



**Candidate's Biographies for the
2014-15 League of California Cities
Peninsula Division Executive Committee**



Position: President

Candidate: Kirsten Keith, Council Member, Menlo Park

Application Statement:

It has been a pleasure as the Vice President for the Peninsula Division. As President, I would continue to encourage active participation in our Chapter and explain the importance of taking action to enhance legislation that affects our cities and our ability to govern locally. I have actively served on the Employee Relations subcommittee of the League since 2010, where we frequently take positions on Legislation. I have served on the Menlo Park City Council since 2010 and have been appointed to many local agencies and boards, including C/CAG, BAWSCA and the Service League of San Mateo County. Thank you for your consideration. It would be an honor to serve as the President.

Council Member Kirsten Keith – Biography

Attorney, Councilmember, Community Volunteer

Summary

I have volunteered with community organizations throughout San Mateo County for over twenty years. I served on the San Mateo County Commission on the Status of Women for eight years, and served twice as president. In Menlo Park, I have served on the Planning Commission for seven years before being elected to City Council in 2010. I was Mayor of Menlo Park in 2012.

Experience

Board of Directors at Bay Area Water Supply And Conservation Agency
May 2013 - Present (2 months)

Board of Directors, Finance Committee at Service League of San Mateo County
March 2012 - Present (1 year 4 months)

The Service League of San Mateo County is a non-profit agency that develops, coordinates, and delivers in-custody programs, services, and other activities within all San Mateo County jails. The agency delivers after-release programs and services at five program sites in the community.

Advisory Board Member at CORA - Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse
December 2011 - Present (1 year 7 months)

CORA is the only agency in San Mateo County with the sole purpose of serving victims of domestic violence and abuse. The agency provides free and confidential emergency, intervention and prevention services, including the county's only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims.

Technical Advisory Committee Member at JobTrain
August 2011 - Present (1 year 11 months)

The primary role of this advisory committee is to provide guidance about strategic issues pertaining to JobTrain's Project Build Construction program.

City Council Member, 2012 Mayor at City of Menlo Park
December 2010 - Present (2 years 7 months)

In general municipal elections, its members are elected at-large to four-year overlapping terms. The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem (vice mayor) are selected to one-year terms by the Council.

Luncheon Committee Member at The Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County

January 1997 - Present (16 years 6 months)

The San Mateo County Legal Aid Luncheon Committee diligently raises money to help people obtain legal services, who otherwise could not, in our County.

Attorney at Law Offices of Kirsten Keith

January 1994 - Present (19 years 6 months)

I have a private criminal defense practice and am a member of the San Mateo County Private Defender Program, representing people accused of misdemeanors and felonies. I speak Spanish fluently.

Planning Commissioner, 2007 Chair at City of Menlo Park

April 2004 - December 2010 (6 years 9 months)

Member, President 2004 at National Women's Political Caucus, San Mateo County

January 2003 - January 2006 (3 years 1 month)

The National Women's Political Caucus is a multipartisan, multicultural, grassroots organization dedicated to increasing women's participation in politics and creating a power base designed to achieve equality for all women.

Committee Delegate at Bar Association of San Mateo County

January 2001 - January 2006 (5 years 1 month)

The mission of the San Mateo County Bar Association is to promote the honor and dignity of the legal profession, to educate its members, to foster the highest professional standards, to encourage collegiality and to maintain cooperation between its members and the judiciary, to furnish excellent indigent criminal defense, to assist the public in accessing legal services, to provide and recognize public service as it relates to this mission, and to advance the fair and effective administration of justice for all.

Board Member at League of Women Voters, South San Mateo County

January 2002 - January 2005 (3 years 1 month)

Housing Commissioner at City of Menlo Park

August 2003 - April 2004 (9 months)

Commission on the Status of Women, Chair 2000-2002 at San Mateo County

January 1996 - January 2004 (8 years 1 month)

The Commission on the Status of Women of San Mateo County is a non-partisan appointed body that advises the County Board of Supervisors. Established by the Board of Supervisors in 1982, they provide leadership in developing policies, programs and legislation that address the needs of women, girls and families.

