

John Shannon

Candidate Statement

I believe our greatest responsibility is to take an active role in bettering our surroundings. Nothing meaningful gets accomplished without participation and persistence by dedicated individuals. Like many, I never intended to become so deeply involved in community groups, boards, and committees. However, my desire to improve our surroundings, and a belief that “it does matter”, pulled me into service some years ago.

I have always tried to follow my passions. As a longtime member of La Jolla Cove Swim Club, I’m passionate about preserving the natural beauty and accessibility of our coastline, supporting healthy, vibrant, walkable communities, and promoting locally-owned small businesses. I believe these to be fundamental to the character of La Jolla.

I first came to La Jolla in 1982 – and have never really left. I have earned engineering degrees from UCSD, and Stanford, as well as an MBA, which helped me tackle business and technical projects during a 20+ year career with Hewlett-Packard. I’ve been told my broad international perspective is invaluable, as I bring a wide variety of skills and experiences to any endeavor.

My neutral perspective and logical process got me elected to Chair of the PB Planning Group, where I served 8 years, 4 years as Chair. In that role, I wrestled with a multitude of community issues, and controversial project reviews. I have presented to the San Diego City Council, Planning Commission, and Land Use and Housing Committee.

My investments, and a desire to help other professionals own their commercial buildings (my wife is a Dentist, with her practice in Hillcrest) – led me to a second career in real estate and my own real estate brokerage – Solace Realty.

I am privileged to be a member of La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Ad Hoc Committees concerning the MidCoast Trolley, and Morena Development Plan, the San Diego Association of REALTORS Government Affairs Committee, and several others. I have a great interest in understanding, anticipating and heading off problems before they start.

My wife and I are Chancellor’s Associates at UCSD, and enjoy a close relationship with that institution – something integral to this community.

If I were entrusted with a position on this Board, I would continue my commitment to bettering the Jewel of La Jolla.

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