

Application Form

Profile

Paul _____ R _____ Detjens _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Home Address _____ Suite or Apt _____
 Martinez _____ CA _____ 94553 _____
 City State Postal Code

Primary Phone _____

Email Address _____

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 5

Contra Costa County Public Works / Flood Control (now retired) _____ Senior Civil Engineer (until April 2023 retirement) _____
 Employer Job Title

Length of Employment

32 years

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

5

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

33 years

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

Yes No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

East Bay Regional Park District's Park Advisory Committee - BOS Appointee: Submitted

Seat Name

EBRPD Park Advisory Committee - BOS Appointee

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

Yes No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

3

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

UC Davis

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

BS Civil Engineering

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses**Other Training A**

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Registered Professional Engineer (California, Civil)

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience**Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.**

I have recently retired after 32 years of service to Contra Costa County, and I wish to continue my public service and give back to my community. I believe in good functioning government and robust public participation, and serving on advisory panels is a way to help that effort. The EBRPD Park Advisory Committee has been on my radar for a number of years. I personally know a number of current and former Park Advisory Committee members and have heard many details from them about the committee's functions and activities. They noted that my skills would be a good fit for the important work that the committee does. I could not reasonably participate in the Park Advisory Committee while I was employed by Contra Costa County, but now that I'm retired, and especially now that the current appointee is terming out, I feel I have much to offer, and this is my time to apply. If appointed, I would bring strong, diverse qualifications to the position, as described in detail in the next question.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

I am extremely well qualified for this appointment for a number of diverse reasons: 1. I am very familiar with EBRPD facilities. I am a long time (30+ years) park user, primarily those in Contra Costa County. I hike 250+ miles / year in EBRPD parks. 2. I am very familiar with EBRPD staff and Board members. In fact, I heard about this upcoming vacancy from two EBRPD board members, Colin Coffey and John Mercurio. Through my decades of work with the Contra Costa County Public Works Department / Flood Control District, I have worked closely with EBRPD real estate, planning and park maintenance staff on a number of existing, new and planned EBRPD facilities, including the northern extension of the Iron Horse Trail along Lower Walnut Creek, trails along Wildcat, San Pablo, Pinole and Marsh Creeks, the Dotson Family Marsh Restoration (including the potential future rerouting of Rheem Creek to augment the restoration site), and future EBRPD regional trails connecting Marsh Creek to EBRPD's Round Valley Regional Preserve. 3. I have led a similar advisory committee as part of my leadership of the Lower Walnut Creek Restoration project, and I understand the important role of advisory committee members in providing feedback and input to elected officials. I also understand that advisory committees are just that: advisory. The real decision is made by EBRPD, and their elected Board Directors. I also have long term experience in serving on other volunteer advisory bodies, including the Community Advisory Panel of the Marathon Martinez Renewable Fuels Facility and the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Advisory Committee. 4. EBRPD manages 55 miles of shoreline across Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and the effects of sea level rise are of great importance to both EBRPD and the County. I have deep experience in this area. Until my retirement in 2023, I served as the County Public Works Department's lead on climate change and sea level rise issues. I worked closely with BCDC's staff on two Adapting to Rising Tides efforts that provided resilience strategies for the entire Contra Costa shoreline; I was a founding member of the SF Bay Coastal Hazards Adaption Resiliency Group (CHARG), which studies sea level rise from a highly technical, regional lens; I served on the technical advisory committee for Resilient by Design / Bay Area Challenge which focused on innovative ways to strengthen the Bay Area's resilience to sea level rise, flooding and severe storms. Finally, through my work leading the Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project, I am one of the few restoration practitioners in the SF Bay to have successfully implemented a project that provides specific sea level rise resilience and adaption benefits. 5. I am well versed in the typical planning processes, including project scoping, gathering meaningful public input, securing regulatory permits, technical design and of course the CEQA process. These are all issues EBRPD has to deal with in park acquisition, park planning and proposed changes to existing facilities, all of which may come before the EBRPD Park Advisory Committee. When I retired from County service in 2023, I had accumulated 32 years of experience with the Contra Costa County Public Works Department / Flood Control District. Most of that time I was a Senior Civil Engineer and served as the Capital Programs Manager for the Flood Control District. I know how these process work, and also know what EBRPD can and cannot reasonably do when implementing projects. 6. Finally, I am a known entity to the County Board of Supervisors. I have built close relationships with many Board members going back, in some cases, decades, and I haven't changed who I am now that I'm retired. I still strive for consensus. I honor science-based solutions, and always look for ways to move good projects forward. I also look for opportunities to give back to the community that has been so good to me for 30+ years. This includes the EBRPD Park Advisory Committee. Thanks for your consideration for an appointment and I look forward to my interview.

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

Yes No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

Yes No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

Yes No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

I currently serve on the Community Advisory Panel for the Marathon Martinez Renewable Fuels facility (2017-present). I currently serve on the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Advisory Committee (2023-present).

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

As a retiree, I do receive a Contra Costa County pension, but that is through CCERA, not CCC, so no conflict exists.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.