

El Dorado Hills Telegraph

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City Council candidates offer position statements

Laurence Brilliant

"I have resided in El Dorado Hills for 21 years with my wife, Barby, and our children. Our children's families and our parents continue to live within the community.

"As your city council member I offer you my proven commitment, leadership, and experience. For the past 18 years I have served the community as an elected director on the Community Services District (5 years) and the El Dorado Hills Fire Department (13 years).

"Additionally, I have 25 years of public agency experience as a safety/risk manager, police officer, and volunteer firefighter for cities, special districts, and school districts.

"This experience, combined with my Masters in Public Administration and Bachelor Science in Criminology will enable me to bring to the office a diversity of public agency experience and knowledge.

"I am committed to establishing a lean, fiscally accountable and responsive city government that meets the community's needs and preserves the community's quality of life through enhanced services in the areas of public safety, parks and recreation, environmental protection, public works, planning and economic development.

"With your vote, I will continue to serve the community of El Dorado Hills making decisions that are in the best interest of the community as a whole."

Barton Cox

"My wife, Holly, and I are a real estate team in El Dorado Hills. We moved here in 2002 to start our family. We are currently blessed with two daughters, Kylie and Natalie.

"I have a Bachelors of Science from the University of Notre Dame, a law degree from UCLA, and a Masters of Science from UC Santa Barbara.

"With your support, I would work on the city council to achieve a fiscally responsible transition to cityhood with the continued improvement of El Dorado Hills as a wonderful place to raise our families.

C. Howell Ellerman

"For excellence in El Dorado Hills, it's all about the E! I started out working for the U.S. Congress, and then for the city of Glendale, where I helped abolish unnecessary regulations while attending law school at night.

"When I became a lawyer I opened my own firm that helped small businesses navigate the city bureaucracy, started a community organization (www.tera90041.org) that now has more than 2,000 members, and served as an elder in my church.

"Execution: I've successfully negotiated contracts with unions representing 7,000 public employees. I led fundraising for the \$265 million bond that's building Folsom Lake College, where I'm a professor of business and real estate.

"Enthusiasm: As a native Californian with five young children, I care deeply about the future of our community.

Traffic must be better managed. More parks are needed, and old ones must be refurbished. Sensible enforcement of CC&Rs is a must. And sense must be made of the asbestos situation. Working together we'll become the world-class city we are destined to be. Find out how at www.HowellEllerman.com.

For excellence in El Dorado Hills, vote for Ellerman."

Jeff Haberman

"Is it in the best interest for El Dorado Hills to become a city? The best minds in El Dorado Hills do not know that for sure, but they have determined the success of the city will be decided by those running it.

"Since the people you elect will decide how to handle the important issues and a willingness to listen to the needs of its constituents.

"I have served this community for nearly 20 years in those capacities, including: 18 year El Dorado Hills business owner and recipient of the El Dorado County Small Business of the Year Award. Elected Chairman of the El Dorado Hills Design Review Committee returning dignity to the board once battered by the "yellow house stigma." Past President and current board member in the El Dorado Hills Chamber of Commerce. Member of the El Dorado County Board of Appeals. Past Vice-Chairman to the El Dorado Hills Area Planning Advisory Committee. El Dorado Hills Citizen of the Year 1992.

"On Nov. 8 I ask that you allow me to serve you by voting for me to City Council."

John Hidahl

"I am running for City Council to actively find solution to the many challenges El Dorado Hills faces. My wife Eileen and I moved here 27 years ago to raise our children in a clean, semi-rural environment.

"Today, traffic congestion, the affects of rapid growth and environmental concerns has dramatically impacted our 'quality of life'. As your Council member, I will work to repair the damage done, and create a brighter future for the residents and businesses of the 'city of El Dorado Hills'.

"I presently serve as a director of the El Dorado Hills Fire Department with 22 years of elected board experience.

"Norm Rowett and I co-founded the El Dorado Hills Incorporation task force in 1996 to explore the feasibility of cityhood. For the past five years I have served as chairman of the El Dorado Hills Incorporation Committee.

