



THE CHAMBER ANNOUNCES ITS CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE JUNE ELECTIONS

The Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce (MPCC) takes political endorsements seriously. Our experienced Candidate Endorsement Committee reviews comprehensive candidate questionnaires and interviews all candidates at the same time for each individual elected position. The committee determines which candidate holds the strongest positions which align on issues important to Monterey Peninsula businesses. We noted several candidates are running campaigns based on political party affiliation rather than substantive policy issues, which we believe harms the non-partisan nature of local government. Here are MPCC's endorsements recommendations for the June 2018 election.



MONTEREY COUNTY SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 2 THE CHAMBER ENDORSES JOHN PHILLIPS

The Chamber endorses incumbent Supervisor John Phillips, who reiterated his support for county policies that allow businesses to grow and prosper. He cited his efforts to provide leadership to meet state mandated housing requirements and supported farm worker housing projects throughout the county as well as CHISPA projects. He also co-chaired the successful Measure X campaign to fund \$600 million for roads and highways, including safety improvements for Highway 156 and Blackie Road in Castroville.



MONTEREY COUNTY SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 3 THE CHAMBER ENDORSES CHRIS LOPEZ

Supervisor Simon Salinas is retiring, and his Chief of Staff Chris Lopez is running to take his place. Mr. Lopez is knowledgeable about the district and the business of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. Lopez is a native of Monterey County with ties to both the Salinas Valley and the Monterey Peninsula. He will be an advocate for county policies that allow businesses to support jobs and housing that will help the county grow and prosper.



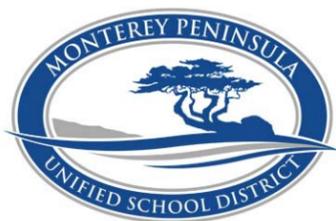
MONTEREY COUNTY SHERIFF/CORONER THE CHAMBER ENDORSES STEVE BERNAL

Incumbent Monterey County Sheriff Steve Bernal says he is running again for Sheriff to bring some consistency to the position. He listed various ways in which the Sheriff's department has expanded outreach to the people of the county, including a school resource officer at North Monterey County High School (one of two high schools in unincorporated Monterey County), the Monterey County Sheriff's Explorer program, and partnerships with Salinas Union High School District and Hartnell College. He has focused on reducing vacancies in the Sheriff's Office through recruitment programs and improving collaboration with other law enforcement agencies in the county.



MONTEREY COUNTY AUDITOR/CONTROLLER THE CHAMBER ENDORSES RUPA SHAH

Yes, Monterey County voters get to elect their county auditor-controller. The Candidate Endorsement Committee enjoyed discussing tax and budget issues with candidate Rupa Shah, a CPA who is clearly qualified for the position as the current Assistant Auditor-Controller, having served in the department over 18 years.



THE CHAMBER ENDORSES MEASURE I - MONTEREY PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND

MPUSD has placed this \$213,000,000 school bond measure on the June ballot, which would cost taxpayers about 6 cents per \$100 of assessed value on property taxes. The Chamber has followed MPUSD's proposals for some time and had several meetings with the MPUSD Superintendent, Dr. PK Diffenbaugh. The administration has done an excellent job of managing the funds from the previous Measure P bond and is focused on budgeting and prioritizing. There remains significant repair and modernization needs throughout the District, which is the basis of this endorsement.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CHAMBER MEMBERS IN BUILDING A STRONG BUSINESS COMMUNITY ON THE PENINSULA

RIBBON CUTTING

**Friday, May 11
11:45 am - 1:30 pm
601 Bayonet Circle, Marina**



Interim Inc., a Monterey-based private nonprofit organization that provides support services, housing and treatment for adults with mental illness in Monterey County, will celebrate the opening of its new 14-bed Bridge House residential treatment facility and day rehab program. Lunch and building tours will follow the ribbon-cutting ceremony.