Community Mediation Services Committee Member at City of Menlo Park

December 2001 - August 2003 (1 year 9 months)

The Mediation Commission helped Menlo Park neighbors resolve their disputes. In 2002, the City Council chose to have Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center handle these issues.

Member, Board of Directors at Sor Juana Inez

January 1998 - January 2001 (3 years 1 month)

Sor Juana Inez was the first battered women's service agency in San Mateo County to serve the Spanish-speaking community. Sor Juana Inez was incorporated into CORA a number of years ago.

Prenatal to Three Initiative, Adopt-A-Family Program Member at San Mateo County

February 1998 - February 1999 (1 year 1 month)

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and the Prenatal to Three Initiative created the Adopt-A-Family program and a System of Sharing.

Board Member at O'Connor Tract Co-Op Water Company

1997 - 1999 (2 years)

The OTCWC is a non-profit water co-operative that services single and multi-family residents in parts of Menlo Park and East Palo Alto. It is a small, rural water system that utilizes old agricultural wells, and operates completely independently from neighboring water purveyors.

Immigrant Rights Volunteer at FOCC - Fair Oaks Community Center

January 1993 - December 1995 (3 years)

The Fair Oaks Community Center is a multi-service facility offering a variety of services to the broader Redwood City Community. Services are offered by a combination of City staff and representatives from public and private non-profit agencies.

Law Clerk at The Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County

September 1992 - June 1993 (10 months)

Legal Aid relies on close to 400 pro bono volunteers to help disadvantaged residents improve their lives through equal access to justice.

Public Interest Law Foundation Member, President 1992 at Golden Gate University School of Law

September 1991 - June 1993 (1 year 10 months)

The Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) is a non-partisan, student-run organization committed to fostering the careers of students who intend to dedicate themselves to providing assistance to those traditionally underrepresented in the legal system.

Volunteer Victim Advocate at Family Violence Prevention Fund

September 1991 - June 1992 (10 months)

Everyone has the right to live free of violence. Futures Without Violence, formerly Family Violence Prevention Fund, works to prevent and end violence against women and children around the world.

DAs Office, Domestic Violence Unit, Law Clerk at City and County of San Francisco

September 1991 - June 1992 (10 months)

This unit specializes in stalking and relationship based domestic violence cases. They attempt to contact every reported victim for follow up and services.

Temporary Restraining Order Clinic, Volunteer at Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County

September 1989 - June 1990 (10 months)

The mission of the Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County is to provide high-quality legal services in order to ensure that low-income persons and seniors have access to the civil justice system in times of crisis – to secure safe, habitable shelter, adequate income, and protection from domestic violence and elder abuse.

Volunteer Rape Crisis Intervention Advocate at Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center

June 1988 - June 1990 (2 years 1 month)

Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center has served over 10,000 survivors of sexual assault and their significant others in the last 35 years. They are dedicated and committed to ending sexual assault in our lifetime.

Honors and Awards

Drucilla Stender Ramey Public Interest Achievement Award

Golden Gate University School of Law Public Interest Law Foundation, April 2013

The Golden Gate University School of Law Public Interest Law Foundation has selected GGU Law Alumna Kirsten Keith (JD 94), City Council Member and former Mayor of Menlo Park as its second recipient of the Drucilla Stender Ramey Public Interest Achievement Award. The award, named in honor of GGU Law's former dean and public interest champion, honors individuals in the GGU community whose outstanding work has advanced justice and social change in the lives of vulnerable populations.

Education

Golden Gate University, School of Law

J.D., Law, 1990 - 1993

Activities and Societies:

San Francisco District Attorney's Office, Internship

Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County, Internship

Family/Domestic Violence Prevention Fund, Internship;

Public Interest Law Foundation Award;

Mock Trial Competition, Member;

Public Interest Law Foundation, Past President

University of California, Santa Barbara

BA, Political Science, 1986 - 1989

Activities and Societies:

Legal Aid Society, Santa Barbara County, Volunteer;

Amnesty International Washington, D.C., Internship;

Cambridge University, Student Exchange Program;

National Organization of Women (NOW), Member;

U.C.S.B. Political Science Student Committee, Member;

Women's Center of Santa Barbara, Volunteer;

Planned Parenthood, Volunteer;

Alpha Delta Pi Sorority, Member

Position: Vice President**Candidate: Nancy Shepherd, Mayor, Palo Alto****Application Statement:**

