

# North Park Planning Committee — NPPC —

## March 2024 North Park Planning Committee (NPPC) Election Candidate and Voter Guide

The NPPC will fill **10 seats** on the 15-person board during the March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Election; 7 seats are for a full 2 year term and 3 seats are for 1 year to replace a current term. San Diego City Council Policy 600-24 requires that elected members of the North Park Planning Committee shall, to the extent possible, be representative of the various geographic sections of the community and diversified community interests. Planning group members shall be elected by and from eligible members of the community.

### ***Want to JOIN the NPPC Board of Representatives?***

CANDIDATES REQUIREMENTS (Per Bylaws dated December 27<sup>th</sup> 2021):

1. Be at least 18 years old and live, own a business, or property within the North Park Planning Boundaries (see map in Figure 1 below)<sup>1,2</sup>
2. Email the following information to [info@northparkplanning.org](mailto:info@northparkplanning.org) by **Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm PST**:
  - a. Name, address, phone number and email
  - b. Copy of Photo ID (i.e., driver's license)
  - c. Proof of North Park residency (if address is not on photo ID), business ownership, or property ownership (i.e. utility bill)<sup>2</sup>
  - d. Candidate statement (not to exceed 200 words) and a photo are encouraged, but not required

### ***Want to VOTE in the upcoming election?***

Register online to vote online or simply show up on one of the two in-person election days with the necessary documentation!

VOTER REQUIREMENTS (Per Bylaws dated December 27<sup>th</sup> 2021):

1. Be at least 18 years old and live, own a business, or property within the North Park Planning Boundaries (see map in Figure 1 below)<sup>1,2</sup>
2. Register online or show up in person on one of the designated voting days!

REGISTER ONLINE TO VOTE ONLINE:

1. If you wish to vote online, you must register to vote online. You may also complete the online registration form if you wish to vote in-person but is not required
  - a. Deadline to register to vote online is **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 by 6pm.**

- b. Click here to REGISTER ONLINE: [NPPC Eligible Member Registration \(google.com\)](#)
- c. You will be asked to provide the following:
  - i. Name, address, phone number and email
  - ii. Image of your photo identification (i.e., driver's license)
  - iii. Proof of North Park residency (if address is not on photo ID), business ownership, or property ownership (i.e. utility bill)
  - iv. Choose "online" or "in-person".
  - v. Note: I.D. documents are stored in our voting system for 90 days, then destroyed per NPPC By-laws. If you prefer not to have your ID documents stored for the 90-day period, please vote in-person.
2. Eligible voters who register online will receive an email with a link for "ELECTION BUDDY" to vote online by the beginning of the online election period.
3. Online voting will be open for one week, starting on Tuesday March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 8:00 AM and ending on Monday, March 18<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 5:00PM.
4. If you miss the online voting registration deadline, you can register and vote in-person (see instructions below).

#### IN-PERSON REGISTRATION AND VOTING DATES AND TIMES:

1. Voters must prove eligibility to vote in the NPPC election (be at least 18 years old and live, own property or a business in the NPPC boundaries)<sup>1,2</sup>.
  - a. Register to vote by providing your name, address, phone number, email (if available)
  - b. Voters must confirm their identity by presenting a government issued photo ID – required of all voters. If the address on the photo ID is not a North Park address, then a current utilities bill, tax bill or other proof of current address – a copy of a lease, for example, is required.
2. Write in Candidates are allowed, and must comply, with the in person voting requirements.
3. Each voter is assigned a unique code and given a paper ballot to vote at that time. The unique code can be torn off and kept by voter and the rest of the ballot will be placed anonymously in the ballot box and secured.
4. Electioneering is prohibited within 500 feet of the polling locations.
5. In-person voting location is accessible for people with disabilities.
6. Proxy voting (voting for someone else) is not permitted.
7. Election challenge procedures are outline in the updated bylaws.
8. Location:
  - o North Park Branch Library
  - o Address: 3795 31st Street, San Diego, CA 92104 (parking available in the adjacent North Park Library parking lot)

