



Date: May 6, 2022

To: District 4 Voters

From: Jimmy Paulding, Candidate for 4th District Supervisor

Re: Who Is Behind the Smear Campaign

Dear Voters,

I hope this message finds you well. I want to take a moment to shed some light on a smear campaign that is being run against me and who is behind it.

An important part of a supervisor's role is that of making decisions on large land use projects, many of which are controversial.

I decided as a candidate in 2017 not to accept real estate developer contributions in order to avoid the appearance of any undue influence or conflict-of-interest on land use matters.

I believed then, and believe now, that this is essential to the ideal of open and transparent governance. I think it's not only good for voters, but also good for developers. Their projects should be approved or disapproved on the merits of the project, not whether they have contributed tens of thousands of dollars to a candidate.

It's disheartening that my opponent has accepted nearly \$150,000 of direct campaign contributions since 2014 from developers and home builders.

In this campaign cycle alone, she has accepted more than \$60,000 of direct contributions.

In addition, one of her campaign supporters, a well-known community member, developer Nick Tompkins, has contributed an additional \$30,000 to an independent political action committee to run attack ads against me.

That PAC is the author of the recent mailer attacking me with two egregiously false assertions:

1. It falsely states that I voted to increase my pay as an Arroyo Grande City Councilmember by 60%. In fact, I voted against that pay proposal twice.
2. It falsely asserts that I've backed a raft of taxes. Simply false.

As for why voters should be concerned about developers' contributions to Lynn Compton, let's consider the facts.

Nick Tompkins is one of the developers of the Dana Reserve Project, which currently is the largest proposed housing development in South County. The proposed project would convert 228 acres of open space into a development of 1,300 new homes. Approval will require a vote by the Board of Supervisors.

The controversial Dana Reserve project is scheduled to come before the Board of Supervisors in February of 2023, shortly after new Board terms take effect following the election.

Since 2017, Mr. Tompkins, through his businesses, has contributed \$11,000 directly to Compton's campaign in addition to the \$30,000 he has contributed to the independent PAC.

The other Dana Reserve Project developer, Shea Homes, plans to build more than 200 luxury homes as part of the project. Shea has donated a total of \$12,925 directly to Compton's campaign over the last eight years.

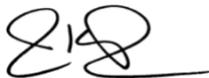
Notably, \$5,500 of that amount was donated to the Compton campaign at roughly the same time Shea successfully negotiated to remove a public park from its master plan and replace it with additional luxury homes. Lynn Compton approved this plan.

With 30 days to go until the election, we can expect to see more of these large dollar contributions and the smear campaigns they fund.

The influence of developer money in this race is clear.

For my part, if elected, voters can count on me to weigh development projects on their merits, and not because I'm the recipient of tens of thousands of dollars in campaign support.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Paulding

Candidate for District 4 SLO County Supervisor

Phone: (805) 994-0025 | Email: jimmy@jimmypaulding.org

Website: jimmypaulding.org | Address: P.O. Box 661, Arroyo Grande, CA 93421