



Shasta Environmental Alliance

P.O. Box 993777 • Redding, CA 96099 • ecoshasta.org

Shasta Environmental Alliance Newsletter October 2020

Shasta Environmental Alliance Questions for Redding City Council Candidates

Shasta Environmental Alliance posed six questions of environmental concern to all Redding City Council candidates; five of the six candidates responded. Anewscafe.com has been featuring all of our questions and the answers by the candidates with one candidate featured each day. You can also find the candidate photos, bios and questionnaire on our website at www.ecoshasta.org by clicking on the “Vote 2020” box. Photos are at the end of the questions. A file of the candidates’ answers is attached to this email.

Candidate answers to a new **Tree Ordinance**

QUESTION 1: Redding is losing its tree canopy. Do you support a new Tree Ordinance for Redding requiring mitigation fees for removal of our native oak trees similar to those enacted in many California cities, including Chico, Santa Rosa and Roseville with the funds used by the City to plant and maintain more street and park trees? (Note: This would *not* apply to individual lots with a home or business on it unless over 1/2 acre.)

ROBBINS: I support a new tree ordinance. I also would like to create a Green Public Works Program. Our city needs to become sustainable and also create new jobs. We can make this happen by expanding public works with a green public works program, including; mass-scale weatherization of commercial buildings and residences to reduce energy consumption and maximize efficiency, establishment of public neighborhood gardens to increase community self-sufficiency and food security.

MEZZANO: This is an excellent idea and it appears to have proved beneficial in other cities. I support the idea, with the understanding we continue to involve the Fire Marshall, Redding Electric Utilities, and our parks department. Establishing a protocol to ensure we protect the ecosystem is necessary. At present it appears the current ordinance in Redding might need review. As a councilmember I would welcome the opportunity to strengthen it in the interest of environmental progress. Current scientific research clearly shows the benefits of adding trees to our environment. A mitigation program requiring developers to replace trees they remove during development with environmentally friendly drought resistant trees is appropriate and in the best interest of our city and our residents.

WELIN: I support the city of Redding having discussions about how to best have a tree ordinance for our current/future residents. I believe trees are essential/beneficial for ecology/biology because trees offer a naturally beautiful way of shading and cooling down our valley. Trees are essential to consider when properties are being sold because trees do increase property values. Redding is known for having many bright sunny days. It would be amazing for people to know that our sunniest days, we have the most amazing shade/canopy. I am innately inclusive and I support discussions from a broad range of perspectives, from our Redding residents. So we together make the best for our whole community.

WINTER: I would be supportive of looking at our existing tree ordinance which has not been updated since 2006. COR needs to do a better job of enforcing our current tree ordinance so that existing trees survive surrounding development. We also need to make sure that new trees being added are appropriate for the conditions, and that they are planted in a way that they can thrive. I would also support enforcing any conditions of development that require trees to be maintained and replaced.

McELVAIN: I would consider a new ordinance but would need more information on the details of the mitigation. I am not familiar with the ordinances in the cities mentioned.

Real Estate Developers - 10 Shasta Lake Trees – 0

The Shasta Lake City Council approved a new Tree Conservation Ordinance at a City Council meeting on October 6.

The 2004 tree ordinance was enacted following wholesale cutting of an entire hillside of all trees and the outrage led to a new tree ordinance.

The old ordinance required planting of 3 new trees for every tree removed over 10 inches in diameter. This led to problems of where to plant the trees when large amounts of trees were required to be planted and then a required variance from the Planning Commission to allow an exception from the ordinance.

The new ordinance allows for payment of a mitigation fee in lieu of planting new trees. Unfortunately, the ordinance does not distinguish between a 10-inch wide tree and a 30 or 40 inch wide tree. This will allow a developer to cut down any size tree and either plant three saplings in 15-gallon containers (At \$50 a tree wholesale) or pay an as yet to be determined mitigation fee. As this mitigation fee change was done at the instigation of developers, expect few trees to be saved and little money in the City coffers. Any trees planted are only required to live for five years, another bone tossed to developers. If the trees die after five years, more land to pave.

