

Application Form

Profile

Shane

First Name

Reisman

Last Name

Middle Initial

Home Address

Suite or Apt

LAFAYETTE

City

CA

State

94549

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Email Address

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 2

theregional.io

Employer

Founder

Job Title

Length of Employment

16 months

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

2

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

4 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

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?

10-12

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

University of California, Irvine

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Bachelor's Degree, Political Science

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Georgetown University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Master Business Administration

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

PMP - Project Management Professional

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Other Training B

PROSCI - Organizational Change Management Professional

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

My name is Shane Reisman, and I appreciate the opportunity to apply for the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors appointment to the East Bay Regional Park District Park Advisory Committee (PAC). I am motivated to serve in this role because, as a City of Lafayette Parks Commissioner and the second-place finisher in Contra Costa County in the 2024 race for Ward 2 East Bay Parks Director, I have demonstrated my commitment to enhancing park access in the East Bay. As a PAC member, I will work with Contra Costa leaders and residents to promote the protection and enjoyment of our regional parks. Since moving to Lafayette in 2021 with my wife, three daughters, and dog, I have prioritized making local parks and trails more accessible. In 2023, I joined the Lafayette Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee and launched the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail Historic Walking project in collaboration with local historical societies. The project will create a rich walking experience along the trail, featuring interpretive panels that educate the community about our shared history. As a PAC member, I will continue to pursue initiatives to improve park access and amenities. During my campaign for East Bay Parks Director, I spent three months engaging Contra Costa voters on crucial park issues, discussing topics like off-leash pets, animal grazing, and bike safety. I encouraged residents to visit more East Bay Parks and actively participate in local decision-making. Additionally, I authored a thought-provoking Substack article exploring how improved park access can reduce crime and enhance community well-being. As a PAC member, I will keep advocating for civic participation and fostering discussions about the benefits of parks. With 20 years of experience in business strategy and operations consulting, I have a robust understanding of public policy, having graduated from UC Irvine and later studied at Georgetown University for my MBA. My career began on the legislative staff of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, followed by a role on the press team at the Democratic National Committee. As a political consultant, I directed education and healthcare advocacy efforts and assisted various candidates in successful campaigns nationwide. While living in Washington, D.C., I served on the Neighborhood Heritage Trail Committee, where I played a key role in creating the official historic walking trail of the Columbia Heights neighborhood. Collaborating with community members, I researched landmarks and designated the trail's course, demonstrating my commitment to regional partnerships and my passion for launching impactful parks and trails projects. I appreciate your consideration of my application for the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors appointment to the East Bay Regional Parks District PAC, and I look forward to the opportunity to collaborate on future park initiatives.

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

Please find attached my qualifications and additional materials that demonstrate my experience and dedication to improving parks in Contra Costa County. These documents highlight my efforts to enhance and expand local park access: - Campaign Emails: A collection of emails I sent to 27,000 Contra Costa voters, sharing updates on local park projects and relevant news from the campaign trail. - Endorsement Submission: A summary provided to the Contra Costa Young Democrats outlining my experience and perspectives on critical parks issues. Thank you for considering these materials as part of my application.

[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

Shane Reisman

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.

- Contra Costa County - Conference of California Historical Societies (Regional Vice President)
- Contra Costa County - Lafayette Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission (Commissioner) -
Contra Costa County - Shane for Parks, 2024 Campaign (Candidate) - Contra Costa County -
Lafayette Historic Society (Member/Volunteer) - Alameda County - SAFE Public Safety
Campaign (Volunteer) - San Francisco - Western Neighborhoods Project (Member) - San
Francisco - Bernal Heights History Project (Member) - San Francisco - Food Bank (Volunteer) -
Washington, DC - Heritage Trail (Board Member)

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:

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.

Shane Reisman

East Bay Regional Park District Park Advisory Committee Contra Costa BOS Appointee - Qualifications

- I live in Lafayette with my wife, three kids, and dog, a frequent park visitor to East Bay Parks.
- I am a Commissioner on the City of Lafayette Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission.
- I advise political campaigns on parks and land use issues. In 2024, I ran for East Bay Parks Board Director in Ward 2. Ward 2 includes roughly 100k people in Contra Costa County.

“Shane for East Bay Parks” Campaign in Contra Costa County

Three-month outreach effort to educate voters across Contra Costa County about East Bay Parks and conduct public engagement to hear directly about local parks issues.



70k
Contra Costa
Voters



7
Contra Costa
Cities



25
East Bay Parks
Endorsements

Professional Background

I am a strategy and operations professional with a 20-year record leading government and private sector communication and technology programs. I managed projects at NASA, Health and Human Services, and the US Air Force Energy Office and worked with teams across Federal and State agencies to innovate and improve government services and launch sustainable energy systems.

I grew up in California, graduated from UC Irvine, and earned an MBA from Georgetown University. I served as staff in the Office of Senator Feinstein and at the Democratic National Committee.