"As your Council member, I will leverage my broad based experience to serve your needs.

"I believe strongly in the residents 'right to vote' on critical decisions affecting our future. I will promote high standards and expectations for our city, following the best practices of Citrus Heights, Rancho Cordova and Elk Grove.

"I respectfully request your vote of support for Incorporation and for City Council.

Robert "Bob" Hollis

"El Dorado Hills faces both exciting opportunities and difficult challenges. Decisions made by our new city council will impact property values, the environment and the quality of life of local residents for generations.

"Community challenges to be resolved include asbestos, Mather over flights, development, traffic, parks, infrastructure and resource conservation.

"It is critical that our elected officials are committed to the best interests of voters who elected them rather than special interests. Therefore, I have voluntarily adopted a campaign contribution limit of \$20 from any business, organization, or individual.

"My experience with local, state, and federal officials, including members of both the Clinton and Bush administrations, and serving on the boards of numerous non-profit organizations has been productive and rewarding.

" My education includes a BS from Carnegie Mellon University where for two years I majored in Public Policy and Management, and a graduate level business and liberal arts education from The University of Chicago.

"As a successful entrepreneur, philanthropist, father and elected public official, I understand the challenges and opportunities facing our community. Please use your vote to allow me the privilege of making El Dorado Hills a better place to live for all of us.

"For additional information and endorsements visit www.BobHollis.com.

Susan M. Johnson

"My vision for the city of El Dorado Hills is one of a well-balanced community that is economically sound and attractive to new families and businesses alike. Our community should be clean and safe, with a strong infrastructure, good schools, wonderful recreation, music, arts, and sports.

"As a resident of El Dorado Hills since 2000 and with a 33-year career as an executive with Bank of America. I will bring a very strong business and financial background to the city council.

"As owner of Tallent Johnson Consulting I have also been extremely active in the community. I sit on the boards of the El Dorado Hills Chamber of Commerce, El Dorado Hills Newcomers, Better Roads for El Dorado and am on the executive committee of the Northeastern California/Northern Nevada Arthritis Foundation.

"My excellent business communication, management and organizational skills, coupled with the relationships I have developed within the community will ensure that our transition into cityhood is a smooth one.

"It would be my privilege to serve the city of El Dorado Hills, as it becomes "The Gateway to El Dorado County."

John Knight

"I would be honored to serve this community of El Dorado Hills (EDH) as a highly qualified candidate for city council. My wife and two children moved to EDH in 1980.

"We chose EDH for its beauty, schools, safety, recreation and caring community. I bring leadership, commitment, experience, education and skills to this position.

As your city council member, I will champion for EDH to continue to be one of the best places to live in California.

Bruce Lagomarsino

"Creating a new government requires a wide variety of skills and knowledge of the community. The persons elected to the city council should reflect varied backgrounds and abilities.

"I have lived in El Dorado Hills for 20 years with the majority of these spent in service to our community. For the past 15 years I have been elected to the Rescue Union School District Board of Trustees. At such I have worked with personnel, facilities, and a budget that has grown in excess of \$20 million.

"I understand the necessity of being able to work within state guidelines and budget control. I believe the role of an elected official is one of gathering input from all sources, making decisions based upon that information, and setting policy, not micro-managing.

"I have a Masters in government with an emphasis in local government.

"As an educator in the area, I have worked as a consultant with a number of local government related programs.

"As an elected official, I have been, and will continue to be responsible to all members of the community. I look forward to the challenge of creating a new city of El Dorado Hills. I would appreciate your support."

Justin Masters

"Even before moving here nine years ago, I became involved in El Dorado Hills issues (roads). Since that time, I have been involved in community effort in park restorations, volunteer efforts in local schools and churches, serving as a board member (currently vice president) for the El Dorado Hills CSD and participating in numerous meetings associated with cityhood.

"My public service originated with a desire to solve problems in our community - from two yellow house fiascos, to obstacles in park rehabilitations and I've made great strides.

"Working with other board members, developers and the public, we're building three huge community parts in three years to facilitate our community's recreational and open space needs.