I have enjoyed my service these last two years as the Santa Clara County At-Large Representative, and this year as Secretary-Treasurer. I would like to continue my work on the board as Vice President for 2015, and ask for your vote. This is my 5th year serving on the Palo Alto City Council, and this year as Mayor. My interests include finance, HSR/Caltrain, sustainability, and community building. I have over 25 years in managerial accounting, controller and operations. In my years on council I have served as Finance Chair, HSR Committee Chair and on Policy & Services, Infrastructure, FTTH committees and am the alternate to our position on NCPA. The League is very valuable to Cities, and I have and will support the legislative and regional efforts to help secure our joint interests.

Mayor Nancy Shepherd – Biography**Personal**

- Resident of Palo Alto since 1984
- Husband, Mark R. Shepherd, Esq.

Education

- San Francisco State University
- Graduate, Mid-Peninsula Leadership
- MA International Relations SFSU

Council Service

- Elected Mayor, 2014
- 2013-2014 Northern California Power Agency, alternate
- 2013 Rail Committee Chair
- 2013 Infrastructure Committee member
- 2013 FTTH/Technology Committee member
- 2012 Finance Committee Chair
- 2010-2013 Rail Committee member
- 2011-2012, VTA El Camino Rapid Transit Policy Advisory Committee
- 2010, Policy and Services
- 2010-2011 City Schools Liaison

Community Service

- 2014 Secretary/Treasurer, Executive Committee for the Peninsula Division League of Cities
- 2012-13 Santa Clara County At-Large Representative, Executive Committee for the Peninsula Division of the League of California Cities
- 2008-2011, Trustee, Mid-Peninsula High School
- 2006-2010, Financial Manager, Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto
- 2004-2009, Treasurer, Palo Altoans for Government Effectiveness (PAGE)
- 2003-2005, Event Planner, Adolescent Counseling Services
- 2000-2002, President, Palo Alto Council of PTAs
- 1999-2002, Board Member, Palo Alto Foundation for Education
- 1995-2002, Organizer, PAUSD district-wide fundraising
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Awards

- 2009 & 2010, The Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Service, The State Bar of California
- 2007, Sally Siegel Award, Palo Alto Council of PTAs
- 2006, Volunteer of the Year Award, Adolescent Counseling Service
- 2002, California State PTA Honorary Service Award, Palo Alto Council of PTAs

Position: Secretary-Treasurer

Candidate: Alicia Aguirre, Council Member, Redwood City



Application Statement:

I have served on the Redwood City Council since January 2005. Since then I have been involved and participated with the League in various capacities. The League has excellent trainings that I participated from the beginning. I have attended Lobby Days with my colleagues from the Peninsula. I attend the annual conference every year. I am also the current Vice President of the Latino Caucus of the League.

The Peninsula Division is a very important and influential organization that brings together Mayors and Council Members together to address the specific issues and concerns of this region. I would be honored to serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the Peninsula Division of the League.

Council Member Alicia Aguirre – Biography

Alicia C. Aguirre is the former Mayor of the City Redwood City and is a serving member of the City Council. She is the first Latina/o Mayor in the history of Redwood City. She was appointed in January, 2005 and was elected in November, 2005, 2007, and 2011. She also served as a Trustee and the President of the Redwood City Elementary School Board.

She serves as an elected official on many of the City's committees and several regional boards in the County of San Mateo and statewide boards.

As an active community member, she has served on numerous community boards in San Mateo County and the State of California and has received many awards. Some of these include:

- Woman of the Year 2012 State of California 21st Assembly District's by Assemblyman Rich Gordon
- Recipient of the OHTLI Award and Medal by the Mexican Government
- Vice President of the Statewide Latino Caucus Executive Board of the League of California Cities
- Trustee, Notre Dame De Namur University
- Inducted into the Redwood City San Mateo County Chamber Hall of Fame
- Treasurer of the newly formed Latino Political Action Committee of San Mateo County
- CCAG - City County Association of Governments Board
- Board Member of the Latino Leadership Council of San Mateo
- Chair of the Redwood City Chamber Leadership Committee and member of the Government Relations Committee
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission
- Latina Mentor Advisory Council of the San Mateo County Office of Education,
- Redwood City Library Foundation,
- Young Latino Leaders,
- Shelter Network Board
- Hispanos Unidos,
- Mt. Carmel School Board and the Garfield Charter School Board

Alicia is a professor at Cañada College. She has taught there since 1988 in the English Institute and the Spanish Department. She is Chair of the District Curriculum Committee and on the District Academic Senate. She holds an M.A. from Eastern Michigan University and has done Doctoral studies in Social Anthropology at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City. She was a Fulbright Exchange Professor in Argentina.