I founded an East Bay public affairs company to help local organizations and governments partner to promote public awareness and participation in community programs. I bring together interests across the Bay Area to advance public good in housing, urban development, and social wellness.

Contra Costa County Parks Projects

I am engaged in projects to promote development of new park space in Contra Costa County.

Park Advocacy and Collaboration



EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
Created [Historic Walking Trail Experience](#) to increase visits and history awareness.

Park Land Use and Planning



CITY OF LAFAYETTE
Submitted City Council [Recommendations](#) to convert parking to a green walkway.

Park Accessibility



ALLTRAILS PUBLIC LANDS PROGRAM
Lead participation in [Public Lands Program](#) to update and increase public accessibility.

Park Funding



CALIFORNIA PARKS
Worked with the community to secure \$25k in [State Arts in Parks funding](#).

Parks and Trails Experience

City of Lafayette
Parks, Trails & Recreation

- Serve as Commissioner and Parks Subcommittee member
- Pursue areas to improve the visitor experience at our 6 parks and 16 miles of trails

East Bay
Public Safety Campaigns

- Educate voters on public policy and safety, crime, and quality of life issues
- Organize local grassroots events, rallies, and outreach

Contra Costa County
Conf of CA Historic Societies

- Act as Regional Vice President to promote historic public sites and walking trails
- Partner with local historical societies on new projects

Shane Reisman

**East Bay Regional Park District Park Advisory Committee
Contra Costa BOS Appointee - Qualifications**

Supporting Materials – Qualifications for the East Bay Regional Park District Park Advisory Committee, Contra Costa Board of Supervisors Appointment

Please find attached my qualifications and additional materials that demonstrate my experience and dedication to improving parks in Contra Costa County. These documents highlight my efforts to enhance and expand local park access:

1. Campaign Emails: A collection of emails I sent to 27,000 Contra Costa voters, sharing updates on local park projects and relevant news from the campaign trail.
2. Endorsement Submission: A summary provided to the Contra Costa Young Democrats outlining my experience and perspectives on critical parks issues.

Thank you for considering these materials as part of my application.

Shane Reisman

Vote for Committed Local Leadership at East Bay Parks

Shane for Parks
Reply-To:
To:

Mon, Nov 4, 2024 at 11:23 AM



My name is Shane Reisman and I'm running for East Bay Regional Parks Director. I'm a City of Lafayette Parks Commissioner and the only candidate in this race with practical parks experience.

I will increase access and amenities to:

- Help everyone enjoy more outdoors activities in our parks
- Add safety measures along local trails
- Make sure we fix existing parks to address current needs before we spend more money to acquire new land

Please forward this email to friends and family and vote today for "Shane Reisman, City of Lafayette Parks Commissioner" for East Bay Regional Park District Director, Ward 2.

I will champion park access and be your best advocate at East Bay Parks. [Watch my campaign video](#) to learn about my commitment and experience.

We Got Issues

Visit shane4parks.com/#issues to see where I stand on important issues for Ward 2 park visitors. Spoiler alert, I like cow-grazing, off-leash dog fun, and more space for responsible mountain biking.



User Groups



Recreation vs Conservation



Pesticides & Herbicides



Environmental Justice



Managing Eucalyptus



Urban Wildlife



Vegetation Management



Extreme Weather

Ward 2 Parks News You Can Use

As a Parks Commissioner, I participate in multi-jurisdictional partnerships with city staff and volunteers. I believe public-private partnerships like these are critical to effective local governance.

Fresh Upgrades at Community Park. Big thank you to Scout Troop 219 and City of Lafayette Staff and Parks, Trails & Recreation Commissioners for this park upgrade at Lafayette Community Park. Stop by to check out the updated signs and amenities and new unobstructed park views.

Before



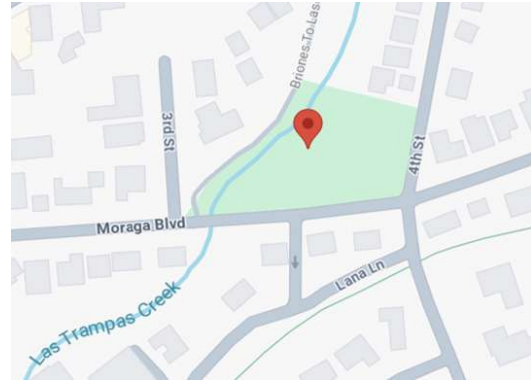
After



Fix Complete at Las Trampas Creek. In 2021, rainstorms overflowed Las Trampas Creek, causing erosion, threatening nearby homes and closing access near Moraga Blvd between [Leigh Creekside](#) and [Gazebo parks](#).

Creek Repairs

Location at Leigh Creekside



In October 2024, East Bay Regional Parks completed a short-term fix at Las Trampas, installing 20-foot-deep concrete anchors to stabilize the embankment. East Bay Regional Park District conducts creek work annually from August to October. The timeline to complete repairs includes the following milestones.



