

**City Council Candidates respond to questions on Neighborhood Issues**

At the RQN Annual Dinner on October 15, 2006, the four candidates for Mayor and the four candidates for City Council answered questions dealing with a wide range of issues, such as:

- Growth Management
- Water
- General Plan Update
- Code Enforcement
- Parking Districts
- Student Housing
- Noisy parties, and more

Answers to eight of the YES or NO only questions, posed by the RQN Board, appear in this newsletter.

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**Candidates Forum Q&A**

1. In the early 1990's the City began the process of updating the General Plan Land Use Element with a comprehensive, city-wide survey of residents. Detailed questions were asked about the community's preferences. This involvement by City residents created a baseline that was extremely useful to task force members and decision makers. **The Land Use Element and Circulation elements will be updated in the near future, most likely during your term. Would you support an equally comprehensive survey of residents prior to the update of these elements ? YES or NO**

**YES – Carter, Conner, Ewan, Hedrick, Mohan, Mulholland, Romero, Settle**

2. The City's long standing growth management policy states that our housing supply should grow no faster than an average of 1% PER YEAR. By a 2/3 vote city residents extended this growth rate to include non-residential growth. **If you are elected to the Council will you support the city's long standing 1% growth rate? YES or NO.**

**YES– Conner, Ewan, Hedrick, Mohan, Mulholland, Settle**

**YES – Residential - Carter, Romero**

**NO – Commercial - Carter, Romero**

3. The City's existing General Plan Land Use Element clearly states that new development shall pay its own way. **Recent council votes have sidestepped this policy requirement. If elected, will you vote to ensure that this policy is continued in the updated Land Use Element and will your votes be consistent with that policy? YES or NO.**

**Yes – Carter, Conner, Ewan, Hedrick, Mohan, Mulholland, Romero, Settle**

4. Current water rates for existing city residents will rise very significantly for an unknown number of years to pay for the importation of 3,380 acre feet per year of Lake Nacimiento water. This amount is in excess of the water needed to accommodate the build-out of the current General Plan. **City residents overwhelmingly voted to maintain a reliability reserve, which currently has no water in it. Do you believe that the unused portion of the Lake Nacimiento water should be earmarked for the reliability reserve and not for additional development? YES or NO**

**Yes – Conner, Ewan, Hedrick, Mohan, Mulholland, Romero, Settle**

**No - Carter**

*(continued on page 2)*

Q &amp; A (continued from page 1)

**Board of Directors****2007 - 2008**

Chairperson: Brett Cross  
 Secretary: Sandra Rowley  
 Treasurer: Dotty Conner

**Members at Large**

Dorothy Graves  
 Cydney Holcomb  
 La Verne Storni  
 Carol Winger  
 Naoma Wright

**Board Meetings**

Third Wednesday of the month  
 (except July and December) 7:00  
 p.m.  
 Mid-State Bank  
 Broad Street Branch

**Stay Informed**[www.slopd.org](http://www.slopd.org)

The Daily Police Log is now on the web. The previous day's log is posted every morning at 4:15 a.m. To access click on Daily Activity Log located below Chief Linden's welcome statement.

[www.slocity.org](http://www.slocity.org)

City Council Agendas and Staff Reports can be accessed by clicking on City Council located under Quick Links then clicking on Council Agenda.

If you have any questions or comments please e-mail them to RQN at:  
[info@rqnslo.org](mailto:info@rqnslo.org)

5. The current General Plan Land Use Element contains the major program to protect neighborhoods called the "Neighborhood Wellness Plans". This program has never been fully implemented. **In the upcoming budget cycle will you vote to ensure that this program is positioned to get the funding necessary to implement it? YES or NO**

**YES - Carter, Conner, Ewan, Hedrick, Mohan, Mulholland, Romero, Settle**

6. Lax enforcement of illegal secondary dwelling units (granny flats) has become a problem in our R-1 neighborhoods. **Would you insure that the city actively enforce our existing ordinances, which require all secondary dwelling units to meet very stringent standards and to pay development impact fees? YES or NO**

**YES - Carter, Conner, Ewan, Hedrick, Mohan, Mulholland, Romero, Settle**

7. Approximately 12,000 Cal Poly students live off campus and within the San Luis Obispo City limits. This has driven up rents, raised the price of housing and has a major impact on the overall quality of life in our residential neighborhoods. Cal Poly has committed to build housing for future enrollment increases, but only 800 units have been constructed in the last 30 years to accommodate the existing deficit. **If elected would you be willing to lead a group to Long Beach to discuss the issue of both housing and enrollment with the Board of Trustees? YES or NO**

**YES - Carter, Conner, Ewan, Hedrick, Mohan, Mulholland, Romero, Settle**

8. Many City Councils have come out strongly against Proposition 90, which purports to provide for eminent domain reform. This constitutional amendment, could have serious consequences to our local governments ability to legislate in areas of neighborhood protection, development control and environmental protections. **Do you oppose Proposition 90? YES or NO**

**YES - Carter, Conner, Ewan, Hedrick, Mohan, Mulholland, Romero, Settle**

**OTE November 7**

**Message from Ardith Tregenza – Neighborhood Services Manager**

Greetings, from the City of San Luis Obispo’s Neighborhood Services Office. I am Ardith Tregenza, hired as the new Neighborhood Services Manager following the retirement of Rob Bryn last year. I have worked for the last 10 years as a student discipline administrator at state universities, the last 7 years at Cal Poly. I have an undergraduate degree in Environmental Resources and hold a Master’s degree in Counseling, emphasis in Student Development in Higher Education. I am really pleased to be a part of SLOPD!

