

## LETTERS OF INTEREST

### Board of Directors

1. ABAG Regional Planning Committee, one position, to fill expired term (Feb. 2019) of Julie Combs (Santa Rosa). Term expires two years from appointment.  
Letter(s) Received: Julie Combs
2. North Bay Division, League of California Cities (Alternate), one position to fill expired term (Feb. 2019) of John Sawyer (Santa Rosa). Term expires two years from appointment. Note: All cities in Sonoma County are eligible except Cloverdale which is in the Redwood Division  
Letter(s) Received: John Sawyer – Santa Rosa
3. Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District Citizens Advisory Committee, two positions, to fill the expired terms (Feb. 2019) of David Cook (Sonoma) and Neysa Hinton (Sebastopol). Terms expire two years from appointment.  
Letter(s) Received: Leah Gold – Healdsburg  
Neysa Hinton – Sebastopol
4. SMART/SCTA member, two positions, to fill the expired terms (Feb. 2019) of Carol Russell (Cloverdale) and Jake Mackenzie (Rohnert Park). Term is 4 year fixed term.  
Letter(s) Received: Jake Mackenzie – Rohnert Park  
Kathy Miller – Petaluma  
Joe Naujokas – Healdsburg  
Melanie Bagby – Cloverdale  
Chris Rogers – Santa Rosa



January 7, 2019

Deputy Clerk of the Board, County of Sonoma  
Board of Supervisors  
575 Administration Dr, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
ATTN: Darin A. Bartow  
Email: [darin.bartow@sonoma-county.org](mailto:darin.bartow@sonoma-county.org)

RE: Letter of Interest: ABAG RPC for Mayors and Councilmembers

I would like to continue on RPC as our representative. For the past year, I have been Vice Chair of the Committee and am in consideration as Chair at the special meeting to be held on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

I have also represented our county as Chair of the Housing Subcommittee and as a representative on the Committee to House the Bay Area (CASA). In these roles, I have consistently advocated for housing policies that serve all our cities, small and large, and have worked to include differences in geography and market strength in the development of policies that may impact the entire region. Clearly one size does not fit all, and it has been and will continue to be to our county's advantage to have and to retain this seniority in seating at the table during the coming year.

The follow-up and implementation for the ongoing CASA housing and planning proposals including legislative action on them will be a key focus of this committee and my work with our partners on ABAG, MTC, within our county and with the legislature.

Please consider me for continuing as ABAG/RPC representative.

Thank you,  
Julie Combs

C: Mayors and Councilmembers Association  
ATTN: Mary Gourley, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC  
Email: [mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org)

combs ABAG Exec Board letterofinterest 2019.docx

## Mary Gourley

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**From:** Sawyer, John <[jsawyer@srcity.org](mailto:jsawyer@srcity.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 03, 2019 2:33 PM  
**To:** [Darin.Bartow@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Darin.Bartow@sonoma-county.org)  
**Cc:** Mary Gourley; Gomez, Daisy; Manis, Dina  
**Subject:** Letter of Interest / LOCC / Alternate

Mr. Darin Bartow  
Deputy Clerk of the Board  
County of Sonoma, Board of Supervisors

Re: Alternate Position, North Bay Division, League of California Cities

Dear Mayors & Councilmembers:

I respectfully request your support to be reappointed as your

### **Alternate Regional Representative / North Bay Division / League of California Cities**

I believe my twelve years of service on the Santa Rosa City Council and my last two years of service as your Alternate Regional Representative, well qualifies me to continue in my present roll for another two years.

Sincerely,  
*John Sawyer*

#### **John J. Sawyer | City Councilman**

100 Santa Rosa Ave, Room 10 | Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Tel. (707) 543-3010 - Fax (707) 543-3030

[JSawyer@SRCity.org](mailto:JSawyer@SRCity.org)





## CITY OF HEALDSBURG ADMINISTRATION

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Healdsburg, CA 95448-4723

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Visit us at [www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us](http://www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us)

December 18, 2018

Mayors and Councilmembers Association of Sonoma County  
C/O Mary Gourley, ACM/City Clerk, City of Sebastopol  
7120 Bodega Avenue  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Dear Mayors and Councilmembers,

I request your support as I seek a position on the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District Citizens' Advisory Committee.