This is a great accomplishment for Lafayette. Thank you to East Bay Regional Park District, City of Lafayette Staff, Creeks Committee and Parks, Trails & Recreation Commissioners with support from [All Ages Recreation Downtown](#) and [Community Foundation of Lafayette](#).

Local Endorsements

Let's bring some grassroots energy to the East Bay Regional Park District. I am not endorsed by political insiders. I have not taken any special interest money. I love our parks. I am a Democrat and I support park employees and their families. I am endorsed by Parks Advocates, Small Business Owners and community leaders.



"Shane is a great partner in our effort to increase park access."

Liz Chaney
Local Parks Proponent



"Shane will protect the beauty of our Parks."

Carl Chan
Public Safety Advocate



"Shane helped us partner with AllTrails to promote our world-class parks and playgrounds."

"Ace" Katayanagi, City of Lafayette Parks, Trails, and Recreation Department



"Shane for East Bay Regional Parks Director."

Avon Wilson and Lynn Hiden, the original "Schwinn Twins" of Lafayette



"Shane launched a local effort to capture thousands of dollars in CA State grants for park projects."

Grace Dixon, All Ages Recreation Downtown



"Shane helped update the memorial bench program in our Community Park."

Joe Dougherty, Commissioner, Parks Subcommittee Chair



"Shane is a friend and committed safety advocate."

Brenda Grisham, Save Alameda for Everyone (SAFE), Principal Officer



"Shane is creating great public space for city residents."

Frank Curcuro , Chairman , City of Lafayette, Parks, Trails & Rec Commission



"Shane wants great outdoor space for all of us!"

Bev Davis, Small Business Owner
East Bay Pet Care (and friends)



"Shane supports all-ages access to great parks and trails."

Carol Singer, Commissioner, Parks Subcommittee
Vice Chair



"Shane works hard to improve Lafayette parks and trails."

Scott Robinson, Chair, Trails Subcommittee, City of Lafayette

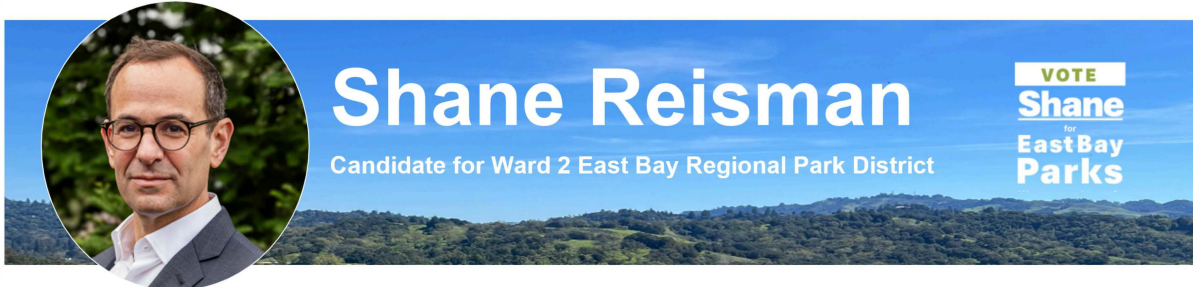


"Shane brings essential insight and skills to East Bay Parks."

Shaun Reid, Former President of the Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay

Local Candidate for East Bay Parks

Sat, Oct 19, 2024 at 8:16 AM



My name is Shane Reisman and I'm excited to share that I'm running for East Bay Regional Parks Ward 2 Director. Ward 2 includes Briones, Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park, and the Lafayette Moraga Trail.

I'm currently a Parks Commissioner in Lafayette. As East Bay Parks Director, I will increase access and amenities to:

- Help families and students enjoy more outdoor activities in our parks
- Add safety measures along local trails
- Make sure we fix existing parks to address current needs before we spend more money to acquire new land

I am the only Contra Costa Parks Commissioner in this race. [Watch my campaign video about Ward 2](#) and why I am your best advocate for Lamorinda, Saranap, and Walnut Creek at East Bay Parks.

Local Accomplishments

I bring a track record of local parks achievements.

Lafayette Gazebo Leigh Creekside Two Parks Concept



."Shane launched a local effort to capture thousands of dollars in CA State grants for [park improvement projects in Lamorinda.](#)"

- Grace Dixon, All Ages Recreation Downtown

Lamorinda AllTrails Partnership



"Shane helped the City of Lafayette partner with AllTrails to educate online visitors about our world-class parks trails and playgrounds."

- Jonathan "Ace" Katayanagi, City of Lafayette Parks, Trails, and Recreation

Moraga to Lafayette History Trail



"Shane is leading a project with the Moraga and Lafayette Historical Societies to create new trail markers for students and visitors to learn the rich history of Lafayette Moraga Trail."

- Mary McCosker, Lafayette Historical Society

Local Endorsements

I am the only candidate with private-sector business experience. I will modernize Park District services, management, and operations to improve access and get more people to visit and enjoy our open spaces. I'm endorsed by citizens across Ward 2.

Business Owners



"Shane works with local business to make sure we all enjoy our outdoor spaces."

