritize buses and protect people, whether they're walking, biking, rolling, scooting or skating.

My vision of North Park preserves its vibes and essence while beautifying our environment, cleaning the air, and improving the safety of our public spaces. In my career as a data analyst, and in my activism as a progressive, I am dedicated to public service informed by evidence and compassion



candidate - incumbent

Basil Mournian

Greetings, fellow North Parkers, my name is Basil and I'm asking you to reelect me for a voting seat on the board. I'm currently a member and I'm interested in continuing the work that's been started to improve traffic safety, make housing more affordable, and balance our rapid growth with quality of life. I've been renting here for over 25 years and love being able to walk most everywhere, but I've had a few close calls with distracted drivers, so we still have work to do. The past year I've regularly attended our monthly board and transportation subcommittee meetings, and I'm devoted to continuing that trend. As an active participant on Nextdoor and Twitter, I've heard your concerns about neighborhood happenings. I've also gone to the grand openings of the 30th Street Bike Lanes and the Mini Park, and I regularly walk from the East to the West sides of North Park so I see how the neighborhood is changing. I'd be honored to represent your voices again to provide feedback to our local government as an advisory committee.

Thank you for your support!



candidate - incumbent

Steve Oechel

Steve Oechel is running for a seat on the North Park Planning committee because he understands the importance of maintaining a sense of community while dealing with issues such as housing density, homelessness, public space, transportation and infrastructure. After receiving an Economics degree from UCSD and a Master's in Accounting from the University of San Diego, he entered the workforce as a Financial Manager and Cost Accountant for the United States Navy. Managing the financials of large acquisition programs within a complex bureaucracy has afforded Steve many learning opportunities which are beneficial to this planning committee; such as managing development issues, navigating through changes to regulations, interpreting regulations and policy. With these valuable skills and his ambition to be a positive impact on the North Park community, Steve will be a strong contributing member of this committee.



candidate - incumbent

Jessica Ripper

Jessica Ripper is a Principal at LeSar Development Consultants where she focuses on bringing diverse voices into conversations about making communities vibrant places for people to live, work, play, and learn. Prior to working in housing and community development, Jessica worked in the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors for organizations focused on population health and well-being. As a member of the North Park Planning Committee, she will commit herself to exploring issues from multiple perspectives and help lift up solutions that meet current community needs while ensuring North Park remains flexible to adapt to a changing environment. She recently moved to the North Park home she and her family have owned for four years, and loves being able to walk to a grocery, the farmers' market, restaurants and breweries, shops, and Balboa Park within minutes.



candidate - incumbent

Marissa Tucker-Borquez

I am proud to call North Park my home because of the diverse and amazing people that I get to call my neighbors. I believe its strength comes from its working-class roots and ability to come together to solve communal challenges.

No challenge has ever been as great as our current housing crisis. Like many renters, I am afraid of becoming priced out of the area and I believe that more affordable housing is needed to keep our teachers, retail, service, and city workers here within the community they work. New housing can help relieve pressure while also increasing demand for our local businesses by encouraging families stay and to make North Park their permanent home. We must also ensure that all communities in San Diego contributes to the permanent supportive housing supply so we can move our houseless neighbors into homes.

I believe North Park Planning Committee can help play a pivotal role in rising above the housing crisis by facing it head on by supporting innovative housing solutions.

Marissa is currently Secretary of the NPPC, founder of Rise North Park, President of YIMBY Dems of San Diego County, and a Masters Candidate of City Planning at SDSU.



candidate

Kenny Bedoya

I am a second generation North Park homeowner and business owner. My mother worked at a restaurant in North Park for over 16 years and then she was able to buy the restaurant. That was a very proud day for our family. We have watched this community grow in solidarity and prosperity. I want to build on that momentum. Unfortunately, North Park's small businesses have been struggling because of many factors, like the COVID shutdown, loss of parking for customers, rising rents, and speculators who buy up affordable commercial space. If I am elected, I will work hard to improve communications between City Hall and the North Park community — no more surprise projects! We deserve adequate notice when decisions are made that will impact our community. We need projects done for US, not against us. Also, I will be a voice for diverse constituents and diverse viewpoints. Everyone deserves respectful consideration. Our differences make our community stronger.



candidate

John Bertsch

I am a longtime small business owner and familiar face around town; an advocate for enhanced mobility, pedestrian-friendly architecture and dynamic street life. Educated in history, trained in urban design, and committed to taking the steps today that ensure a bright future for our community



candidate

Zaccary Bradt

Zaccary is a renter living in North Park who recently graduated from UC San Diego with degrees in urban planning and political science. He currently works as a transit planner at SANDAG, where he aims to increase access to transit throughout San Diego, including his coordination of the agency's Social Equity Transit Pilot, which will soon provide free transit passes to all youth in the county. At UCSD, Zaccary researched how to best provide connections between housing and transit, an ideal that he will bring to the NPPC Board by advocating for improved transit service, continued expansion of alternative mobility options for cyclists and pedestrians, and increased housing availability in North Park, one of the most sustainable places to build and live in San Diego. As a renter and a recent student, Zaccary understands the heavy burden that housing costs have on our residents and will actively work to make North Park a welcoming home for our current and future neighbors with abundant and affordable housing, frequent and reliable transit, and a safe and efficient pedestrian environment throughout our neighborhood.



candidate

Kate Callen

I had the privilege of serving on the North Park Planning Committee from 2017 to 2019. There are many reasons I'm running to serve again; I'd like to focus on three of them. First, I think this Board can show new leadership in addressing the shortage of affordable housing for renters and first-time homebuyers. We must begin an honest conversation about housing solutions that will actually work here in North Park. Second, I think our planning group can find new ways to build support for North Park's small businesses. We need to keep them here in this community and help them survive. Third, and most important, I want to keep working to bridge the divide over land use and transportation issues. We are all neighbors, and we need to treat one another with courtesy and respect. The ad hoc bylaws subcommittee set a new standard of collegiality here in North Park. I was grateful to be part of that group. If elected, I will work hard to find common ground and build consensus. Thank you for considering my candidacy.



candidate

Lynn Elliot

I have been a North Park resident, first as a renter and then a homeowner, for 40 years. I rode a bicycle to commute to and from work and for pleasure for over 20 years. Now I walk around the community, so I am aware of the safety of city streets.