The fight to preserve agricultural land and open space, as well as critical wildlife habitat, has defined my years of public service in Sonoma County. I chaired the citizen's committee that put Healdsburg's pioneering Urban Growth Boundary Initiative on the ballot in 1996. During my first term as Councilmember and Mayor (2000 - 2004) I worked with the Open Space District to acquire the Healdsburg Ridge land. During that process I was instrumental in negotiating with the landowner to sell the 40-acre Fox Pond segment, which had been slated for the construction of five estate homes. I also pushed for the acquisition of Fitch Mountain, but unfortunately that effort took many more years to come to fruition.

As you know, I was returned to Healdsburg City Council in a special election in June 2017 and was reelected for a full 4-year term in November. In both elections I was the top vote getter, largely because my positions on land use and preservation issues reflect the growing consensus among my constituents. If chosen to serve on the committee, my goals will be to preserve wildlife habitat and agricultural land, keep our watersheds healthy, and provide all residents greater opportunity to enjoy the abundant natural beauty of Sonoma County.

If you would like to discuss my interest in the position or your own Open Space priorities, please call me. Thank you for your consideration. I hope to win your support!

Best regards,

Leah Gold  
Vice Mayor  
(707) 293-4605





**Neysa Hinton**

Mayor

**City of Sebastopol**

1120 Bodega Avenue

Sebastopol, CA 95472

[www.cityofsebastopol.org](http://www.cityofsebastopol.org)

January 8, 2019

Sonoma County Mayors' and Councilmembers' Association

c/o Mary Gourley

Re: Request for Reappointment to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District  
Advisory Committee

Dear Mayors and Councilmembers:

I am writing to ask for your support for reappointment as a Mayors and Councilmembers representative to the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District. It would be my honor to continue to serve and represent our cities.

I have been an active member on the committee and have taken steps to ensure that all nine Sonoma County cities best interests are represented. After two years on the committee, I believe my work has just begun.

I bring a unique prospective to the committee as a third generation Sonoma County resident who was raised on a 100+ acre ranch that has been in our family since 1945. I come from a family of ranchers where agriculture and the preservation of land for the next generation was instilled in us since childhood.

Today, living in and having raised my children in Sebastopol, I also understand the importance of parks and recreation within urban communities.

I respectfully ask for your support for my reappointment.

Sincerely,

Neysa Hinton

Mayor, City of Sebastopol

[NeysaCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:NeysaCouncil@gmail.com)

(707)495-9087



**City Council**

Pam Stafford  
*Mayor*

Joseph T. Callinan  
*Vice Mayor*

Amy O. Ahanotu  
Gina Belforte  
Jake Mackenzie  
*Councilmembers*

Darrin Jenkins  
*City Manager*

Don Schwartz  
*Assistant City Manager*

Michelle Marchetta Kenyon  
*City Attorney*

Karen Murphy  
*Assistant City Attorney*

JoAnne Buerger  
*City Clerk*

Betsy Howze  
*Finance Director*

John McArthur  
*Director of Public Works and  
Community Services*

Mary Grace Pawson  
*Director of  
Development Services*

Victoria Perrault  
*Human Resources Director*

Jeffrey Weaver  
*Interim Public Safety Director*

November 19, 2018

City Selection Committee  
c/o Mary Gourley, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC  
7120 Bodega Avenue  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Re: Appointment of Jake Mackenzie to SMART Board of Directors (SCTA position)

Dear Ms. Gourley,

I am submitting this letter to you to advance my candidacy for re-selection to the above position by the Mayors' & Councilmembers' Association Board of Directors.

I have served the interests of Sonoma County over the past decade. I have diligently attended Board meetings and reported back, both to SCTA, our Association General Membership meetings and to Rohnert Park City Council. I have also kept MTC apprised of SMART's activities.

I continue to enjoy serving our association on the SMART Board and seek your nomination.

Yours Sincerely,

  
Jake Mackenzie  
Councilmember

JM/js



# CITY OF PETALUMA

POST OFFICE BOX 61  
PETALUMA, CA 94953-0061

Kathy Miller  
Councilmember

December 24, 2018

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to request your support for my appointment to the SMART Board as one of the two SCTA Board Members who will serve on the SMART Board. I am seeking to fill the expired term of newly retired Council Member Russell of Cloverdale.