#### Dates:

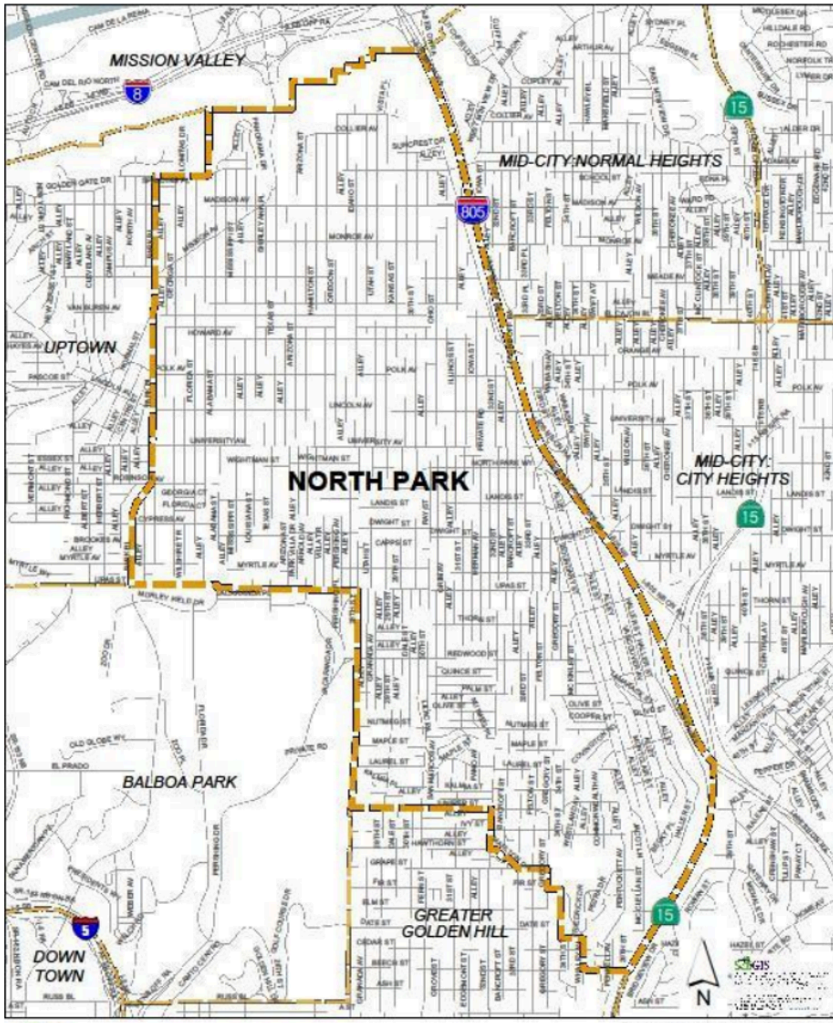
- o Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the North Park Library
- o Tuesday, March 19<sup>st</sup> from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the North Park Mini Park

**Notes:**

1. Candidates must live, own a business or property within the North Park Planning Committee boundaries (see Figure 1 below)
2. All voters must produce a government-issued picture ID to establish their identity (e.g., a driver's license) and provide the following documentation based on the appropriate category unless establishing eligibility by alternative reasonable means, as discussed in the previous subsection:
  - i. A resident, who is an individual whose primary address of residence is an address in the North Park community planning area, shall provide:
    1. A picture ID to establish their identity and residency in North Park. In lieu of driver's license, a bill (such as City Water, SDG&E, AT&T etc.) dated within the previous 60 days with the individual's name and address clearly stated may be substituted.
  - ii. An owner of residential or commercial real property (either developed or undeveloped), who may or may not reside in North Park and is the individual identified as the sole or partial owner of record, or their designee within the community planning area, shall provide:
    1. Either of the following identifications: A current property tax bill with the voter's name on it, or a copy of the page of the property owner's mortgage with the individual's name and North Park property address clearly stated.
    2. If the voter is a designee of the owner, they must provide documentation in #1, plus provide a formal letter from the property owner designating the individual as that property's representative.
  - iii. A local business person, who is a local business owner, operator, or designee at a non-residential real property address in the North Park community planning area (only one business owner representative of a particular establishment may hold a seat on the community planning group at one time), shall provide:
    1. Business tax certificates to identify ownership or a partnership of owners on the certificate.
    2. If the voter is a designee, they must provide documentation in #1, plus provide a formal letter from the business owner designating that individual as the business's registrant representative.
  - iv. A non-profit entity or umbrella organization representative, who is a designee of a local non-profit or umbrella organization with a non-residential real property address in North Park (only one non-resident representative of a particular establishment may hold a seat on the North Park Planning Committee at one time), shall provide:
    1. A formal letter from the organization designating the individual as the business's representative, signed by a member of that organization's board or administration.
  - v. Multiple category registrant. While only one designated representative of a particular business or property owner may hold a seat on the North Park Planning Committee, if an eligible voter is both a North Park resident and a non-resident North Park business or property owner representative, the voter will be identified as a resident.

3. Candidates are expected to attend the meetings held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. Candidates should also take part in two sub committees or assist with special projects.

Figure 1. North Park Planning Committee Boundary Map



## 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.