My long involvement as a North Park community organizer has included service on the NPPC Board, the North Park Community Association Board, attendance of Redevelopment Group and North Park Main Street meetings. My community event volunteer experiences include: NPCA Bird Park summer concerts, the Main Street Festival of the Arts, and the Toyland Parade. I currently am Chair of the North Park Recreation Council, and I would love to see increased community participation there.

Because of my past and present community involvement, I am familiar with the many stakeholder groups here in North Park. As a Board member, I would solicit their ideas and represent their views.

I am interested in all of North Park and its development. As I have participated in and watched events and changes in the community, my focus has always been on bringing individuals and groups together so we can work toward a goal we all share: To keep the North Park community safe, thriving and thoughtfully growing.



candidate

Claudia Flores

I am a proud Mexican-American, 5 generations strong, born and raised in the Morley Field area of North Park. My grandparents planted their roots in this community, teaching us the importance of helping out our neighbors. To me, this is the real strength of North Park.

My husband, Marcos, and I launched a Neighborhood Watch Group in 2017. We walk most nights through the neighborhood to make sure not only that our streets are safe, we also talk with the homeless and listen to their stories. Let's face it: Our police can't watch over us 24/7. And our government can't build its way out of the homeless crisis. We need to be proactive and stay united, because you can't have "community" without "unity." I hope to take my passion to the next step as a member of the NPPC Board.

If elected, I will make sure that residents and business owners are informed about changes in our community before any changes happen.



candidate

Martha Graham

I own a North Park condo and lived there for five years before moving a mile east to Normal Heights.

I am concerned about protecting and improving existing amenities - parks, green spaces and libraries, for example - and ensuring that they are fully funded. I want to be sure that the number of quality amenities grows as our neighborhood grows. I have seen firsthand the competition for space in 'joint-use' school parks which tells me we need spaces that work reliably for many different users, from families with young children, kids playing sports, dog owners, to people looking for a quiet, shady place to enjoy.

I want to help ensure that growth in North Park supports safety and quality of life for existing as well as new residents, and our neighborhood businesses.

I hope to work on advancing pedestrian safety via a comprehensive sidewalk policy that would also reduce city lawsuit costs. And I believe that streets should be safe and efficient for all users – especially our residents and businesses.

I believe that civility and respect are at the core of democracy, and that better ideas are formed through open and spirited discussion. I will do my best to treat people and ideas I disagree with as respectfully as I would hope to be treated.



candidate

Chase McConnell

Hello! My name is Chase McConnell and I am interested in becoming more involved with the North Park Community Planning Group and would like to run for a Board position. I graduated from UC San Diego majoring in Urban Studies and Planning with a minor in Real Estate and Development. As a North Park resident, I would aim to better our community with the our stakeholders in mind. I believe in responsible and equitable development, community engagement, the pedestrian experience, delicate foresight with regard to our urban realm, and the power of creativity in light of difficult land use-related topics. Land use is local, and it would be my pleasure to serve our Community.

Thank you very much for your consideration.



candidate

Michael Palmer

Mike has been a North Park resident for over 30 years and his wife was born and raised in North Park. Both of their children went to grade school in North Park as well as high school. Mike attended San Diego State University where he got a master's degree in Geology and is a Professional Geologist in the State of California. Mike is program manager with over 35 years' experience coordinating the cleanup of hazardous waste Superfund sites where he has gained valuable experience working with federal, state and local governmental officials. He managed the San Diego Bay shipyard sediment cleanup the largest sediment cleanup in San Diego County. Mike is also subject matter expert for the State of California Board of Geology and understands collaborative decision making. Mike enjoys walking in North Park and understands the diverse neighborhoods and the dynamics of this community. He looks forward to solving the issues put forth in front of the North Park Planning Commission particularly related to pedestrians, bikes and traffic.



candidate

Mark Spitzer

I have lived in North Park for 33 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 Maintenance Assessment District. The recent increase in residents has led to an increase in cars, in a shortage of parking, and in traffic congestion. We can take simple inexpensive actions to improve these situations.

The concept of new housing with very little parking is based on the premise that most of the new residents in these buildings will not own cars. We should survey these residents to see if the premise holds true. If it does, the concept is a success and it should be replicated in every neighborhood. If not, we should ask that the zoning code be revised.

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 afford to live here. 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.



candidate

Victor Torres

I am proud to be a North Park resident. I attended St. Patrick's School, played sports in the North Park Little League and North Park San Diego City Softball League, and worshipped at St. Patrick's Church. Literally, this community has shaped my life. My career has been spent advocating to improve the lives of working families, so I know the importance of promoting economic opportunity. I am especially focused on supporting our many small businesses and keeping our neighborhoods safe. As a Board Member, I will apply my knowledge and experience of analyzing complex issues and building consensus to resolve common challenges. That's what I did as a member of the recent NPPC adhoc bylaws committee. We successfully amended the elections process, and our recommendations have been approved by the City Attorney's office. Keeping our entire community informed about issues that impact our neighborhoods is a priority for me. That's how we will get more people involved in making North Park a stronger community.