For more information please visit her website at www.aliciaaguirre.com



Position: At-Large Representative – San Mateo County

Candidate: Art Kiesel, Vice Mayor, Foster City

Application Statement:

I have been very involved with the League serving on Policy Committees for the past 6 years and am currently serving as Chair of the Housing, Community, and Economic Development committee. I have also served on the Immigration Reform Task Force and the General Resolutions Committee. I have also served on various San Mateo County Committees primarily C/CAG, C/CAG Legislative sub-committee, and the C/CAG Budget sub-committee.

The perspective that I can continue to bring to the Executive Committee is on of recognizing the need for a strong local government. After serving on the Board for the past two years as the elected Board Director from the Peninsula Division, I have become more convinced of the need for a unified voice for cities and that should be accomplished through a strong League of California Cities.

I was first elected to the City Council for Foster City in 2007, having served for 3 ½ years on the Foster City Planning Commission and 4 years on the Foster City Information Technology Advisory Committee. During the 13 years of being involved in government, I have seen the erosion of local control and funds in an effort to fill the coffers of a mismanaged State Government. During my tenure in the private sector, serving as a senior executive with a NYSE listed organization gaining a keen understanding of the working of large organizations, I learned the importance of establishing and maintaining good working relationships and have done so with our State representative.

I have seen the need for Prop 1A and 22 to protect local funds where I collected signatures for both measures. Most of us have experienced the dissolution of RDA and the negative effects it has had and will continue to have on local government. Locally, we will have to find new approaches to address economic re-vitalization, the addressing of jobs, and to deal with the mandated affordable housing, all without the funds to do so. We continue to scramble to address unfounded those mandates and concern remains over the results of realignment. My experience on the League Board and Policy Committee representation has provided me with the knowledge and perspective to be an effective member of the Peninsula Division Executive Committee.

Vice Mayor Art Kiesel – Biography

League Involvement

- 2008-09 Member of the Transportation, Communications and Public Works Policy Committee
- 2009-13 Member of the Housing, Community and Economic Development Committee
- 2013-14 Chair of the Housing, Community and Economic Development Committee
- 2011-13 Peninsula Division Board Director
- 2013 Appointed Member of the Immigration Task Force
- 2013 Appointed Member of the General Resolutions Committee
- 2007-Present Very Involved in the Peninsula Division's activities including CitiPAC fund raising efforts and attending Legislative Action Day in Sacramento

On November 8, 2011, Art Kiesel was re-elected to serve another four-year term on the City Council. Art is currently Vice Mayor. Art is a 16 year resident of Foster City. He is a third generation San Franciscan where he was raised until being drafted into the US Army in 1965. He is married, has two sons, and has two granddaughters.

Art has been an independent management consultant for the past 27 years. His clients included some the largest businesses in the Bay Area. Prior to that, he was a Vice President for Fidelity Savings and Loan, one of the largest S&Ls in northern California, where he had responsibility for all technology and back office operations support.

Art's civic involvement began in 2000 where he served four years on the Information Technology Advisory Committee and a one-time chair. He also served on the Traffic Review Committee for a year and most recently spending 3 ½ years on the Planning Commission and a one-time chair. He is a graduate of the Foster City Citizens Police Academy (2002), Community Emergency Response Team (2007).

Art's community involvement began in 1999 where he worked on a variety of community projects through the Foster City Lions Club. He will become President of the Foster City Lions Club for 2007-2008. He was named to the Foster City Honors List in 2003 for community involvement and was named Lion of the Year for 2006-2007. He is a Life Member of Canine Companions for Independence and has supported San Mateo 4-H Clubs for the past 18 years.



