

Dennis Norton
712 Capitola Avenue, # C
Capitola, CA 95010
work: (831) 476-2616
cell: (831) 818-0335, dnortondesigns@msn.com

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Dear Employer,

As a former Mayor of Capitola, I am writing to tell you about my experience with Barbara Graves over the last decade. Public officials always want to make good appointments to boards and commissions, and I was always proud of the way that Barbara served the public in the high-profile roles entrusted to her in Capitola. These roles included:

* **Coordinator, Soquel Creek Task Force.** Barbara brought together various public agencies, non-profit organizations, environmental groups and scientists to advise on the state of the creek and make recommendations for improvement. She acted as staff to the group, called the meetings, sent out notices, took minutes, compiled the final report and sent out press releases.

* **Vice-Chair, Capitola Commission on the Environment.** When I established this commission during my mayorship, I called Barbara first to advise me on membership and structure. Since then, she has acted as a primary researcher for the group on subjects including plastics marine pollution, air pollution, land-use and urban planning. In addition to reliable involvement in any project the commission takes on, Barbara is the member of the commission who obtains funding from other agencies for Capitola's larger events, such as the yearly Water Festival and the recent forum on global warming. Barbara was the sole organizer of the May 3, 2008, Warming-Up to Water televised forum on the impacts of global warming on water supply. She procured world-famous experts on this subject, obtained necessary funding from various sources for advertising, worked with the TV crew and reporters, and followed-up by getting a dvd of the event into every public library in the county. She is now organizing house parties throughout the city so residents who were unable to attend the event can see the dvd and discuss its subject.

* **Capitola's alternate on the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.** Barbara served as my alternate on the SCCRTC, and although only my rare absences caused her to preside at a public meeting, she read and discussed every agenda packet with me, helped prepare background materials on my positions, and sometimes wrote summary position papers.

* **Capitola's Village Master Plan Advisory Committee Member.** Nowhere have I been more impressed with Barbara's ability to bring business people together with the

environmental community than in her service as a member of this Capitola committee. She used her work organizing WAVE (Working to Advance the Village Environment, a non-profit agency) in her advocacy for the City's official development of a village plan.

* **Coordinator, Traffic Busters in Schools.** This work to reduce traffic and air pollution in Capitola by encouraging walkability was a hallmark of my work on the City Council, and the non-profit agency Barbara founded and headed worked with the city in procuring grants for this important cause. She gave public presentations to local schools and involved them in the process as well.

Please call if you'd like to talk more about this recommendation for Barbara Graves.

Sincerely,

Dennis Norton
former Mayor of Capitola