

**Candidate:** Kristi Becker

**Background:** Former trial attorney, former deputy county counsel. Former service on Solana Beach's Parks & Recreation Commission, currently serves on city's Climate Action Commission.

**Website:** <https://www.kristibecker4solanabeach.org/>

**On the issues:**

**Local Development:**

I support the type of progress that maintains the unique character of our neighborhoods, the eclectic buildings in our commercial areas, and accessibility to the beach, golf courses and parks. Maintaining this as we develop is what I mean by supporting Sustainable Progress. When reviewing new development, I promise to mitigate negative impacts from traffic, noise, lack of parking and loss of views so our City continues to develop in a sustainable manner.

**Affordable Housing:**

I believe that regardless of income, everyone deserves quality housing that they can afford. I support and see as a priority the development of affordable housing in our City. Solana Beach has a state-certified Housing Element in its General Plan that identifies several areas for affordable housing. The City Council demonstrated its commitment to affordable housing offering City owned parking lots along Sierra Avenue as possible affordable housing sites.

**Short-term Rentals:**

I'm in favor of the City's required 7 day minimum for short term rentals. This minimum was negotiated with the California Coastal Commission. I believe enforcement needs to be substantially improved and enforcement must a high priority so neighbors are not negatively impacted.

**The Del Mar Resort:**

As currently proposed, I oppose this project. The bluff is currently zoned for only 18-22 Estate homes, but developers are asking to rezone it to the highest density zoning. If you have seen the story poles, you know how oversized and out of scale this project is with our community. The impacts on traffic, views and character of our City will be immense and change our City forever. I will work to have our City hire expert consultants to analyze and address the negative impacts so that our position is addressed in the Environmental Impact Report. If however, the developer were to mitigate the negative impacts to our City, I would welcome the opportunity to review and consider a substantially reduced proposal.

**Eden Gardens, La Colonia Park and gentrification:**

There is a sense that Eden Gardens is losing its community character with all of the new development. There are parking problems that are getting worse with more development. Also, the sidewalks are narrow and when you put development right up to the sidewalk, the massing and scale of the buildings materially change the character of the area.

We need to listen to the Community of Eden Gardens to see what residents want to do. There is an option of modified development standards to preserve the scale and character of this neighborhood.

A master plan was created several years ago for La Colonia Park which listed a redo of parts of the Community Center, but the City lost funding when Gov Brown eliminated redevelopment agencies during the recession. The City is steadily improving things like the Veterans memorial, remodeling the Community center with a second classroom, and recently with the skate park and the recent acquisition of the land next to the skate park which will expand the area by 19%. We should listen to the community to see what they would like to do with the area such as creating a soccer field.

**Lomas Santa Fe Corridor Updates:**

On September 26, 2018, the City Council approved a resolution to eliminate the roundabout option and to study the striping option. All four lanes plus turning lanes will remain. When the study is complete, then the City Council will hold a Workshop and a public meeting to receive comments, including via email. Each of the over 400 residents who have previously commented will receive notification of these opportunities so they can weigh in. I support this process.

**Solana Energy Alliance:**

Last year our City established the Solana Energy Alliance (“SEA”) which gives residents and businesses the option to buy cheaper electricity (3% less than SDG&E) with a higher percentage of electricity from renewable sources. This creates a competitive alternative to SDG&E. SEA is self-funded and does not use taxpayer dollars. In addition to providing lower rates, SEA generates a small profit for our City (instead of the profits for SDG&E), which result in money our Council can invest in our community. Based on my experience as a Commissioner on the City’s Climate Action Commission, I am uniquely qualified to work as a watchdog to ensure SEA is successfully managed and is financially beneficial for our residents and businesses.

**The Budget:**

As a small business owner and a single mom, I understand how to manage finances. Review and analysis of the City’s budget confirms that Solana Beach is fiscally strong and has adequate reserves. Our City has set aside funds for future maintenance of City assets, we are dealing with our pension liability, and we maintain good reserves. Approximately 60% of our budget goes to public safety, which keeps our City one of the safest in the County. I will continue to guide our expenditures in a fiscally conservative manner and ensure the City does not unnecessarily spend taxpayer money.