Bev Davis
East Bay Petcare
Owner

Community Leaders



"I endorse Shane for East Bay Parks. Shane will protect the beauty of our Parks."

Carl Chan
Public Safety
Advocate

Parks Champion



"Shane is a great partner in our effort to increase park access. Shane for Parks!"

Liz Chaney
Local Parks
Proponent

I love our parks. I am a Democrat and Public Safety Advocate. I support park employees and their families and I have real plans to make East Bay Parks work for everyone! Read my article about the [Parks Crisis in Oakland](#).

Please open your ballot and vote today for "Shane Reisman, City of Lafayette Parks Commissioner" for East Bay Regional Park District Director, Ward 2.

Visit shane4parks.com to learn more. Reply to share your thoughts about East Bay Parks or visit shane4parks.com/#thoughts-on-parks.

Thank you,
Shane

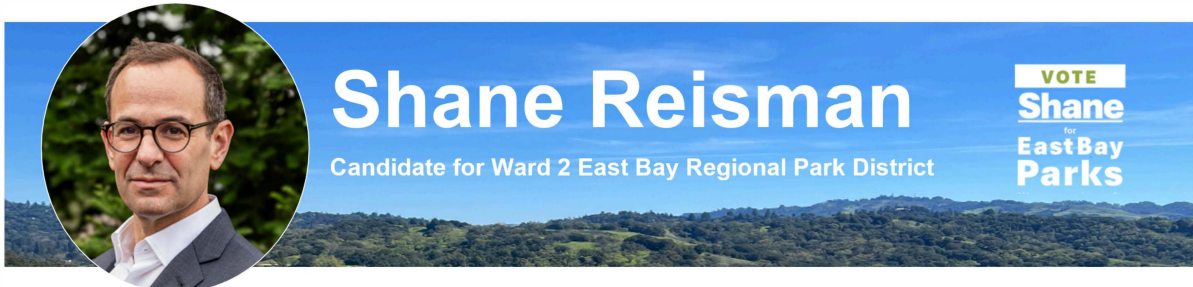
Candidate for East Bay Parks, Ward 2
shane@shane4eastbayparks.com

Paid for by "Shane Reisman for East Bay Parks 2024" Committee
ID#1473845

投票给Shane为东湾公园第2区理事

[Unsubscribe](#)

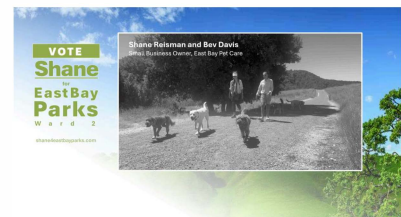
Local Candidate for East Bay Parks



name is Shane Reisman and I'm running for East Bay Regional Parks Director in Ward 2. Ward 2 includes Briones, Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park, and the Lafayette Moraga Trail.

I'm a Parks Commissioner in Lafayette and will be a strong advocate for Lamorinda, Saranap, and Walnut Creek at the Parks District. I'm running to help families and students enjoy more outdoor activities in our parks, add improvements along local trails, and address current needs before we acquire new land.

Please vote for me for East Bay Regional Parks Director today! [Watch this short video](#) to learn more about my campaign. Share with friends and family and don't forget to vote!



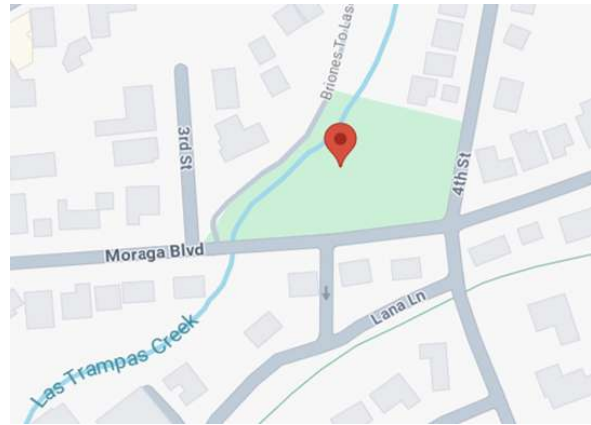
Parks News You Can Use:

Update on Las Trampas Creek Trail Repair

Repairs at Las Trampas Creek are nearly complete. East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) will finish work by the end of October to produce a temporary fix to the creekbank erosion adjacent to the path connecting Leigh Creekside and Gazebo parks. The work includes 20-foot deep concrete anchors to stabilize the embankment.



Storms and heavy rainfall in 2001 overflowed Las Trampas Creek causing erosion to the creekbed and threatening nearby homes.



Current repairs at Leigh Creekside Park will open access by 2026 to the bridge connecting Leigh Creekside Gazebo Parks.

EBRPD plans to complete a long-term fix to the bank erosion at this spot in 2025. They plan to open the path and bridge connecting Leigh Creekside and Gazebo parks in 2026. EBRPD conducts annual repair work only between August and October.

I will advocate for Lamorinda at EBRPD to ensure more local projects are completed and safe conditions returned to our parks and trails.

