



# Opinion

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For Redwood City Council, the Post recommends

# Aguirre, Bain, Borgens and Foust

Redwood City has become the mid-Peninsula's boom town and a lot of the credit goes to the City Council that wrote a plan for downtown development that has largely succeeded.

The town is suffering from development fatigue as of late, but in recent weeks the cranes have disappeared and construction downtown is on the way to leveling off.

The four candidates we're recommending in the November election have demonstrated to us that they can balance the city's growth with protecting residential neighborhoods from the ripple effects of that development.

**JANET BORGENS**, as a long time business owner, has a keen insight into the local scene. She's paid her dues on the Planning Commission and served on numerous nonprofit and council-appointed boards. While a newcomer to council, she's a known quantity in Redwood City, somebody we trust. On the Planning Commission, she's proven to be a problem solver.

**IAN BAIN**, in his 13 years on



AGUIRRE



BAIN



BORGENS



FOUST

council, has often been the dissenting vote on key issues. We think every city council needs a contrarian, and we say that as a compliment.

On the critical issue of housing, he doesn't favor rent control but has a list of innovative ideas that would stabilize the situation, such as updating the city's ordinance on what landlords are required to provide tenants who lose their homes.

And we were impressed this summer when Bain got involved after the landlord of an apartment house at 601 Clinton Ave. tried to evict several families. Bain and others negotiated a deal that allowed them to stay in their

homes for 3 1/2 months rent free while they looked for new homes. Not a perfect solution, but given the circumstances, not a bad outcome.

**ALICIA AGUIRRE**, a longtime council member and previously a Redwood City school board trustee, will continue to be a strong voice on council for protecting neighborhoods from traffic and parking problems. She says that while the development downtown has resulted in a lot of positives, it's time to pause and see where it is all going. She has consistently been a voice on council for maintaining the city's

fiscal stability and protecting the environment.

**ROSANNE FOUST**, another incumbent, has a long list of accomplishments, though she points out that everything council does is a team effort. Still, she has been a champion of keeping libraries open and adding hours, building the city's cash reserves, restoring Bair Island, bringing Stanford to Redwood City, replacing the turf in parks, opening new dog parks and restoring the fire crew downtown. Given her track record, it's an easy choice to recommend her for re-election.

In this race, the voters only have four choices. If we had a fifth, we'd add Shelly Masur to our list. Currently a Redwood City School District trustee, she's up to speed on city issues and would be a good voice for families in the community.

However, with four seats up for grabs in November, the Post recommends Aguirre, Bain, Borgens and Foust for City Council.