"I've pro-actively tackled asbestos issues through extensive research and working to cover areas with higher asbestos exposure levels.

"As a city council member, my priorities will remain with improved road conditions and congestion relief and continuing the aggressive park building effort.

"I will also work to increase our voice in regional planning issues and bring SMUD's lower electricity rates here to El Dorado Hills.

"I've taken great pride in our community, working hard to improve it. I'd like to continue with your vote on Nov. 8th. Thank you."

Greg Murphy

"I've been an El Dorado County Deputy Sheriff for 14 years and patrolled El Dorado Hills for several years.

"I moved to El Dorado County in 1981 after being honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps, obtained a BA degree in 1985 and have lived in El Dorado Hills with my wife, Shannon, and two sons since 1997.

"My wife was the Community Services Officer in the El Dorado Hills Substation for five years. We've met a lot of El Dorado Hills' residents during this time and share your concerns about traffic congestion, police services and maintaining the quality of life in El Dorado Hills.

"I have unanswered questions about whether incorporating as a city is financially wise and do not want to see our taxes raised or fees increased for duplicate or unnecessary services.

"I believe any government has an obligation to its citizens to provide quality services at reasonable cost with the least amount of government interference possible. A government works for the citizens, should listen to them and pursue what benefits as many people as possible. If elected, I will seek your input, listen to your concerns and represent your interests to the best of my ability.

Dorothy A. Nesbitt

"I believe it is imperative that this first council for the city of El Dorado Hills have the integrity to set aside individual agendas and focus on establishing priorities and policies for our changing community.

"Three generations of my family live here and I am committed to working with the schools and the county to enhance the quality of life for both residents and business owners.

"Having retired from a 20-year career in community development that included being a member of the Pleasanton City Council and the League of California Cities' Economic Development Committee, I offer knowledge and experience in addressing the complexities of land use and development by providing all citizens an opportunity to sort through the issues and merge their differing opinions into a shared vision that can be adopted into an action plan for staff to realistically execute.

"As a past business owner and chamber executive, I am familiar with methods to expand our local economy by attracting new commercial enterprises and jobs to generate the revenues necessary to provide excellent levels of public safety while balancing environmental and traffic concerns with the growing demands for more housing.

"Please vote for me and our shared future."

Beau Palley

"I have been a resident of El Dorado County since 1978. I have been married for 14 years with two 2 children attending Silva Valley Elementary.

"I have run a successful business for over a decade. My business encompasses many aspects and has provided me with a broad understanding of how state, city and county government operates specific to zoning and land use.

"My experience can be very helpful. Land use within El Dorado Hills will be an important issue. This affects traffic and growth, which I believe is important to every resident.

"I am running to serve you. I have no other agendas. I am paying for my own campaign. I won't pretend to know all the answers or be familiar with all of the issues. I promise if you elect me, I will always try and do what's right for the community. I encourage you input and discussion. I understand the value of money.

"If elected I will do everything in my power to protect your tax dollars from being wasted. I will protect our quality of life in El Dorado Hills. I respectfully request your vote. It will be an honor to serve a community that I love so much."

Sunday L. Pearson

"I am deeply humbled by the privilege of running for city council and would be honored to have your vote.

"I have lived in El Dorado County for 10 years. I am married to a wonderful man, and we have two grown daughters. I regularly attend and am a member of Lakehills Covenant Church in El Dorado Hills, and was privileged to serve on their board of directors for three years.

"I belong to the National Association for Female Executives; attended the University of Maryland, European Campus; College of the Sequoias, Monterey Peninsula College, and USDA Graduate School.

"I am currently a Branch Chief at a federal engineering agency.

"I am for fiscal responsibility and spending accountability. I believe in well planned, controlled growth that will enhance the unique and sophisticated character of our beautiful city.

"I am committed to excellent schools, safe neighborhoods and community involvement. I am a strong advocate for youth and senior services.

"Managing multiple disciplines has taught me how to reach consensus with people of varying backgrounds and viewpoints. I am confident that together we will build a living environment unsurpassed on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada.