In an ironic note, Jim Hamilton, who is a consultant Shasta Lake hired to revise the ordinance was Director of Development Services in 2006 when the Redding Tree Management Ordinance was developed by a panel of real estate development interests and planning staff, one of the weakest and loophole ridden ordinances I am aware of.

The proposed ordinance will result in the gradual denuding of the hills and flatlands of Shasta Lake. Thus, a win for developers and a loss for the citizens and trees of the City of Shasta Lake.

The vote was 4 to 1 with Mayor Janice Powell the only vote supporting Shasta Lake trees.

Sulphur Creek Cleanup (COVID Safe) Saturday Morning October 17



Shasta Environmental Alliance will lead a creek cleanup on Saturday morning, October 17, in a section of Sulphur Creek where the rare Sulphur Creek Brodiaea grows. This will be a COVID-safe event, using masks and social distancing safety guidelines, with the group cleanup limited to a maximum of 10 people. You will be helping clean up various scattered trash that has been littered or floated downstream. Help protect *Brodiaea matsonii*!

We will sort out the trash as to bottles, cans, etc., weigh and carry out. We will not be cleaning up homeless camps, just scattered trash. While we are requiring masks, no bandanas or face shields, you can take them off when you are working away from others. The creek bed is uneven, so you should have good balance to participate. The City of Redding Parks and Recreation Department will be loaning us grabbers, buckets and donating trash bags. Just bring yourselves, long pants, shoes, gloves and water. We should be done within two to three hours. To participate, contact David Ledger at dledger@sbcglobal.net.

Creek cleanup on your own schedule:

Do you want to participate in the cleanup and work alone or as a family unit? We can arrange that too and assign you to another area where you can work on your own schedule. Do you have a favorite creek or trail you would rather work on? That is okay too. Just contact us and we will see if we can get supplies to you, or you can use your own. This is the type of cleanup various environmental

Creek Cleanup (Continued)

groups are conducting throughout California, allowing people to be COVID-safe and clean up our environment.

We will have a sheet for you to keep a count of what types, amounts, and weights of trash you have collected and we can compare over the years. Gift certificates from **Sports LTD** and **Sprouts Farmers Market** will be given for: 1. the best photo; 2. the most trash collected; 3. the most unusual item; and 4. the largest item. Everything eventually ends up in the ocean, so this is a part of the Coastal Cleanup. Please participate and do your part!



Email dledger@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Sacramento River Trail Native Plant Walk Saturday morning, October 10

Shasta Environmental Alliance will lead a COVID-safe early fall colors plant identification walk through a Carr Fire burn area. This is a good time to review all of the plant names you may have forgotten! Walk leader and CNPS Conservation Chair David Ledger will explain the response of various plants along the trail following a fire, as well as identifying them, giving specific features to look for and each plant's adaptation to fire. If the group wishes, he can give more technical names of plant parts. We will also observe the hits and misses of a restoration project in the burn area. This will be a one to two-mile walk lasting about 90 minutes. To make this safe, everyone will be required to wear masks over nose and mouth; no bandanas, face shields or mask hanging off one ear! If we socially distance we can remove masks. Limited to 10 people including walk leader. To reserve a space, email dledger@sbcglobal.net.

Climate Change Class

Shasta College Community Education October 8, 15, & 22

Global Warming: Causes, Effects and Solutions. Global warming is a huge, complex issue, and a lot of the debate can become discouraging. This series will explore the scientific realities of greenhouse gases and their impacts; but most important, will focus on the many solutions that are just as positive for the economy as they are for the environment in which we live and thrive. Instructors: Pete Marsh and Dan Greaney For further information and to register go to: [Community Education Catalog](#)

Governor Gavin Newsom reappoints SEA Board Member Aleta Carpenter to State Board

SEA board member Aleta Carpenter was reappointed to the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians where she has served since 2016. She serves on many other boards and was a lobbyist and partner for Carpenter, Snodgrass and Associates prior to returning to her Shasta County roots. SEA is fortunate to have her many talents available to our board and membership. Congratulations Aleta!