I appreciate the wonderful place that San Luis Obispo is and that most residents choose to live here because of the quality of life this community offers. As a resident of Los Osos I now also appreciate that the City of San Luis Obispo has Neighborhood Enhancement Ordinances that Los Osos most definitely does not! I also understand the tension that can exist between long and short term residents of a college town.

I recently had the opportunity to attend a conference sponsored by the Univ. of California, California State University, League of California Cities and other cities at UC Davis. The conference was titled Bridging the Town-Gown Divide, Issues in Transportation and Housing. UC Davis Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef opened the conference encouraging attendees to think about the importance of collaboration between town and gown, to identify ways to work together and have meaningful conversations, asking ourselves deeper questions about the best practices, to identify incentives and be willing to take risks.

The mayor of Davis spoke about the importance of the quality of life for Davis in recruiting students, faculty and staff. The mayor of Riverside spoke of the 3 T’s – technology, talent and tolerance – that all cities compete but the ones who succeed know how to collaborate. There were morning and afternoon sessions on transportation, planning and housing. I was impressed with the efforts that UC Berkeley and Santa Clara University have made in reaching out to students about living off campus. The keynote speaker was an economist who spoke about the importance of young people as an economic and talented asset to a community. I think all of the cities and universities attending share common challenges and a desire to find best practices to deal with them. I have spoken with Todd Maki, the new Cal Poly student body president about the conference and he, his Community Relations Chair and I will be meeting soon to discuss some of the ideas from the conference. I appreciate their sincere interest and efforts to address these issues and look forward to following up with you on our discussion.

I appreciate the leadership and stewardship of RQN and enjoy working with Cydney and the board. Cydney’s expertise and experience in city policy and zoning matters is impressive and her contributions to the community are such an asset to us all! I look forward to working with community members, please contact me if you have any questions or I can assist you.

**Ardith Tregenza, Neighborhood Services Manager, SLOPD  
phone: 781-7186, email: atregenz@slocity.org**

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**Join RQN!** 2007-2008

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES**

I (we) support the goals and concerns of RQN. Enclosed is my (our) annual dues payment of **\$12..00**.

**Renewal**  **New Member**

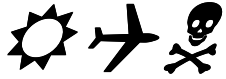
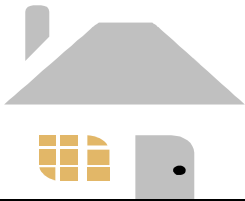
Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to: **RQN** - Send to: **P.O. BOX 12604, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93406**



***Have you renewed your dues ?***

## **FREE Conflict Resolution Services**

"SLO SOLUTIONS" is designed to provide all San Luis Obispo residents, both students and non-students alike, the opportunity to productively deal with conflict in a forum that encourages communication, creative problem solving and win-win solutions. Cal Poly, Cuesta College and the City of San Luis Obispo are jointly sponsoring this innovative and successful program that offers a range of conflict resolution services. All services are coordinated and delivered by San Luis Obispo based non-profit, Creative Mediation. Creative Mediation has assisted San Luis Obispo County residents with conflict resolution since 1993 and has seen approximately 80% of conflicts resolved through mediation.

This year, Creative Mediation mediated a dispute between a neighbor, a property owner and 4 students renting a home in a San Luis Obispo neighborhood. The dispute was ongoing and annually changing. The neighbor had been frustrated with the behavior of his student neighbors for three years, as there were new student renters each year. With the assistance of a neutral, third-party mediator, all involved parties were able to isolate the issues, share their perspective, hear the other perspectives in a new way and together create a new plan of action for dealing with existing and future conflict. When new students move into the rental, the neighbor and property owner have a plan in place to stop the conflict before it starts.

Here's a quote from a neighbor after mediation: "I was becoming desperate regarding the situation with my neighbor. She had called the police about barking dogs on numerous occasions over the past few months. Before mediation, we were not speaking to each other and things had become extremely tense in our neighborhood. Working together with the mediator, we were able to discuss the issues in a new way and actually come up with a working agreement for the future. I'd recommend mediation to anyone who is experiencing trouble with a neighbor." If you would like to know more about SLO Solutions, please call 805-549-0442 or visit their website : [www.creativemediation.net](http://www.creativemediation.net)

**Available to San Luis Obispo Residents**