

Randy Rowse

Hi, my name is Randy Rowse, and I currently serve you on City Council. Many of you know me from the nearly 30 years I've owned the Paradise Café downtown. Over those years, I've gotten to know quite a few of you. I've watched your kids grow up, I've employed some of your kids, and I've listened to your concerns about Santa Barbara. I've served on various boards and commissions with many of you, providing the type of volunteer community service that is essential to provide the balanced input and advice that guides our elected officials.

This past December, I was given the opportunity to join our City Council, and to help put into action many of the vital steps this community sees as important to keep our city safe, clean and prosperous.

For the first time in a decade, we have finally reversed the trend of an ever-shrinking police presence on our streets by authorizing more sworn officers. We further enhanced our business-district security with the creation of a non-sworn citizen's liaison patrol. We've taken a different and more proactive approach in dealing with street transient issues and our service dependent population. Finally, we have begun to replenish our reserve funds that came so close to being completely depleted in recent years.

But our work is far from done. Our General Plan update has been many years and many dollars in the works. We have worked to find a compromise that will allow our plan, a plan for the next 20 years to come to fruition. A plan that is based on neighborhood input and market realities.

Santa Barbara's natural beauty is known throughout the world and our environmental concerns have always taken top priority. Our beaches and creeks must be clean. We must move toward policies that ensure ever-improving air quality. Our oceans must be protected from the types of debris effluent that are the by-product of oceanfront populations. I am working with local grocers and the California Grocer's Association to involve industry in helping to reduce the amount of plastic used and to invite people to change their habits by supporting reusable bag programs.

I currently serve as the chairman of the Solid Waste Committee, and we are exploring better ways to provide better service, reduce the amount of material put into our landfills and reduce the rates that residents pay for trash service.

I've worked with, and sometimes in opposition to, various Santa Barbara city councils over the years. Our current City council is as diverse politically and philosophically as any I can remember in my 40 years of living in Santa Barbara. This team of seven individuals is working in a cohesive, non-partisan way to finally move forward on many of the issues that have been mired by politics in the past. So let's not go back there. I will need your help to maintain this positive trajectory towards a safe, clean and economically vibrant Santa Barbara.

Please Vote this November 8th, and when you do, please vote for Randy Rowse.