

August 15th, 2016

Dear Candidate for Santa Cruz City Council,

Bike Santa Cruz County promotes bicycling through advocacy, education and community building. To allow our membership and the bicycling community at large to make informed decisions in the November election, we are distributing this questionnaire to you and your fellow candidates, and request that you respond by **Tuesday, September 6th** by email to director@bikesantacruzcounty.org. We sincerely thank you for taking time to respond.

The Bike Santa Cruz Steering Committee will determine our candidate endorsements based on responses to the questionnaires that we receive by the deadline. We may also consider other factors, such as voting records in office and achievements or community service that advance bicycling. We may endorse any number of candidates for any particular office, as our endorsement simply means that, in our opinion, a candidate will help improve conditions for people who ride bicycles.

Regardless of whether we endorse your candidacy, we will provide thousands of readers of our newsletter, website, online social media feeds, and membership emails with an analysis of your positions on transportation issues. We will publicize our endorsements through these channels as well as inform the press. If we endorse your candidacy, we will accept your campaign sign for display in our downtown office storefront window, and inform our members on how to help with your campaign.

1. **Do you currently ride a bicycle or use any other form of alternative transportation?**

I own two bicycles, a mountain bike I use every day and a touring bike as a back-up. I ride to work at UCSC 3-4 days each week, use the bicycle on trips around town, and also own a Nissan Leaf electric vehicle. In addition, I have purchased a Metro bus pass consistently for the past 12 years and frequently use the Metro bike racks.

1. **What specific accomplishments and qualifications demonstrate your capacity to improve the transportation system in your community/district?**
2. I worked with the cycling, business (Seaside Co.), and neighborhood communities to achieve a two-way bike path on Beach Street. In addition, I worked with the staff of the SC city public works department to bring about policy changes to develop what has proven to be a quite effective contra-flow bike path on High Street.
3. I worked together with the bike community and public works department to put in bicycle parking along Pacific Ave. while serving on the SC city council from 1998 to 2002.
4. I worked closely with the city council to approve additional bike lanes around the city, including what was rather contentious at the time, Soquel Ave.
5. I supported bike shuttles up to campus from downtown
6. I labored to get bicycle advocate, Micah Posner, elected to the city council
7. I served on the steering committee of bike advocates, Leonie Sherman and Bruce Van Allan’s city council campaigns in 2014.
8. Led in the direction of city staff (through city manager) to place additional bike parking throughout the city as a member of the city council.
9. Kicked of the first “Santa Cruz National Bicycle Greenway (NBG( Fest” in 2002 (see: https://nationalbicyclegreenway.wordpress.com/)
10. I’ve been an advocate for bicycle lanes around all local schools.
11. As part of my job at UCSC I’ve sent interns to work on Ecology Action’s “Bike Smart” program.
12. I’ve advocated for monetary incentives and supported expanding bicycle taxi programs in Santa Cruz.
13. I participated in efforts to help make the Critical Mass bike ride less chaotic and more symbolically important to furthering the needs and interests of the riding community.
14. **The City of Santa Cruz has stated Climate Action Plan goals that include doubling bike ridership, reducing car trips to elementary and secondary schools by 30%, and decreasing single occupancy vehicle use by 10% by 2020. How do you plan to lead the City in achieving those goals?**
15. I would advocate making additional bike space on Metro buses, and for the use of more bike shuttles up to the university.
16. I support funding for bicycle education programs such as “Bike Smart,” in the schools.
17. Actively mediating (hearings, meetings) between the business community’s parking concerns on Soquel and Water Streets and the relevant and wise expansion of safe riding spaces for cyclists.
18. I would support bringing a bicycle sharing system in Santa Cruz. I have used successful ones in Minneapolis, New York City, and Paris.
19. I would also suggest bringing back the electric car free parking in downtown Santa Cruz not only as an incentive for car drivers, but as a community model for how we want our city to be portrayed and to advocate for the kind of changes that need to be made if climate change is to be mitigated.
20. Expand bicycle valet parking and create and look into creating permanent ones in highly trafficked areas like downtown, the base of campus, and in the beach area.
21. Creating safe biking lanes so that more Santa Cruzans might feel free to leave their cars home and ride safely across town.
22. **Planning is underway for the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail, a multi-use path along the rail line from Davenport to Pajaro. If you support this trail, how will you get the remaining City of Santa Cruz segment, which runs between the Eastside of the San Lorenzo River and 17th Avenue, built in the next 4 years?**