City of Lafayette Staff, the Creeks Committee, and the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission coordinated with EBRPD to advance this important project. Many thanks for their amazing collaboration.

The Schwinn Twins: Pioneering Founders of the Lafayette Moraga Trail Support Shane for East Bay Parks

Avon Wilson and Lynn Hiden are the original “Schwinn Twins” of Lafayette.

From their foundational idea and through their tireless advocacy, the Lafayette-Moraga Trail was dedicated in 1976 along the old abandoned Sacramento-Northern Railroad line. Avon and Lynn are life-long local trails advocates and support Shane for East Bay Regional Park District.



Avon, Lynn, and Shane discuss features along the Lafayette Moraga Trail.

#I'mTrailing: Park Management Best Practices from Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay Past President, Shaun Reid

I am the only candidate in this race with private-sector business experience. I will modernize Park District services, management, and operations to improve access and get more people to visit and enjoy our open spaces.

I recently met with Shaun Reid, former President of the Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay and Founder of Northern California Mountain Bicycling Association, to discuss East Bay Park efforts to represent competing interests of user groups.

"Shane brings the essential insight and skills to help cyclists, hikers and equestrians coexist and share our vast open spaces. I endorse Shane for East Bay Parks."

Shaun Reid

Former President of the Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay and Founder of NorCal Mountain Bicycling Association



Shane Reisman (Left) and Shaun Reid (Right) discuss strategies to address needs of competing user groups at East Bay Parks.

I love our parks. I am a Democrat and Public Safety Advocate. I support park employees and their families and I have real plans to make East Bay Parks work for everyone! Read my article about the [Parks Crisis in Oakland](#).

Please open your ballot and vote today for "Shane Reisman, City of Lafayette Parks Commissioner" for East Bay Regional Park District Director, Ward 2.

Visit shane4parks.com to learn more. Reply to share your thoughts about East Bay Parks or visit shane4parks.com/#thoughts-on-parks.

Shane Reisman

**East Bay Regional Park District Park Advisory Committee
Contra Costa BOS Appointee - Qualifications**

**Supporting Materials – Qualifications for the East Bay Regional Park District Park
Advisory Committee, Contra Costa Board of Supervisors Appointment**

Endorsement Submission: A summary provided to the Contra Costa Young Democrats outlining my experience and perspectives on critical parks issues.

1. Please include a 250-word or less biography here:

I am a life-long Democrat and City of Lafayette Parks Commissioner in Contra Costa County. I live in Lafayette with my wife, kids, and dog, we are frequent visitors to Ward 2 parks. I have a 20-year professional background in business strategy and operations consulting. No other candidate will better represent Contra Costa Young Democrats at the Parks Commission.

I graduated from UC Irvine with a degree in Social Ecology. I began my career on the legislative staff of US Senator Dianne Feinstein then on the press team at the Democratic National Committee. As a political consultant, I led multiple statewide education and healthcare issue advocacy efforts for progressive causes. I helped Supreme Court and local Democratic candidates execute winning political campaigns across the country.

I studied public policy in my MBA program at Georgetown University and transitioned from politics to public sector government consulting. As a public sector consulting services practice leader at IBM then Booz Allen, I managed large-scale technology and communication programs for the US Air Force, Health and Human Services and NASA. These projects required effective collaboration with government stakeholders at the Federal level as well as local and community leaders across military and civil service posts.

I am qualified for the office of EBRPD Director with the endorsement of Alameda Young Democrats because I am the only candidate to articulate a vision for East Bay Parks accessibility while simultaneously driving several high-impact local projects to make parks more accessible for young people and families in Contra Costa.

2. In your own words, briefly describe the duties and responsibilities of the office for which you are running.

The Park District addresses ongoing needs such as preservation of open space, completion of key projects, and expansion of recreational programs. Two primary District responsibilities I will focus most closely on are a) Wildlife management and b) Balancing the needs of different user groups.

a) Wildlife management. The District is responsible for the protection of all wildlife within its landholdings. As a member of the East Bay Parks District Board, I will promote our ongoing commitment to land stewardship based on an ethical approach to planning and land management. I will ensure District operations align practices with philosophies related to Earth-based land ethics of Indigenous people. Our actions will reflect a manner consistent with the belief that humans are a small part of the earth – equal to and dependent on other living things.

b) Balancing needs of different user groups - There is often tension among hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and users of electric vehicles on East Bay trails. I favor a go-slow approach to land development and support District efforts to address competing user group concerns by maintaining transparency and decision traceability, including every effort at accurate documentation shared with stakeholders every step of the way. This includes detailed records of public interactions, creative sessions, and ongoing agreements reached between user groups. This approach is designed to address tensions between user groups through clear, thoughtful navigation of disparate interests to arrive at a collective vision and agreement on a path forward.

Pilot programs like the Briones Pilot Project to establish specific rules limiting trail use within the Pilot Project Zone, serve this purpose: Through trial-and-error and community engagement, assessing future development options together with residents and park visitors, the Pilot project seeks to slowly introduce changes and share in outcomes with participating user communities.

