ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION

TITLE: At-Large Director Candidate Statements

CANDIDATES:

- 1. Chris Curry
- 2. Raeesa Hyder
- 3. Jakob Meuser
- 4. Steven Paddock
- 5. Benjamin Szeghy
- 6. Bill Mardini
- 7. Kathy Rodriguez

Chris Curry

Los Angeles, CA 90066

July 20, 2023

To: Mar Vista Community Council (MVCC) Board of Directors

Re: Candidate for Vacant Director-At-Large Position

Sent via email to chair@marvista.org

Dear Members of the MVCC Board,

My name is Chris Curry. I grew up in Zone 2 in the house where my mother still lives. Growing up I played Little League baseball at Mar Vista Park. I attended Richland Avenue Elementary and then Daniel Webster Junior High School, before going to University High School. After living in Santa Monica and Brentwood, I moved back to Mar Vista in 2002 with my wife and two young daughters. Our daughters are grown and out of the house, but my wife and I still live in our Stoner Avenue home within Zone 3.

I have over 35 years of real estate development experience and I have developed residential and commercial properties all over the country. I am currently President of Caranda Holdings, LLC. Prior to launching Caranda, I was Senior EVP, Acquisitions and Development for The Howard Hughes Corporation (NYSE: HHC). As one of the founding employees of HHC, a spin-off of General Growth Properties, which went public in November 2010. I was instrumental in building the company and transforming struggling assets into vibrant destinations and the country's most sought-after communities. I am also currently serving on the Westside Community Plans Advisory Group (WCPAG) created by the Department of City Planning to assist its Westside Community Plans Update team in evaluating the initial draft community plan materials.

I received an M.B.A. in Finance from New York University and earned a B.S. in Business Administration from California State University, Northridge. I am also a licensed real estate broker in California.

I have been a Stakeholder in the MVCC area for most of my life and I am hoping to bring my experience and perspective to the MVCC Board as an At-Large Director.

Please see the attached page of signatures I have obtained from MVCC Stakeholders in support of my candidacy.

Best

Chris Curry Candidate for At-Large Director

We support Chris Curry's Candidacy for the vacant MVCC At-Large Director position.

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We support Chris Curry's Candidacy for the vacant MVCC At-Large Director position.

Subject: Statement of Candidacy for Mar Vista Community Council

Date: Monday, August 7, 2023 at 9:43:39 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Raeesa Hyder

To: Chair@marvista.org

Dear Members of the Mar Vista Community,

I am excited to announce my candidacy for a seat on the Mar Vista Community Council as an At-Large Director. I am a mother of two toddlers and live, work, and own property here in Mar Vista. I love this community, and am dedicated to investing my time and energy into fostering diversity, inclusivity, and vibrancy in collaboration with other MVCC board members, committees, and stakeholders.

My professional background is in nonprofit development, and I am currently the Director of Advancement for 826LA, a local organization that provides free writing programs for students ages 6-18 all over Los Angeles Unified School District. I oversee all fundraising, events, digital campaigns, internal and external communications, major donor stewardship, institutional giving, and production of student publications. I have a background working with organizations as big as the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and as small as Center for Council (a \$1M fiscally sponsored project of Community Partners), so I am well-versed in community-building and have a deep understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities that Mar Vista faces.

If elected, I pledge to:

<u>Promote Inclusivity</u>: I am committed to ensuring that all voices in our community are heard and represented. I will actively seek out input from underrepresented groups to ensure that decisions made by the council are truly reflective of our diverse population.

<u>Enhance Community Wellbeing</u>: I aim to improve the quality of life for all of our residents by advocating for safe public spaces and accessible recreational opportunities that bring neighbors of all demographics together.

<u>Support Local Businesses</u>: A thriving local economy benefits us all. I will collaborate with local businesses to find innovative ways to support their growth, while also maintaining the unique character of our neighborhood.

<u>Uplift the Arts</u>: Mar Vista is home to so many creatives, and there is much potential to spotlight the bustling arts & culture scene in our neighborhoods. I look forward to working with community stakeholders to create more opportunities for people to engage with local arts.

I am personally and professionally invested in Mar Vista's future, and am eager to contribute to the Mar Vista Community Council. I appreciate your consideration.

Warm Regards,

Raeesa Hyder

Raeesa A. Hyder

Steven Paddock

Council members and stakeholders,

I would like to be considered for the vacant At-Large position on the Mar Vista Community Council

I have run for this position in both 2021 and 2023 and have volunteered for the Planning and Land-Use Management (PLUM) Committee during this recent term. I look forward to giving back to the community as an At- Large Director. With no pre-determined agenda, I just have the desire to give back to my community. My family and I have lived in Mar Vista since 2010 and have seen our street and the neighborhood develop into a family friendly community with kids and families playing and gathering both weekends and holidays.

I bring over 25 years' experience working as an architect on a multitude of building types ranging from multifamily, commercial, and single-family residences, some within our Mar Vista community.

If appointed, I would like to share my knowledge and understanding as well as my perspective from both a development and a homeowner's point of view. I do not pretend to know how to solve every issue, however my primary skill as an architect is to problem solve, working with stakeholders to develop a solution that works for everyone.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to give back to the community as an At-Large Director for the Mar Vista Community Council

Best

Stephen Paddock

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION

Jakob Meuser

My name is Jakob Meuser. I'm currently in my third year at Loyola Law School and a member of the Transportation, Infrastructure and Sustainability Committee. I'm not a native Angeleno, but I've come to love this city over the past 6 years, and Mar Vista in particular. This council has a lot of power to build a better community and bring its residents closer together. But to do that requires passion and ideas, two things that I will certainly bring if you select me to be an at large director.

My parents were not very involved in the neighborhood where I was raised. I've found it incredibly refreshing to come to MVCC meetings and be able to connect with other members of my community, especially in a post-covid world that often feels so disconnected. I don't think I am alone in feeling this way. In this new world where everyone has been pushed into their remote bubbles, this is our chance to harness people's desire for human connection and come out of this pandemic with a more vibrant and lively community.

I have many big goals that I would like to work with you to achieve. I want to work with Derl to organize local neighborhood trash pickups as a way for neighbors to meet MVCC and each other. I want to think outside the box in terms of outreach and get more committed community members of all ages involved. And I want to make it safer to walk around our beautiful community.

I showed up at my first meeting in May because I wanted to add a traffic safety feature on my street. I know there are plenty more community members like me who would like to get involved but just don't know about the council system. I would like to help reach them with you.

Thank you,

Jakob Meuser Zone 1

Benjamin Szeghy

I have been a proud Mar Vista resident my entire life. I will fight to protect the things we Mar Vistans stand for: compassion, equality, accessibility, and community. I am a middle and elementary school assistant teacher and college student. I look forward to bringing my voice as a member of the younger generation into the conversation of our neighborhood's future. I will expand volunteering and leadership for Mar Vista's young people, fight for community safety that serves all residents equally, and bring Open Government to MVCC. I will strive to be a thoughtful representative for all my neighbors.

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION

Kathy Rodriguez

Hello,

I served as an at large candidate in the last election. I would like to be considered for the at large position.

Thank you,

Kathy Rodriguez