In January, I will be beginning my fifth year on the SCTA Board. During my time on the SCTA, I have worked tirelessly on regional transportation issues. I have been on the Executive Board for the last two years and have also served on the Highway 101 Ad Hoc Committee, which has worked successfully since early 2015 on securing the funding necessary to complete the widening of Highway 101 through Sonoma County. In the past I have served as the Council liaison to the Petaluma Transit Advisory Committee and I currently am the Council liaison to the Petaluma Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee. Clearly, one of my passions is regional transportation. I view the appointment as one of the SCTA representatives to the SMART Board as a logical extension of my focus on transportation in Sonoma County.

Traffic in Sonoma County continues to worsen and we must reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. The obvious way to lessen traffic and reduce GHGs is to get people out of their cars and onto public transit. If appointed to the SMART Board, I will work on extending SMART all the way to Cloverdale, adding the second SMART station in Petaluma, increasing ridership and reducing fares so riding the train is affordable to all our residents.

Again, I am requesting your support for my appointment as one of the SMART Board Members from the SCTA. I would like to continue working on your behalf on regional transportation issues. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 707-321-3888 or email me at [kathleencmillerooffice@gmail.com](mailto:kathleencmillerooffice@gmail.com). Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Kathy Miller  
Councilmember,  
City of Petaluma

Petaluma City Hall  
11 English Street  
Petaluma, CA 94952

Phone (707) 778-4345  
Msg Phone (707) 778-4524  
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E-Mail:  
[kathleencmillerooffice@gmail.com](mailto:kathleencmillerooffice@gmail.com)





# CITY OF HEALDSBURG

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January 2, 2019

Board of Directors Appointment

Chair

Mayors and Councilmembers Association

City of Sebastopol

7120 Bodega Avenue

Sebastopol, CA 95472

ATTN: Mary Gourley, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC

Dear Mayors and Councilmembers:

I respectfully and enthusiastically request your support of my candidacy for the SCTA member of the Board of Directors of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District.

As you know, the charge of the SMART Board of Directors is to serve the interests of the entire line, from Larkspur all the way to Cloverdale. While Healdsburg clearly has a self-interest in the Board's decisions, my commitment to SMART extends far beyond what's best for Healdsburg.

My bigger vision for SMART is this: With the right leadership, I believe that SMART can transform mobility in Sonoma and Marin counties by making public transit an effective and desirable alternative to driving. I am uniquely qualified to help lead this transformation as a member of the SMART Board of Directors for several reasons.

- **I believe SMART's next challenge is to build more effective working relationships with its entire service community, including not just the cities on its line, but also property owners and developers, potential new riders, and emerging last-mile mobility options like ride share services, e-bikes and autonomous vehicles.**
- **My commitment to the SMART Board will not be compromised by distractions from other political responsibilities such as mayoral or other committee leadership duties. Transportation policy has always been one of my top priorities as a Council member, and my attention to the SCTA and SMART Board roles will reflect that focus.**
- **Healdsburg's active participation on the SMART Board will magnify the significant lobbying and fundraising efforts required to bring the train across the river. It will "take a village" to bring SMART to Healdsburg, and I am in a unique position to leverage my relationship with fellow councilmembers, city staff, business and property owners, advocacy groups, state government representatives and other critical stakeholders to marshal the resources necessary for extending the line here.**
- **I have already demonstrated my commitment to SMART's lobbying efforts by supporting the SMART Board Chair at funding hearings held by the State Assembly in Sacramento and by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in San Francisco.**
- **My passion for the future of SMART has been recognized by the MTC for my idea to extend SMART across the Richmond bridge, which was selected in October as a finalist among hundreds of competing proposals for the MTC's Horizon Initiative for Transformative Transportation Projects.**

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Joe Naujokas  
Councilmember, City of Healdsburg  
Member, SCTA Board of Directors





January 7, 2019

City Select Committee  
Attn: Darin Bartow  
575 Administration Drive, Room 100A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
darin.bartow@sonoma-county.org

Re: Letter of Interest SMART/SCTA Board

Honorable Mayors and Councilmembers:

Rail is a driver of quality of life, economic development, and a part of achieving our climate goals—that is why I volunteered on the campaigns of both SMART ballot measures and now ask for your support to represent you on the SMART/SCTA board.