Citizens Climate Lobby Virtual Postcard Project

The Redding Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby is participating in a virtual postcard project to support climate action and the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Tax. Anyone who is concerned about the climate crisis is invited to participate. To do so, write a brief testimonial, around 50 words, and provide a picture of yourself outdoors with something you love. The postcards will be compiled into a PowerPoint presentation and sent to our members of Congress. This is a project for the whole family, friends, and neighbors. Here is a link to the instructions and a template for the postcard.

<https://community.citizensclimate.org/resources/item/19/471>

Please send submissions to tplaga@sbcglobal.net by Friday, Oct. 23rd.

Rod Lindsay Memorial Service

A memorial service of several hundred people was held in Shasta Lake on September 26 to honor Native American leader Rod Lindsay. He was an environmentalist, former Shasta Lake mayor, city council member, planning commissioner, businessowner, Executive Director of Local Indians for Education (LIFE) among many other a titles he has held. He was an especially strong advocate and positive influence on Native American youth that they will carry with them into adulthood. He was a remarkable man.

Fall Native Plant Sale CNPS October 20 to 27

Fall is here! Shasta Chapter of CNPS is excited to announce that they will be holding their 2020 Online Fall Native Plant Sale for the public from Tuesday Oct 20 through Thursday October 29. They have 163 species to choose from!

Due to COVID-19, this year's native plant sales will be online. There will be two Saturdays for customers to come and pick up their orders at an off-site location. The observance of all COVID-19 protocols is encouraged and appreciated.

The income from the sales supports the Shasta Chapter's grants and scholarships. These benefit the public and students while supporting part of the CNPS mission to increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants.

Updated information is available about the online plant sale: <https://shasta-cnps.org/online-2020-fall-native-plant-sale-update/>

A Current Plant Availability List can be found at: <https://shasta-cnps.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/List-of-Online-2020-Native-Plant-Sale-Plants.pdf>. about the sale will continue to be released on the CNPS website at www.shasta-cnps.org.

W.A.T.E.R.

Siskiyou County based We Advocate Thorough Environmental Review reports that the McCloud water bottling contract with Artesian Springs water bottling and the McCloud Community Services District has been terminated WATER is now concerned about the next bottling company that may try to export McCloud's water supply

Please consider making a donation to Shasta Environmental Alliance; we can use your support for future actions. Go to our website at www.ecoshasta.org You can donate to SEA by mail at PO Box 993777. Redding, CA 96099 or going to our website at www.ecoshasta.org.

Thank you to the following individuals who are helping us with our work!

\$25 to \$99

Alexas Singer-Telles, Jim & Gayle Citta, John Livingston, John Springer, Steve and Cathy Callan, Gary Lauben, Ellen Suggs, Sharon Kennedy, Andrea Hughes, Janice Hunter, Jeff Morrow, John Deaton, Bob Madison, Daryl and Penny Harris, MaryAnn McCray, Belinda Higuera, Collette Streight, Tricia Hamelberg, Karen Hazeltine, John Livingston, Allen and Terry Craig, Kathy Grissom and Buck and Sue Lang,

\$100 to \$249

Pamela Sanchez, Connie Word, Aleta Carpenter, Anonymous, Karen Foss and Shelly Swanson, John Lefler, Doug Mandel, Dave Korman, Ron Dykstra, David Zoll, Bill Oliver, Doug Craig, David Ledger, George and Darlene Horn, Linda Materson, Mark and Molly Wood, Judy Salter, Bob and Diane Madgic, Shasta County Green Party, California Oak Coalition, Muffy Berryhill,

\$250 to \$499

Bea Currie, Lang Dayton, Bea Currie, Ray Pfister and Lisa Ross, Dave and Barb Klasson, Peter Waller

\$500 to \$999

Chris and Billie Harvey, Shasta Chapter, California Native Plant Society, Don and Laurie Burk, Shasta Group of Sierra Club, Wintu Audubon.

\$1000 & Up

Bob and Diane Madgic, Karen Little