My first priority would be to complete (build) the rail-trail through the city of Santa Cruz and pursue state, federal and private funding to complete “segment 9.” I agree with the Land Trust estimation that it would be more beneficial to complete a bridge remodel for $1.5 million on the Trestle bridge over the river than spend $8 million on a new bridge. I would work in pursuing this project as well.

1. **Do you support a train or other public transportation along the rail line as part of a rail with trail facility?**

Yes. I support a noise reducing trolley or tram alongside the trail. I’ve also come to believe that the purchase of this rail line, similar to perhaps the Highline Park in NYC, will end up being one of the most visionary projects ever undertaken by our region.

1. **In many cases, adding new facilities for people on bikes requires parking removal. How would you balance the concerns of people on bikes with those of who oppose removal of parking spaces?**

The next city council has to hold hearings and bring together the business, residential, and biking communities around the significant issues that each part sees as integral to their lives. There is room for agreement and compromise here.

1. **Implementing innovative bike treatments like** [**protected bikeways**](http://nacto.org/publication/urban-bikeway-design-guide/cycle-tracks/one-way-protected-cycle-tracks/) **has been shown to dramatically increase bike ridership in cities across the U.S. Do you consider these facilities to be of value? If so, how would you propose to implement them in your district?**

YES.

1. **Santa Cruz County is consistently ranked #1 or #2 in the state for cyclist injuries and fatalities. What steps would you take to improve safety for people on bikes?**

1. programs to educate both youth and adults on bicycle safety
2. promote helmet and light giveaways as well as free bike safety inspection programs. The city could partner with the business community and advocate safe cycling zones focusing on the corridors where injuries occur most often.
3. Dedicate a roving “public safety cycling officer” not to fine riders, but to advise them on bike safety procedures and current laws.
4. The city could and should actively promote safe cycling, safe cycling routes and be working towards creating even more safe cycling routes.
5. **How do you plan to create new safe routes to schools in your district?**

(see above policy suggestions.)

1. **Do you support removing automobile traffic from Brookwood, so as to create a 2-way bicycle and pedestrian route to the Prospect Heights neighborhood?**

I would like to see this project happen and I would work toward a positive outcome for neighbors, city engineers, and councilmembers.

1. **How would you improve King Street for bicyclists?**

I believe consensus could be found among neighbors along King Street similar to the Berkeley bike boulevard program. I would favor this. I have had experience working with public works through the city manager’s office on other projects such as the landfill, yard waste recycling program, closing Pacific Ave. on Halloween for kids to Trick or Treat, and getting additional benches around the downtown. Each of these projects required negotiation, listening to the community and the staff and reaching well-reasoned decision.

1. **What else would you like our members to know about you? Please include how your campaign can be contacted, such as your website, email, telephone, Facebook page, or other methods you want to share.**
* I’ve placed over 5000 student interns on campus and in the community over the past twelve years at UCSC.
* I speak fluent Spanish and I lived in Latin America for almost 5 years (Mexico, Nicaragua and Costa Rica).
* I’m a journalist too and you can find stories I wrote this summer at the Democratic and Republican conventions at BerkelyDailyPlanet.com
* Campaign web site: Krohn4Council.com, ChrisKrohnforCityCouncil.org
* Email: Ckrohn@cruzio.com
* 831-454-6170
* Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/Krohn4Council/