

Statement Questions for GCSD Board Candidates Answers are limited to 1000 characters.

Why are you running for the Granada Community Services District board? *

I am a California native who discovered El Granada in 2017. I have since purchased a piece of land and built my home here. El Granada is Narnia—a hidden gem that, once discovered, makes you wonder how something so beautiful and special can possibly exist. Every day I am reminded how lucky I am that I get to call this place home.

I have a Bachelor's degree from Howard University in Sociology, and an MBA from Columbia Business School. I started my career in nonprofit management and currently spend my days helping executive leaders create employee experiences where all of their employees can thrive. I'm deeply committed to creating just and equitable spaces.

As a homeowner, I am excited about joining the GCSD board because I want to do my part to keep El Granada's infrastructure sound. As a Black woman, I want to help ensure that our outdoor spaces remain safe and accessible to all. As someone obsessed with our trails and beaches—and everywhere in between—I am committed to protecting the natural balance and beauty of El Granada. As a business leader, I intend to bring to bear my ability to envision bold, new futures and possibilities and turn them into reality for our lovely town.

Please explain how your background and experience have prepared you to be a board member. *

For the last 15+ years I have largely served in the role of consultant and advisor for some of the world's largest companies. My formal training in strategy, innovation, communication and branding has helped my clients crack some of their toughest challenges. I help inspire and build belief—oftentimes in bold and audacious futures—and drive toward impact with intentional and pragmatic solutions. I help them shoot for the moon while also detailing the micro-steps needed to get there!

I've spent the last 5+ years working to ensure that the impact of the work I do feels just and equitable—for all, not only parts of a community.

I've been fortunate to do some amazing work but the time and intensity required has often meant that I haven't been able to give back via community service. I found ways to donate my professional skills to non-profits—often via boards. I've done everything from strategic design and delivery support to marketing, branding, and communications.

As I establish my roots in El Granada, I want to bring my skillset to bear here. I am committed to doing what I can to help ensure this community retains what makes it so uniquely special—including ensuring folks feel welcome.

The majority of Coastsiders are impacted by the Sewer Authority Mid-coastside lawsuit; with a summary judgment now against the city of Half Moon Bay, what steps can GCSD take to ensure SAM works effectively? *

First and foremost, we must honor and uphold the commitments we have made as partners. It is our duty to ensure that we do all we can to protect public health as well as our coastal communities. However, that only solves the what. The trick is how we go about doing it. We must all firmly believe that we are partners in this work—on the same team and in service of the greater good. That is our ultimate litmus test. It must be the red thread binding every conversation and every decision.

As partners, we must hold space for disagreement and debate but it cannot come at the expense of the community.

We must also ensure that we aren't navel-gazing. In other words, as stewards of the community it is incumbent upon us to ensure that we aren't generating solutions that we *think* the community needs but rather doing the due diligence to bring the local voice into our discussions in order to inform our decisions. Nothing works in a vacuum.

El Granada residents are eager to see progress at Burnham Park; what will you do to make sure construction starts in 2023? *

I look forward to lending my project management skills to this effort. As mentioned before, a grand vision holds little value without being tied to realistic execution. I recognize a lot of work has been done and continues to be done to deliver on this project and I look forward to helping further scope the vision—through ideation and iteration—and then contributing to chart the roadmap to get there—the timelines, milestones, and key deliverables necessary to keep the project on track. I am also able to assist with stakeholder management—who needs to know what and when to either keep them in the loop or keep them on the path towards completion.

Finally, as mentioned before, a good community partnership is nothing if not informed by the community. Thus, I look forward to finding ways for The Board to stay thoughtfully connected to members of the community so that we are collecting timely and informative insight.

What purposes and functions should be facilitated in the planned community center?

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First and foremost, I need to spend time understanding what community insight has already been gathered. That being said, the community center must serve as a space where all feel welcome—it must feel both physically and psychologically safe and accessible to all. Ideally, it is a place where folks can come together and build bonds, share ideas, create, and express themselves—a place to have fun!

Therefore, I would imagine that there needs to be rooms for community members to gather and hold meetings, events, and celebrations. And, while I don't have children myself, I know that our kids need more space to spark their imagination and to play. It would be my hope that our center includes an outdoor space for kids but also invites adults to sit and convene and enjoy being outdoors themselves.