Position: At-Large Representative – Santa Clara County

Candidate: Jim Davis, Vice Mayor, Sunnyvale

Application Statement and Biography:

I am in my third year of representing the citizens of Sunnyvale. I serve on a number of committees ranging from the Grand Boulevard to the Valley Transportation Authority. I serve on the California and National League of Cities' Crime Prevention Committees. I served this past year on the executive committee of the Peninsula Division.

Vice Mayor Jim Davis – Biography:

Jim Davis is a 36 year law enforcement professional. Facing retirement from the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety Jim knew that he needed to find a retirement job. So putting his Political Science Degree from San Jose State to use he headed out and started walking the streets of Sunnyvale meeting the residents. On November 8, 2011 the citizens elected him to the Sunnyvale City Council. Jim is a native of Santa Clara County. During his law enforcement career Jim developed an expertise in narcotics and gang enforcement. The last 6 years of his career he was a Neighborhood Resource Officer which allowed him to participate in his passion of helping school age students. He received recognition for his excellent service from the nine schools that he served.

Outside of his professional career Jim has been an advisor for the Homestead High School Key Club. In 2011 he was named Advisor of the year for the entire Key Club District. Jim's fellow officers named him officer of the year in 2009 and he was selected as Volunteer of the Year by the City of Sunnyvale in 2005.

Today Jim's talents are dedicated to doing the best that he can for the citizens of Sunnyvale.

Education

Associate of Science Degree, Administration of Justice, West Valley Community College
(1970 – 1973)

Bachelor of Science, Political Science, Minor Psychology San Jose State University
(1973- 1975)

Professional Experience

City Council Member City of Sunnyvale (January 2012 - Present)

Sunnyvale Public Safety Officer (July 1986 – October 2011)

San Jose Law Enforcement (October 1975 – July 1986)

Professional Organizations

California Narcotic Officers Association (19876 – Present)

Peace Officers Research Association of California (1975 – 2011)

Member, California Gang Investigators Association (Present)

Member, Central Coast Gang Investigators Association (Present)

Member, Sunnyvale Public Safety Officers Association (Present)

Community Service

Regional Advisor, Cali Nev Ha Key Club (2006 – Present)

Instructor, Parent Project (2008 – Present)

Advisor, Homestead High School Key Club (2001 – Present)

Advisor, Sunnyvale Middle School Builders Club (2003 – Present)

Chairman, Sunnyvale Pet Parade (2010)

Member, Mayor's Reading by Third Grade Committee (2008)
Sunnyvale Basketball Shoot-Off Program (2006 – 2011)
Sunnyvale Charter Review Committee (1991)

Memberships

Silicon Valley Kiwanis (1999 – Present)
Cops Care Cancer (2006 – Present)
Sunnyvale Challenge Team (Present)
Mt. View Challenge Team (Present)

Commendation and Awards

Advisor of the Year, Cali Nev Ha Key Club 2011
Recognition of Service, SNAIL Neighborhood Association (2011)
Public Safety Officer of the Year (2009)
Certificate of Excellence, Sunnyvale Middle School (2009)
Distinguished Service Award, Cal Nev Ha Kiwanis (2008)
Distinguished Service, Vargas Elementary School (2006 – 2008)
Ellis Elementary School Recognition of Service (2008 & 2009)
Sunnyvale Volunteer of the Year Award (2005)
California State Senate Recognition of Public Service (2005)
California State Assembly Recognition of Public Service (2005)
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors Recognition of Public Service (2005)
Kiwanis Member of the Year (2003)
Alan J. Garcia Leadership Award (2001)
Who's Who Leadership Recognition (1994)

Inter Governmental Assignments

Representative to Association of Bay Area Governments
Commissioner County Expressway Planning Advisory Board
Member Grand Boulevard Task Force
Member Moffett Field Restoration Advisory Board
Commissioner County Emergency Operations Council
Member Valley Transpiration Authority Policy Advisory Board
Member Caltrain Modernization Project Advisory Group
Alternate to Silicon Valley Regional Interoperability Authority
Chairman National League of Cities Large Cities Council
Member National League of Cities Public Safety Policy Board
Member California Leagues of Cities Public Safety Policy Board.

Contact Information

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