



## **Luz Gomez for San Ramon City Council**

### **Campaign Platform 2020**

#### **Shaping our Growth, Thinking of the Future**

- ❖ Any new development needs to be thoughtfully planned. The City needs to include residents in every step of the planning process. We must consider quality of life issues, traffic congestion, plus added demand for child-care, education, parks, sewer, water and other infrastructure. Will there be new parks with amenities for all residents? How will architectural design impact the character of the community? How will the project plan to mitigate any impacts, especially traffic? Will the buildings be energy efficient, LEED Certified, or use green building practices? Will the buildings still use natural gas or will they move to non-fossil fuel energy only? How much energy will solar panels offset? How many EV charging stations will be installed? These are just some of the questions that I will be asking.
- ❖ San Ramon exists in the context of the Tri-Valley and the broader Bay Area Region. I believe the City can play an increasingly important role in regional decision-making by having strong and thoughtful participation on the Boards of regional agencies like the Air District, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Association of Bay Area Governments, and other regional transportation agencies. Without strong representation, our interests go unheard and our needs unmet. I will seek to be appointed to key regional bodies to represent our interests and the interests of residents in our region.
- ❖ San Ramon also exists in the context of the State and Federal governments. Legislative decisions greatly impact local communities. San Ramon needs to be a strong player with the League of California Cities, and build relationships with statewide and federal partners to advocate for local needs, and balanced local control.
- ❖ We need to make San Ramon a welcoming place for the next generation trying to raise a family here. The City must address housing affordability by increasing the supply of affordable units and use best practices to incorporate these into the fabric of the community.
- ❖ My motto is “Always be Prepared.” The City needs to do a resiliency study: how will San Ramon fare under future climate change scenarios? How will we do with a big earthquake? How prepared are residents, especially seniors and other vulnerable residents? How will we prepare for the next pandemic? Or for wildfires?

- ❖ We need to promote CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) trainings through Homeowner Associations.
- ❖ We need to promote community policing, the neighborhood watch program, and much more civic engagement.

### **Less Traffic, Safer Streets, Better Transportation Options**

- ❖ We can decrease congestion by providing more incentives for carpools and helping residents use alternatives to single-occupancy cars.
- ❖ I will fight to mitigate traffic congestion and insist on smart planning for future growth.
- ❖ Residents would like better bike and pedestrian infrastructure and we need to revisit the existing bike master plan. I would propose an Active Transportation Master Plan instead.
- ❖ Establish an incentive program for families who work in San Ramon to also LIVE in San Ramon. This will decrease the need to commute and promote walking/biking to work.
- ❖ A large portion of San Ramon is ideal for biking. I will propose a network of electric bikes to be available throughout the city and seek enhancements to the Iron Horse Trail to increase its usefulness as a route for local bike commuters, while keeping pedestrians safe.
- ❖ One of my priorities will be to increase the number of residents who walk or bike to work, school and other common destinations.
- ❖ Iron Horse Trail: Establish an East Bay Regional Park District/City partnership to beautify the trail – benches, trees, shade, maps and interpretive signs and a community garden. Identify what pieces of the Iron Horse Trail Corridor study deserve implementation in San Ramon.
- ❖ I will prioritize providing affordable and safe transportation for children, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities.
- ❖ I will be a strong proponent of the Safe Routes to School program to encourage more young people to walk and bike safely to school.

### **A Healthy City in Every Way**

- ❖ Plan for the COVID-19 Economic Recovery phase to ensure the financial health of the city. Partner with the Small Business Administration and Contra Costa’s Small business development program to help struggling small businesses. Assess the needs of large businesses. Create a COVID-19 Economic Recovery Task Force to address these issues.
- ❖ Support anti-vaping ordinance including flavored tobacco.
- ❖ Ensure the City is prepared for the next pandemic. Maintain a network of volunteers. Create an online confidential list of vulnerable residents so we can respond to them first in the event of an emergency.
- ❖ Protect air quality – embrace anti-idling policies, work to decrease congestion, ensure that the city’s maintenance equipment meets the latest clean-air standards.

- ❖ Explore an Integrated Pest Management policy for the city. It would decrease the use of pesticides and herbicides in parks and other landscaped areas.
- ❖ Partner with the School District to support health-promoting policies and review their Wellness Policy.
- ❖ Ensure the fiscal health of the city by increasing our rainy day fund, and working with the County to ensure fair return to source of property taxes.
- ❖ Partner with EBRPD to host events on the Iron Horse Trail and Bishop Ranch wilderness area to promote safe physical activity.

### **Protecting the Environment, Promoting Sustainable Practices**

- ❖ I will fight for the City to help develop the MUDD's Property Park and re-vitalize Crow Canyon Gardens. This effort can't be just a resident-led effort. The City and local businesses need to fully participate in its future.
- ❖ Create a Sustainability Commission to update and ensure implementation of the City's next Climate Action Plan.
- ❖ Update the City's 2011 Climate Action Plan to reflect new goals for climate protection and integrate actions from the Air District's Regional Climate Protection Strategy.
- ❖ Support an ordinance to ban Styrofoam and single-use plastics.
- ❖ Propose that San Ramon join the Cleaner Contra Costa Challenge.
- ❖ Join the County's efforts to have more EV charging stations than gas stations.
- ❖ Upgrade San Ramon's municipal electricity to 100% renewable energy through MCE's "Deep Green" program.
- ❖ Lead a resident "Go Deep Green" campaign with Sustainable San Ramon/Sustainable Contra Costa to encourage residents to enroll in the 100% renewable energy option with MCE.
- ❖ Partner with MCE and the Air District to install more EV charging stations at City facilities.
- ❖ Work to decarbonize (not use natural gas) and increase energy efficiency in the city's buildings.
- ❖ Ban glyphosate use by the city.
- ❖ Explore ways to limit or ban polluting and noisy gas-powered leaf blowers and landscaping equipment.
- ❖ Explore adopting the Air District's model Solar Ordinance.
- ❖ Draft a resolution urging our Federal Representatives to support urgent climate action such as a carbon fee and dividends at the National level.
- ❖ Host Go Green Initiative interns to assist with some of these initiatives

### **Listening to Residents, Keeping us Safe**

- ❖ Revise the Planning Commission Appeals process to have truly fair hearings for appeals
- ❖ I want to increase opportunities for our residents to participate in transportation and mobility decision-making in San Ramon. While we have the Transportation Advisory

Committee and the Transportation Demand Management Advisory Committee, I would like to create an Active and Alternative Transportation Committee in San Ramon.

- ❖ Plan for the COVID-19 Recovery: Hold a town hall meeting to identify top priority needs and solicit ideas from the community. Consider forming a COVID-19 Recovery Resident Task Force.
- ❖ Respond to calls to improve and increase recreational and extracurricular offerings at our community centers and libraries.
- ❖ Promote civic engagement - Capitalize on COVID Volunteerism – create a resident volunteer task force
- ❖ Plan, sponsor, or support more community events in every neighborhood. An engaged community is a safer community.
- ❖ Support our first responders – make sure they are properly staffed, trained, and equipped.
- ❖ Listen to resident ideas to decrease property crime and incorporate their thoughts whenever possible.

This is only a sample of the many ideas I have to improve things in San Ramon. I want to hear your ideas. What are your hopes and dreams for San Ramon? Visit [www.luzforsanramon.com/contact](http://www.luzforsanramon.com/contact) to share your thoughts.