3. Why are you running for this office?

As a Parks Commissioner, I grew to appreciate the interconnectedness of our vast East Bay parks and the diverse experiences of East Bay residents. I am running for East Bay Parks District Board in Ward 2 to communicate a sweeping vision of the physical connections of our parks and trails and cultural connections of our shared history. Through deeper bonds with our shared space, more residents across the East Bay can experience the health, financial, and social benefits of parks.

I lead projects that span communities and geographies to convey a powerful story about the potential of parks to reflect and address our common interests. One example of my unique qualifications in this area is my leadership on the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail Historic Walking Experience project.

I created the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail Historic Walking Experience to educate visitors about the iconic Lafayette-Moraga Trail and its cultural, historical, and regional importance. The project, currently under development, is a partnership with community members and local historical societies to launch a newly imagined interpretive walking experience. The effort will 1) tell local stories about our shared culture, history and resources along the trail, 2) drive more activity from the most popular EBRPD locales, and 3) refresh existing trail panels and maps for consistency.

I worked with the Lafayette and Moraga Historical Societies in partnership with East Bay Parks to launch this new interpretive experience. The project will educate visitors and provide an entry point for further expansion deeper into surrounding parks to tell an even bigger story about the value of parks and our shared experiences across Contra Costa.

The Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail Historic Walking Experience project reflects my passion for our parks and trails and cultural connections to our shared history. I am running because no other candidate in this race is communicating compelling stories about Contra Costa Parks like the Lafayette-Moraga Regional to expand and enhance park access for Contra Costa families.

Lafayette- Moraga Regional Trail Historic Walking Experience



I partnered with community members and local historical societies on a newly imagined interpretive design to tell local stories about our shared culture, history and resources along the trail.

The project will drive activity from popular East Bay Parks locales to encourage visitors to explore other East Bay Parks locations.

[Lafayette Moraga Historic Walking Trail Experience](#)

4. Why should young people (& the Contra Costa Young Dems) choose to support you?

There is a crisis in the East Bay: Thousands of residents across Contra Costa are without any access to a park. Low income and communities of color, frequently with high concentration of young adults or families, are most impacted. These neighborhoods endure the detrimental effects of limited outdoor safe places, including high crime and reduced opportunities for healthy interactions. As a member of East Bay Parks, I will advocate for an ambitious strategy to connect these neighborhoods to East Bay parkland through the District's extensive Intrapark network of trails and pathways.

The first image below from The Trust for Public Land (TPL) identifies a sample priority space in Contra Costa, near Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Concord, to create new public access to parks. This visualization is based on a 2023 TPL analysis using a mix of demographic and environmental metrics, population density, density of low-income households and people of color. The shaded areas are concentrations of citizens with no access to parks indicating varying degrees of priority development zones to expand parkland access:

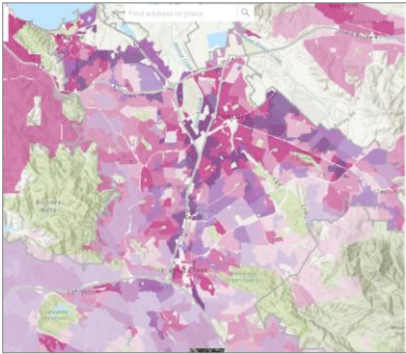
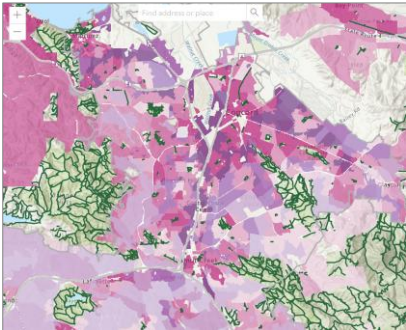
■ Very High ■ High ■ Moderate Priority

The second image below is a detail of this area with a layer to reveal existing East Bay trails. Each network of trails is an opportunity in Ward 2 to open access to East Bay Parks.

■ High Density, Low Income ■ Trails

In this illustrative scenario, strategic land acquisitions, trails and pedestrian right-of-way enable new park access and bridge disparate parts of the East Bay previously separated by freeways and other large thoroughfares. For neighborhoods with a high concentration of young adults and families, these targeted strategies are a bold plan to address East Bay Regional parkland accessibility issues in Contra Costa.

Priority Park Development - Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, Concord

	<p>The Trust for Public Land (TPL) identifies areas to prioritize development of new parks in area of Pleasant Hill, Walnut Creek, and Concord. Highlighted areas reflect communities of color or low-income neighborhoods, that include high percentages of young people, that are not within a walking distance to a public park.</p>
	<p>Percentage of people within a 10-minute walk by age: <20, 55%; 20-64, 54%</p> <p>Access to East Bay parks via trails from areas with high density, low-income neighborhoods via newly acquired or repurposed land along existing trails.</p> <p>The new pathways add safe pedestrian and bicycle access for these neighborhoods to enjoy the financial, mental, and physical benefits of living near a park.</p>
<p>Source: Trust For Public Lands</p>	

5. What accomplishments have you made for young people?

As a Lafayette Parks Commissioner, I helped lead the city's application for the California State Arts in Parks grant program to capture planning and community engagement funds for the Lafayette "Two Parks Collaborative Concept". The "Two Parks Collaborative Concept" seeks to transform a downtown commercial corridor in Lafayette from a dark and dreary stretch along Mt Diablo into a bright inclusive recreational area featuring ADA-accessible play structures and welcoming parks for children, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities.

