# Democrats of Napa Valley Candidate Questionnaire <u>Candidate for City Council</u>

## DEADLINE FOR RETURN TO DEMOCRATS OF NAPA VALLEY: FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

Candidate's Name: Beth Painter Area/District: City of Napa, District 2

Mobile ph #: (707) 337-3385 Party Affiliation: Democrat

E-Mail: bp@bethpainter.com

Occupation: Land Use Planner Employer: Balanced Planning, Inc.

Campaign Manager: Barry Barnes Contact #: (415) 308-0605

If an Incumbent, please provide the year your original term of office began: 2020

## **Candidate Specific Questions**

# 1. Provide a bio of your relevant experience/background for this office. (200 words maximum)

I hold Bachelor's and Master's degrees in the Earth Sciences

## Relevant work experience (1980 to present):

Technician, US Geological Survey (USGS), 4 years

Planner, County Government (Santa Cruz and Ventura), 9 years

Private sector Land Use Planner, Napa 29 years

### **Current Elected Service:**

Napa City Councilmember, District 2

Napa LAFCO, Commissioner

Napa Flood Control Board, Director

MCE Board, Director

Cal Cities, North Bay Chapter Executive Committee member

Cal Cities, Housing, Community and Economic Development Policy Committee member

#### Past Community Involvement, Partial list:

City of Napa Planning Commissioner

Resource Conservation District Board, Director

Leadership Napa Valley, Class 17, Board member and Board President

Napa Valley Economic Development Corp, member and ED

Board of Advocates, Planned Parenthood (Napa)

Napa County General Plan Steering Committee

Napa County Watershed Task Force

# Partial list of relevant projects that demonstrate preparedness for Council:

Public Sector:

Completed City of Napa 2040 General Plan and Housing Element, low-income, supportive and transitional housing project review and approvals, including Valle Verde, Valley Lodge and Napa North, 2 Napa Climate Summit events

Private Sector:

Private landowners and public/quasi-public organizations, such as Napa Valley College, St. Helena Hospital, Napa Land Trust and Carneros Water District.

2. List your key supporters, including campaign volunteers and hired consultants, and endorsements.

**Key Endorsements** 

Congressman Mike Thompson, Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Supervisors Ryan Gregory, Anne Cotrell and Belia Ramos, Mayor Scott Sedgley, Councilmembers, Mary Luros, Bernie Narvaez, and Liz Alessio, former Mayor Jill Techel, former Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht

**Key Campaign Volunteers** 

Sandra Sims, Cathy Felder, Ellyn Elson, Ryan Gregory, Jill Techel

3. Where do you expect to receive your main financial commitments?

Donations have largely come from local community supporters.

4. What distinguishes your candidacy and campaign from the other candidates for this office?

At this time there are no other candidates for this office.

**Issues:** (100 words maximum per question)

- 5. What do you see as the major issues and their possible solutions in this campaign?

  2020 to 2024 focused largely on stabilizing our community as we worked our way through and out of a global pandemic. In spite of that enormous challenge, we were successful in adopting the 2040 General Plan that sets a bold and bright vision for our city. Moving forward, we need to implement our General Plan and meet key goals in housing, transportation and road improvements, addressing homelessness and addressing climate change. While we have a robust and bright plan, the major challenge will be securing funding and obtaining the staff needed to move forward.
- 6. Do you believe in and would you work to protect a women's right to choose and to have control over her own body? \_x\_Yes \_\_\_No Is it easy enough for a woman in Napa County to access healthcare to have an abortion?

The Planned Parenthood Clinic in Napa has been subjected to a constant barrage of protestors. Despite this significant obstacle, PP staff have worked hard to continue to operate an extremely high-quality clinic in our community. I will continue to stand up for Planned Parenthood and work hand in hand on any issues that surface in the future.

7. Is the City doing most everything it can to ensure that residents feel safe? \_\_\_Yes \_\_x\_No If no, what 1-2 ideas do you think should be considered?

Let me preface this by stating that I feel we have a Chief of Police and Fire Captain who are working tirelessly to ensure that our residents feel safe. I answer "no" to this question because there is always more work we need to do. A few ideas:

- Work with our DA to find more options for penalties for acts of hate. While I will
  always stand up for our First Amendment right to free speech, I will not tolerate
  hate speech. Napa is not immune to the divisiveness we have seen across the
  Country. We need to work with not only our local law enforcement, but our elected
  officials at the State and Federal level to create laws to address this growing
  problem.
- Safety from Wildfires must be top of mind. We need to work with our partners at the County, RCD and Napa Firewise to build a much more robust program to clear our parks and undeveloped areas of excessive fuel load and support ongoing efforts in the unincorporated areas.

# 8. The number of children enrolled in school in Napa County continues to decline. What are 2-3 solutions to at least slow or stop this decline?

- Build more affordable, family friendly housing
- Improve our parks and open space
- Work with community members to provide sports fields, children's museum and other amenities that will attract families.

## 9. Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

I am running for re-election to the Napa City Council because I believe we need leaders with experience and the determination to create a brighter future for all Napa residents. I bring people together and make decisions with a collaborative and balanced approach.

My husband and I have lived in Napa for 29 years and raised our two children here. I have been active in the community for decades. I am proud of the work Napa City Council has done since 2020 to address homelessness, plan for local park improvements and move ahead with long awaited road improvements.

### My priorities include:

- Fix potholes and improve streets for all modes of transportation
- Create housing that is available and affordable to all income levels
- Maintain city parks and improve recreation facilities
- Celebrate the diversity in our community
- Support public safety efforts in both law enforcement and fire protection
- Address homelessness and Dmental health challenges
- Work to address climate change and GHG issues at the local level

Please join Congressman Thompson, Senator Dodd, Assemblywoman Aguiar-Curry, Mayor Sedgley, Councilmembers Alessio, Luros and Narvaez, Supervisor Gregory, and hundreds of Napa neighbors in supporting my campaign. I would be honored to earn your support.

Signature	Date
Beck Painter	8-6-24