In the past two years, I've served on four regional boards developing regional relationships and experience. My fellow board members will attest to my fair-minded approach to our regional challenges and advocacy for all underserved communities, not just my own. On these boards and with my council, I am well prepared for meetings, endeavor to communicate with staff in advance if I have questions or concerns, and actively participate in meetings seeking to build consensus and a sense of collaboration. I am also ready and able to commit to the lobbying that will be required to receive funding for a new rail bridge at Healdsburg and a SMART east-west corridor.

I could easily argue that the northernmost city should be represented on SMART/SCTA to ensure those in the north county who overwhelmingly supported SMART and continue to pay for it without direct service will be represented. However, my background and experience have prepared me to be a strong advocate for our regional transportation systems and build on our successes. A transportation system is only as strong as its weakest link and I will advocate for the entire system with this in mind.

As an entrepreneur in high technology, I take a systems approach to solving business challenges. I'm accessible and responsive to my clients and take the same approach with my constituents. I've applied this professional experience in my elected and appointed roles, including:

- Cloverdale Councilmember, 2016-present
- Mayor of Cloverdale, 2019
- Sonoma Clean Power, Sonoma County Waste Management, Russian River Watershed Association (Vice Chair), Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District, 2016-present

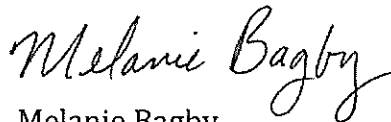
- League of Cities Executive Board, 2018-present; President of Mayors & Councilmembers Division, 2018; Vice President Redwood Division, 2018-present, Second Vice President, 2017-2018
- Cloverdale Planning Commission, 2008-2015 (five as Chair)
- Sonoma County Economic Development Board, 2011-2015
- Cloverdale appointee to Climate Action 2020 Stakeholders Advisory Group, 2015

As a life-long learner, I regularly acquire and apply new skills in the ever-changing economic and policy conditions that is life in California. My education includes:

- BA Political Science, Pepperdine University, 1990
- Leadership Institute for Just and Resilient Communities Fellow, 2009
- Climate Reality Project Climate Corp Presenter, 2012

As a Sonoma County native, I've watched as sprawl and traffic have impacted the natural beauty we hold dear. SMART is critical for the sustainability of our region's economy and quality of life. My background demonstrates that I share our common values and am prepared to lead. I ask that you support my appointment to SMART/SCTA Board of Directors.

Sincerely,



Melanie Bagby  
Mayor, City of Cloverdale

cc: Mary Gourley, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, Sebastopol  
mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org



**Re: City Selection Committee Assignments: SMART/SCTA**

To whom it may concern,

I respectfully submit my letter of interest for one of the two SCTA designated positions for the SMART Board of Directors. The launch and expansion of the SMART train could prove to be the single most important event from a housing, environment, and equity standpoint for the North Bay. As a Board member, I would remain committed to completing service to Windsor, Healdsburg, and Cloverdale, keeping our promises to the voters as we continue to build the SMART service necessary for our residents to work and play in our community.

Cities need to continue to have a strong voice on the Board. Many of us spend countless hours in meetings discussing how we are going to create housing and economic opportunities in transit-rich areas. In my city, we have gone so far as to create a Renewal Enterprise District, passed a density bonus near SMART stations, and are embarking on an update of both our general plan and our downtown station area plan. We are not alone in these endeavors, as I know my colleagues around the county are asking themselves the same questions – how can the SMART train and our housing opportunities create a symbiotic and mutually beneficial relationship?

Additionally, like many in this county, I struggle to live here. Between a high cost of living, outrageous rental prices, and crushing student loan debt, many young families are being priced out of our communities. Affordable access to public transit is vital to our region's economic future and we need to find creative ways to bring down the cost to ride so that more working families can utilize the train as well.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, and I look forward to continuing to work with you as we work towards solutions for our county's collective challenges.

Warmest regards,

Chris Rogers  
Vice Mayor

Cc: Mary Gourley, Assistant City manager/City Clerk, City of Sebastopol  
Darin Bartow, Deputy Clerk of the Board, County of Sonoma

CITY COUNCIL

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