"I sincerely thank you for your vote."

Norm Rowett

"I'm running for City Council to preserve our unique community's 'quality of life', and to resolve our traffic congestion problems.

"I have been a resident of El Dorado Hills for 27 years and have served as a director on the El Dorado Hills CSD for 5 years.

"I'm a founding member of both the El Dorado Hills Area Planning Advisory Committee (APAC) and the El Dorado Hills Community Council.

"In 1966 John Hidahl and I co-founded the El Dorado Hills Incorporation movement to determine if incorporation would be viable for our community. For the past 5 years, I have served as the Vice Chairman of the El Dorado Hills Incorporation Committee and have lead the committee's incorporation project effort at LAFCO.

"I place a high priority on preserving open space, improving our quality of life and increasing the level of law enforcement in our community.

"If elected, I will strive to find equitable ways to properly fund and pay for road improvements, schools and public safety needs for our community.

"I respectfully request your vote of support for incorporation, and for city council.

David M. Trapani

Practices law in EDH. Three children attending EDH junior high and elementary schools. Active in EDH Jr Trojans football, soccer, basketball, gymnastics and other sports. Coached soccer & little league for three years.

Elected in November 2004 to the El Dorado Hills Community Services District Board (EDHCSD).

Seeks election as a city council member to continue successful growth of EDH.

Member of EDH Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club. Sponsor or volunteer: Chamber Serrano Golf Tournament. Chamber Casino Night, Rotary Crab Feed, Wine at Serrano, Food Bank's Holiday Food Drive.

Periodically writes 'Tips & Traps' legal articles for Village Life and El Dorado Hills Telegraph.

Represents residents in EDH on real estate matters, including representing EDH "Yellow House" owners in their 2002 court victory in 2002.

Key Issues for EDH: Supports full-scale Sheriff's office; Firm/Fair C,C &R enforcement; new fields/parks; expediting road maintenance/traffic reduction; working for insurance coverage for asbestos mitigation; working to bring lower energy costs to EDH; fighting government waste/cost overruns.

Charel Winston

"Having lived in El Dorado Hills for the past 10 years, I have witnessed its exciting growth.

"I grew up in Silicon Valley, where I established my successful start-up companies. I watched the technology develop into the strongest industry in the world. My vision is to see our community grow and prosper while maintaining a strong foundation of family values, tolerance, diversity and respect for all.

"I support cityhood for El Dorado Hills. We need fiscal responsibility and accountability, road and infrastructure development, maintenance and planning. We need responsible city members to make reasonable decisions for our city while ensuring that our goals for growth are well planned and in the best interest of our community, rather than self-serving.

"With my experience and financial expertise, I will seek to attract more information technology companies to our community.

"Further, I wish to develop and expand a variety of community services, such as an equestrian cooperative for our youth, and an affordable shuttle program for seniors and persons with disabilities, excluding extraneous public costs.

"As an energetic and civic-minded person, I look forward to serving all members of our growing community as your city council member dedicated to "making a difference."

Constance "Connie" Wyatt

"Having been elected to serve two terms as a director on the board of the El Dorado Hills Community Services District. I have an intimate understanding and broad experience with the issues facing our community.

"I have lived in El Dorado Hills' Waterford Village, for 15 years.

"As a local family law attorney with the Law Offices of Constance Wyatt Hasting, I bring both a legal background

and experience in family issues to the board.

"I currently serve on the Recreation and Community Park Acquisition Committees. I have previously served on all of the Board's committees, including the CC&R Communications and Parks and Planning Committees.

"My goals for our community include the establishment of premier services should El Dorado Hills become a city. I support more tennis courts and walking trails for the community and question the allocation of \$1 million on a skate park at this time.

"Asbestos is a big issue facing our community. I have worked closely with the board to guarantee that all appropriate measures will be taken to protect the health of our community. I love this community and I am dedicated to serving the community with integrity and pride."

- The above information and 'Statement of Candidate' for each city council candidate was compiled by Harriett B. Segel as a public service to enable residents to learn about the city council candidates.

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