

Sheila Palmer

Candidate Statement

Dear members of the La Jolla Community Planning Association, I wish to be a candidate for the position of Trustee of La Jolla Community Planning Association.

Having lived and worked in La Jolla for over forty years, I can well remember the special charms of this seaside enclave, a destination for a lucky few. Times have changed the population has - dare I say – exploded. Constant traffic and construction are today's norm. Yet, La Jolla's incredible topography and universally admired weather maintain us and continue to attract visitors and new residents.

And, I cannot complain as these are the people that have become my clients. Since arriving in La Jolla, from the East Coast where my husband was in medical school, and earlier from England, I have worked in the field of interior design. I continue to have an antique gallery and active design studio. I have been fortunate to work with a great variety of individuals and decorate houses of stunning architecture. There are parallels between the disciplines of interior design and urban planning and architecture. Many of the aesthetic considerations are complimentary, though styles and taste do evolve over time. But that said it is much easier to change draperies than to tear down a 12-story building or redirect traffic flow. I appreciate the care and concern that the trustees must take in advising the city regarding land-use decisions. We have several layers of regulations, codes and design manuals, and they are there for a purpose – to protect our neighborhoods from encroachment and from those seeking a quick buck.

I support these disciplines and I support our neighborhoods and our neighbors. Though change is inevitable and desired, it must be respectful of our community. There are reasons why people return again and again to Carmel and Santa Barbara, those are two examples of communities that respect their citizens and the value of exceptional urban planning while retaining high property values.

I want to work to ensure that we retain the best of La Jolla and the changes that come will only improve our shared experiences in this lovely seaside village.

Please vote for me and I promise that I will work for you.

Sincerely,

Sheila Palmer