

REDWOOD CITY CITY COUNCIL

# Re-elect Foust, Pierce, Bain and Aguirre

It's tough enough for any challenger to beat an incumbent for an elected office, more so when that challenger doesn't raise a single cent to wage a campaign. So give California Highway Patrol supervisor Paul McCarthy plenty of credit for trying.

McCarthy is the only Redwood City resident to challenge four city council members defending their seats in the Nov. 8 election. He has spent roughly \$500 on the campaign so far — money his wife gave him to produce business cards and pass them around while knocking on doors and attending candidates' forums.

McCarthy says one reason he decided to run is because he didn't want the council election to go uncontested. Another is because after building schools and churches in Afghanistan

a few years ago during an Army tour, he got a taste of giving to a community and wants to re-enact that feeling by giving to the city he has lived in since 1999.

Though it's tempting to endorse McCarthy for the sake of change and because he seems sincere and knowledgeable about Redwood City issues, The Daily News is sticking with the incumbents — Rosanne Foust, Barbara Pierce, Ian Bain and Alicia Aguirre.

McCarthy himself readily acknowledges they have done a good job representing their constituents and he agrees with most of the decisions they have made. For example, though he questions whether DMB Associates can build a mini-city of 25,000 people on the Cargill salt flats without causing major traffic and other problems, McCarthy says the council was correct

in allowing the developer to prepare an environmental impact report and waiting for the process to follow its course.

McCarthy does say that unlike the incumbents, he would have voted against placing business and hotel occupancy taxes on the Nov. 8 ballot in the throes of a lingering economic recession. Maybe he would have, but many challengers for office say they oppose taxes, then change their minds after winning their seats.

If elected, McCarthy would work hard to serve Redwood City. But the four incumbents have been doing that for years, and although the city has seen plenty of bumps, its downtown and residential neighborhoods have generally thrived over that time. Their experience played a role in that success.

The Daily News urges readers to re-elect Rosanne Foust, Barbara Pierce, Ian Bain and Alicia Aguirre.

DAILY NEWS EDITORIAL