

Candidate Statement of Qualifications

Laura Melahn, Candidate for Member, City Council, City of Menlo Park, District 4

Decisions should make sense to the people who have to live with them. As your councilmember, I will listen to residents, strengthen our community, support local businesses, and spend tax dollars wisely. With creativity and accountability, Menlo Park can get more done for less.

My priorities: a cleaner, more vibrant downtown with fewer commercial vacancies; completing the Caltrain quiet zone; establishing a Section 115 pension trust; protecting heritage trees and parks; supporting our schools; safer neighborhood streets; and practical progress on housing. Let's stop fighting the same fights and start delivering homes that people who serve our community can afford, on time and on budget.

I grew up in Hawaii, studied molecular biology at Princeton, and built a career at Google before putting down roots here. My husband and I are raising our two boys in Menlo Park. I run a business, coach youth sports, and serve as Chair of the Finance and Audit Commission.

I co-founded Downtown Menlo Fund, which brings free live music to Santa Cruz Avenue through Fourth Fridays. I also championed the Slow Streets Program adopted this April, laying the groundwork for safer streets. Love Menlo? Me too. I'd be honored to earn your vote.