The age distribution in Lafayette is about 25% children and teenagers (0-19 years), 15% young adults (20-34 years), 35% are middle-aged adults (35-54 years), and approximately 25% are seniors (55+ years). Downtown Lafayette has the highest density, greatest diversity, and lowest income within the city yet lacks art and play elements for young people. The "Two Parks Collaborative Concept" will add playful art to significantly improve the quality of life for nearby residents, especially underserved lower-income seniors and children who cannot drive.

The grant submission will capture much-needed funds for this high-value park project. The park's design includes safe play areas for toddlers and engaging features for older children, to serve as a vibrant community hub for young people across nearby Contra Costa County cities. The parks will serve Las Trampas School for special needs students and within walking distance to senior housing, preschools, and public schools. Natural materials like logs, boulders, and river rocks will create sensory-rich play areas that are safe and accessible and plaques and interactive displays will provide educational opportunities for families, seniors, and students.

To ensure broad engagement with the youngest of playground users and their families, our planning includes public workshops, meetings, and booths advertised through city, chamber, and nonprofit newsletters, social media posts, direct email marketing, and sandwich board signs near the parks to ensure wide awareness and participation. Project partners include Lamorinda Moms, a group with over 1,000 families, focusing on infants, young children, and their parents and The Youth Commission, which targets residents aged 12 to 18 to ensure teenagers have a voice in developing community events, services, and spaces. Additional partners in project development include representation from local preschools, public schools, and the library, all within three blocks of the park sites, making them easily accessible to young children and families in nearby Multi-family housing.

The California State Arts in Parks grant winners will be announced in September. I continue to lead community engagement efforts to realize completion of the "Two Parks Collaborative Concept" and creation of these new parks and play spaces for young children and families in Contra Costa.





6. At the end of the upcoming term, what do you hope to have accomplished?

Across the East Bay, residents of low-income and minority neighborhoods with high concentrations of young people and families have less access to parks than high-income or white neighborhoods. My Vision for East Bay Parks is to address these disparities with specific accomplishments in two areas, 1) Park Investment per Person and 2) Park Amenities.

- **Park Investment per Person:** Park investment directly impacts a city’s capacity to foster healthy, inclusive, and flourishing communities. As an example, Oakland’s total park investment, aggregating all public and private spending for any publicly accessible park in the city, is \$109 per person. The National benchmark is \$124 per person.
- **Park Amenities:** Common amenities provide a reason for people to visit parks and should appeal to people of all user groups, kids, teenagers, adults, seniors. For each amenity, Oakland should work with East Bay Parks to achieve par with other cities according to the TPL 100-point scoring system.

Over the course of 2 and 4-year periods, a meaningful accomplishment is to achieve increases in targets for each amenity to reflect improved investment and access. Preliminary goals can demonstrate annual 3-5% increases and yield meaningful improvements in the experience of park visitors.

Sample Targets to Address Disparity in Park Amenities

<p><u>Basketball Hoops</u></p>  <p>Today: 2.2 per 10,000 people (19/100pts) Target: 4/10,000 people (2-4 Year)</p>	<p><u>Playgrounds</u></p>  <p>Today: 2.8 per 10,000 people (40/100pts) Target: 3/10,000 people (2-4 Year)</p>
<p><u>Dog Parks</u></p>  <p>Today: 4.1 per 100,000 people (100/100pts)</p>	<p><u>Bathrooms</u></p>  <p>Today: 1.2 per 10,000 people (35/100pts)</p>

7. In your opinion, what issue requires the most significant policy change (improving access to healthcare, solving economic inequality, etc.)? To what extent are you willing to expend political capital to achieve that change?

East Bay residents identify Crime and Public Safety as their top issue in recent surveys. Eighty percent of residents feel crime is getting worse and three in four say reducing crime is “Absolutely Critical”. Policy efforts to address challenges associated with crime in the Bay Area are a top priority and require a multifaceted, long-term plan as well as political capital to deliver meaningful change.

There are new leaders in Alameda and Contra Costa and green shoots are emerging of a different approach to crime and public safety. Recent collaboration between city leaders and East Bay Regional Parks to address public safety issues through the prism of effective park and land management is an example of this emerging opportunity worth our shared political sacrifice.

It is widely acknowledged that urban parks and green space enhance the well-being of city residents. Recent studies suggest that more green space – measured by the amount of grass, plants and tree canopy – is associated with lower risks of crime. In many cases, violent crime decreases in closer proximity to parks designed with safety in mind. More productive communication and collaboration between city and regional agencies, each with shared political skin-in-the-game, can help capitalize on these new emerging opportunities to address residents’ top concerns.

