

# Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors

## **Magdalena Carrasco**

Supervisor, District 3

Councilmembers, City of San Jose

### *Top 3 priorities citywide*

1. Public Safety
2. Health care
3. Affordable Housing/Transportation

### *1. Who is your Campaign Manager?*

Campaign Consultants: Michael Terris/Alex Macapinlac/Terris, Barnes & Walters

### *2. What is your Campaign Budget?*

\$250,000 (Primary)

### *3. Please share your Top Ten Endorsements:*

Kevin de Leon, Former President Pro Tem, State Senate Supervisor Cindy Chavez, County of Santa Clara, District 2 Assemblymember Ash Kalra, Assembly District 27 Senator Bob Wieckowski, Senate District 10 Senator Jim Beall, Senate District 15 Councilmember Raul Peralez, City of San Jose, District 3 Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, City of San Jose, District 8 Councilmember Bob Nuñez, City of Milpitas Councilmember Carmen Montaña, City of Milpitas Peter Ortiz, Trustee, Santa Clara County Board of Education, District 6

### *4. Would you support or oppose a 3 county ballot initiative for a permanent 1/8 cent sales tax to fund Caltrain?*

Support

I would support the measure if placed on the November 2022 ballot. Caltrain is a vital public transportation option for daily commuters and people who live in Gilroy, San Jose, the Peninsula and San Francisco. With an expected influx of riders, there needs to be secure funding in place to upgrade the trains, put more trains into service during high commute hours and expand weekend and evening service. The burden cannot continue to go on the rider in the form of fare increases. If you price out young people, seniors and low-income people you risk losing riders. The more people willing to take public transportation eases the number of cars on the road, leading to less traffic congestion and lower pollution emissions.

### *5. Do you support funding to complete a valley to valley connection through high speed rail?*

Support

I support the high speed rail but it needs to be handled in a fiscally responsible manner – and as voters had intended. Having a connector throughout our Valley and the Bay Area would help get cars off the road and encourage more people to take public transportation. We do however,

need to make sure that our communities are not affected in the building of the rail and that community outreach is done far in advance to be responsive to residents' concerns.

6. *Would you support a measure dedicated to build and operate a world class, seamless integrated transit system to better serve Bay Area residents, funded through a one cent sales tax, to better serve the transit dependent and those of us still in our cars?*

Support

Yes, I would be open to supporting a nine-county measure. I would want to ensure that in the planning process that Santa Clara County and disenfranchised communities get their fair share of the funding and projects. Connectivity of our public transit system needs to be better in order to get people out of their cars and into transit, and for those that still need to drive we need to ensure that gridlock becomes a thing of the past. As a member of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), I worked to help get light rail to East San Jose. Residents in East San Jose had very few options to take public transportation. The light rail will help reduce traffic and help connect East San Jose to the rest of the Bay Area. The same goes for BART to San Jose and the improvements at Diridon Station. The Silicon Valley and Bay Area lead the world in innovation and it is time that we have a transit system that reflects that same know-how.

7. *Would you support using County land for housing and affordable housing, including the former San Jose City Hall land and the County Fairgrounds?*

Support

I support exploring any idea that will help build more affordable housing. The average apartment rent is over \$2,000 a month in the Silicon Valley. People can no longer afford to live in the area, and many have moved away. Others work multiple jobs or work paycheck-to-paycheck to make rent or pay their mortgage. The reality is that at any moment members of vulnerable communities could become homeless because of the skyrocketing rents. If the County has usable land then we must do everything to try and turn it into housing. We cannot wait any longer to build housing. We need creative solutions that help get families and children off the streets and into homes.

8. *Do you support the general principle of employers needing to fully mitigate/build the housing for all the jobs they produce?*

Support

I support the idea of everyone pitching in to help solve the housing crisis, but I do not support it being on just on the businesses and private sector entirely. Together, I think we can work together to find a way to find partnerships and places we can collaborate to build more housing and continue to create jobs.

9. *Would you support a measure, such as Measure F, that regulates the amount that health care providers may charge for services?*

Oppose

I am not familiar with Measure F but I am interested in learning more before taking a position. I am open to meeting with all stakeholders before making a decision.

*10. Do you support requiring all new buses purchased with federal funds be zero-emission beginning on October 1, 2029 (which is California's deadline for transitioning all transit bus purchases to zero-emission buses)?*

Support

I do support requiring all new buses purchased with federal funds be zero-emission beginning in October 2029. We cannot wait any longer to get pollutants out of our air which are caused by outdated buses. Clean energy makes an immediate impact on our communities. Buses are also very important to the public transportation system so we should look for ways to continue to provide service but at a healthy cleaner rate to our environment.

*11. Will you work with the Silicon Valley Leadership Group to secure additional funding to protect our region and help advance a common vision for a healthy and resilient SF Bay?*

Support

I support taking coordinated action against floods and sea level rise across the entire Bay Area. Locally, East San Jose was flooded due to the overflowing of the creek that runs through local neighborhoods. Hundreds of people lost their homes and belongings because of inadequate planning. Partnering locally, regionally and statewide to protect us from floods and other natural disasters is vital to the safety of residents.

*12. Do you support or oppose a proposed amendment to Proposition 13?*

Support

I am not 100% familiar with the Prop 13 amendment but I am interested in learning more before taking a position. However we know our urban schools have suffered since the implementation of Prop 13 in the 1970s. A one prestigious system in now in the bottom 40's in the nation. However, property taxes funds schools, so we must balance the needs of the sixth largest economy and our struggling public education system. I am open to meeting with all stakeholders before making a firm decision.

*13. If a public charter school's petition is approved to operate within your local school district, meaning their proposal meets key pupil outcomes as indicated by state law, would you approve the school's bid to rent or build facilities beyond those already owned by the district?*

Support

As a parent of children who attended charter schools and traditional public schools and a former School Board Trustee, I know the amount of decision making by local districts it takes to approve a charter school application. I do think that if the charter school meets all the requirements and is approved by the local board then they should be able to utilize areas of land or buildings that are up to code to build a school as long as the chartering district approves it. Traditional public schools deserve to be fully funded. We cannot give up on students and families that do not attend charters.

*14. Tell us about a time when you were opposed to a position of one of your major supporters.*

*What was the issue? How did you handle this situation?*

I respectfully disagreed with the Realtors not long ago. CRA supported my campaign in 2014, we parted ways during the rent control and tenant protection policy changes. I did so because I represent an immigrant and Latino district, many are affected by the surging rents and the rapid gentrification happening the neighborhoods they have called home for decades. It was sworn duty to protect them from becoming homeless. However, I continue to meet with CRA on numerous housing issues in our Valley, we must all work together to make sure everyone has a home under their head.