



Democrats Unite



Candidate Name *

Laura Parmer-Lohan

As a Club under the California Democratic Party, we only endorse fellow Democrats. *

If you do not wish to proceed further, please let us know you decline by emailing president@coastsidedemocrats.com

Click this box to confirm you are registered to vote as a Democrat.

Please state how long you have been registered to vote as a Democrat. *

- I have always been a registered Democrat
- I have been a registered Democrat for the last ten years
- I recently registered to vote as a Democrat after 2020 when the current President came into office

Other:

When I turned 18, I registered as an independent. After learning that I was unable to vote in the presidential primary, I registered as a Democrat to express my political and social positions most effectively. I consider myself a Democrat and have voted for the Democratic ticket in every partisan race since I was eligible to vote.

If this form is filled out by someone other than the Candidate, please provide the Staffer's name

Statement Questionnaire

Answers are limited to 1000 characters. Your answers below will be shared with all members and publicly broadcast at <https://coastsidedems.org/election2022>

Why are you running for County Supervisor? *

I'm a working mom, lifelong Democrat, small business owner and San Carlos City Councilmember. As your Supervisor, I'll be committed to addressing the devastating effects of climate change.

I will bring people together to address the effects of severe drought in San Mateo County, including developing programs to recycle/reclaim water for use in irrigation, farming, and landscaping. I will continue working to reduce the traffic that intensifies climate change and protect our open spaces, beaches, and forests for our future generations.

What will your top priorities be if elected? *

I'll tackle climate-induced flooding & sea-level rise. I'm endorsed by local Firefighters because I'll fund year-round investment in wildfire prevention & improve our coastal protections. Working together, I pledge to:

- Reduce homelessness by expanding mental health, substance abuse, job training, & housing services.
- Continue to demand effective community-empowered, accountable police services.
- Continue to expand childcare resources and services for our seniors
- Expand upon the accomplishments we've made in San Carlos to encourage the use of modes of transportation that are safe and low impact.
- Ensure our future generations can stay in San Mateo County and our teachers, firefighters, and essential workers can live near where they work.

Please explain how your background and experience have prepared you to be a County Supervisor. *

I am a Democrat, small business owner & City Councilmember. These experiences distinguish me by my life experience, managerial expertise & a unique set of skills. My accomplishments include: increasing access to affordable housing & childcare, reducing wildfire risk, addressing drought, reducing GHG emissions & traffic congestion.

As a working mom, I know intimately the responsibilities & conflicts with earning a paycheck & managing a budget while being present for my children. I'm acutely aware of how to listen, compromise & provide practical guidance!

As a businesswoman & an entrepreneur, I know the frustration of hitting the glass ceiling & having to work harder to earn \$0.83 on the dollar paid to my male colleagues. I learned how to confront the unknown when starting my business and provide for my family.

As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I know what it feels like to be excluded. As a result, I am fully committed to inclusion, respect & equity in my decision making.

What would you like to do to address the Coastside's vexing traffic issues? *

As a councilmember & a board member of Peninsula Clean Energy, I have advocated for, & supported, investments in activating San Carlos' bike & pedestrian master plan & e-bike price discount programs. By increasing the safety profile of our streets and sidewalks, more of my neighbors are walking and biking. The e-bike price discount pilot program reached capacity quickly and we are now seeking to scale this program. Reducing the dependency on single-occupancy vehicles will take bold leadership & innovative programs. I have demonstrated these capabilities on multiple fronts.

I will push for more efficient and accessible transport options for entering and leaving our coastal zones. Increase service for the coastside communities and more carpool options can help address the daily bottlenecks. u

Housing on the Coastside is especially expensive; how do you see the County helping with affordable housing? *

The former Bay City flower farmland comprised of ~50 acres is up for sale listed at ~ \$22M and it has access to water. Working collaboratively with local policy makers to change zoning, this would be an ideal setting with which to consider the creation of farm worker housing.

In addition, as a member of the San Mateo County Home for All steering committee, I will take this program to the next level. I will continue to champion and support the county's "functional zero" effort to house all those who seek housing yet are without means – providing them wraparound services so that they can get back on their feet and realize a self-sustaining way of life; develop and enact policies and leverage public private partnerships to increase housing stocks for the most vulnerable in our community – seniors, people with disabilities and those who are at the lower levels of income.

Many Coastside residents value the lower density, rural character of this area; how would you balance that with a need for more housing? *

Creating more housing while maintaining the rural character of the coastside is possible. In San Carlos, I faced a similar challenge. By engaging the community in dialogue, the call for a moratorium on all development has dramatically shifted.

This community engagement enabled a greater understanding of the impacts of the relative unavailability of affordable housing and the hearts and minds of my neighbors have changed. Now, the second highest need expressed is the need for more affordable housing in our community. I would rely on these same methods to work with the coastside community to develop policies and plans that allow us to make the circle bigger while maintaining the unique characters that draw us to our beautiful coast.

The effects of climate change, especially increase shoreline erosion, are being seen along the Coastside. How can the County help mitigate these effects? *

The community has called for bold and swift action to address the impacts of climate change. I am the only candidate in this race to go on record in support of a funding measure to address the impacts of local climate change.

I will bring people together to solicit community input and suggestions to help craft legislation and regulations that will help mitigate severe drought, climate-induced flooding, and sea level rise.

Does the County need to do more to ensure Coastsider safety in the face of more frequent wildfire and tidal events? *

Yes! I am endorsed by local Firefighters because I will invest year-round in wildfire prevention and work towards improving our coastal protections. Again, I am the only candidate in this race to go on record in support of a funding measure to address the impacts of local climate change proceeds from these measures will enable the implementation of a countywide flood early warning system and much needed capital infrastructure funds.

What would you do to better connect, communicate, and represent the interests of the farmworker communities of the Coastside? *

I plan to establish regularly scheduled meetings with core agencies such as Puente, Coastside Hope, ALAS and others to stay abreast of issues and identify program funding needs. I plan to assign a Spanish speaking staff member, ideally residing on the coast, to be available on a day-to-day basis. From the dais, I will advocate for these essential workers and their families.

How do you view the efficacy of Coast House and other efforts to address homelessness on the Coastsides? *

The establishment of Coast House is a great start, and more investments are needed to effectively address the population of the un-housed on the coast. The Abundant Grace approach is an inspiring model that I'd like to evaluate for scalability. Ultimately, trust among the un-housed community must be earned – this will take time, compassion, and selfless acts of love to earn their trust so that they are willing to accept the services offered. I also have established a relationship with Samaritan House which has been involved in the provision and management of support services.

Have you ever run for political office, served on a political committee, or been identified publicly with a political organization, candidate, ballot measure, or issue? If so, please provide the details of your involvement. *

In 2017, I was appointed to the San Carlos Single-Family Housing Advisory committee that was established to inform objective standards for remodels and rebuilds of single-family homes.

In 2018, I ran for one of three open seats on San Carlos City Council and was the top vote-getter in the race.

Is there anything in your background which, if you receive the Club's endorsement, could cause embarrassment to the Club? If so, please provide the details. *

Many years ago, I was the target of a baseless lawsuit involving copyright registration. The case had no merit and was dropped soon after filing.

Thank you

Click Back to return to a previous question. Toggle the option below to request a copy of your responses. Click Submit when you are done.

Feel free to contact president@coastsidedemocrats.com if you have any questions.

Final results will be posted on <https://coastsidedems.org/election2022>

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