8. Which will be your top three priorities once elected?

I am running for Ward 2 East Bay Regional Park District Board Member to:

- **Accelerate Park Projects: Direct resources to complete park projects faster.**

There are many East Bay parks projects in Ward 2 that are delayed due to weather impacts or regulation. Others are slow to complete due to poor coordination or communication and lack of inertia. For the latter category, greater collaboration between parties, with increased direction and guidance from East Bay Parks, can help offset these delays.

I will more fully engage in community forums, workshops, and regular town meetings across Ward 2 to apply the influence and resources of the District toward achieving project timelines and communicating project progress to Contra Costa city leaders and residents.

- **Enhance Access: Refresh signs and trail maps to improve public access.**

East Bay Parks trail maps and online resources are difficult to find and not helpful. The most frequently accessible format for trail maps and trail information are .pdf files. The files are difficult to read, the text is too small for many with impaired eyesight or difficult to navigate for visitors without a large monitor or printer. Many people, such as young adults or young families, on cell phone only, will therefore not be able to use these park resources or access an EBRPD map to visit a park with their child.

- I will propose a partnership with Contra Costa to recruit students for a competition to apply data analytics and creativity to transform the vast amounts of park data available today into a user-friendly next-generation East Bay Parks mapping capability. This program will demonstrate our local innovation, foster a new generation of local park leaders, and open our parks for greater accessibility.

- **Secure Funding: Help cities capture grants to fund park improvement efforts.**

The 2024 East Bay Parks Budget is balanced and in compliance with budget priorities. Revenues are around \$300M, a 5.3% increase over 2023 with growth due primarily due to increased property tax assessments and increased charges for services. However, nearby cities and municipalities are struggling with higher operating costs related to increased insurance and construction materials and many are exploring new paths to sustainable revenue generation and alternative sources to fund important programs.

I will help cities identify new sources of revenue to fund municipal or local park projects, including Pilot programs. I will focus on increasing the amount of investment as well as diversification in the sources. Today, over 90% of park revenues are public, but proper growth in park investment must reflect a more balanced mix of sources, including increases in investment from creative public and private sources and new grant opportunities and partnerships with state and local commercial and trade groups.

9. What makes you different from other candidates in the race?

In 2023, I began to volunteer time to support local political issues and campaigns in the East Bay. I am focused on improving public safety in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties with a concentration on Oakland. Through these volunteer efforts, I gain a close understanding of East Bay residents and their concerns. I help East Bay campaigns build issue-specific websites and craft emails to resonate with target East Bay voters, I coordinate grassroots activity to convene volunteers for political rallies and I organized in-person and online events to collect signatures from Bay Area citizens.

I serve on the leadership committee for SAFE (Save Alameda for Everybody), a grassroots volunteer organization committed to safer streets in Oakland and Alameda County. In this role, I coordinate grassroots activity, and meet with residents, business owners and political activists to discuss priorities and voter needs. These efforts reflect my commitment to making the Bay Area safer for everybody.

10. Anything else you'd like to share or closing remarks?

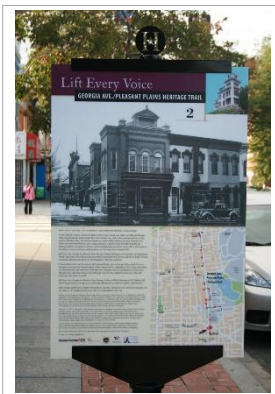
I am a 12-year resident of the Bay Area. I led a Northern California technology practice with teams staffed at companies in and around Oakland and Alameda County for 7 years.

I participate in local history community projects to bring together people, history and public space. I am a member of the Lafayette Historical Society and serve as Contra Costa County Regional Vice President for the Conference of California Historical Societies. I have been active in the Western Neighborhoods Project and Bernal Heights Historical Societies.

One example of my community work around history and public park space is my role in the creation of the Columbia Heights Heritage trail project in Washington, DC. Heritage Trails are the official walking tours of Washington, DC, each is a self-guided neighborhood walking journey.

I led an effort to design the map and designate Heritage Trails sign locations across the historic sites of my Washington, DC neighborhood of Columbia Heights. After a multi-year effort working with residents, business leaders, and government stakeholders, the trail successfully launched and today the three-mile tour is visited by thousands of locals and tourists annually. The trail features 12 large poster-sized markers that combine stories, photographs and maps. My name appears on the signage today and reflects one of my biggest life accomplishments to bring together community, history and public space. I hope to implement similar projects for East Bay Parks with virtual and technology-rich interactive history experiences.

Columbia Heights Heritage Trail



The Columbia Heights Heritage Trail is a three-mile tour punctuated by large poster-sized markers that combine stories, photographs and maps. The project is one of my greatest life accomplishments to bring together people, history and public space.

The project was later refreshed with an online component through a public-private partnership with the AllTrails Public Lands Program.

