

"Transparency." Often promised, not always practiced. Transparency between City Hall and residents is foundational to a relationship of trust – and is a sign of good governance, proving that your city hides nothing from you.

True transparency is a campaign pledge that I make to you. Among other protections, I propose creating a Sunshine Ordinance that would apply across City Hall, from employees to the Council, and to all Commissions.

### **Sunshine Ordinance - Protection in Perpetuity**

Put a Sunshine Ordinance before voters. Once passed, its protections apply not only to the sitting council, but to all future councils – in perpetuity. It strengthens state laws to make meetings, records, votes, deliberations, and other official actions available for public observation, participation, and inspection.

#### **Gives the public rights of access to government information without delay**

*(project progress and budgets are posted online, policy changes decided in open meetings)*

#### **Creates internal checks and balances in government operations**

*(longer records retention period, make public documents easily accessed on city website - contrast with [Encinitas' policy](#))*

#### **Requires accountability for city officials regarding transparency issues**

*(minimal closed-session meetings, auditors must answer public's questions at budget hearings)*

Click [here](#) for more of my ideas on True Transparency.

### **Make Decision-Making Transparent**

Good decision making takes due diligence and does not have an assumed outcome. Poor decision making has a predetermined outcome, hidden agenda, and lack of open review. Recent examples include:

**Hwy. 101 lane reductions in downtown Encinitas**, where many business owners were not asked for their input before physical changes were made. ***I will take the time to do it right.***

**17 cycling accidents in 3 months** on S. Cardiff 101 cycle lanes, installed despite warnings of design flaws and safety issues. ***I will not decide my position in advance of a vote, but will listen first.***

**Closed-session meetings held over a year in advance** of council approval of the Saxony safe homeless parking lot with no notification until the last minute to adjacent neighbors. ***I oppose the secretive process, not the homeless.***

**Code updates hidden from public**, yet approved by Council that enabled the 7-story, 283-unit Goodson project in Olivenhain to avoid a traffic study and environmental review. ***I will never adjust the rules to favor special interests.***

### **My passion for transparency in government extends beyond Encinitas.**

I belong to a [statewide group](#) of mayors and council members working to retain local zoning control and push back on state housing mandates. We are making headway in influencing Sacramento.

I sit on the board of [Spotlight on Coastal Corruption](#) (SOCC), a group that [successfully sued](#) five California Coastal Commissioners for violating ex-parte disclosure laws. The suit is pending further action, as SOCC refuses to take money from taxpayers to cover the violators' fines.

Locally, my work citywide includes a wide variety of projects and topics from affordable housing, to downtown alcohol-related issues, to preservation of the Beacons Beach switchback trail. I led the Prop A vote to passage in 2013 to ensure that residents always have a voice on development that impacts their community and quality of life.