

Berkeley Global Campus

AT RICHMOND BAY

Synopsis of Housing and Neighbor Representatives Recommendations for the Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay Community Working Group

About the BGC Neighbor Seat

At the May CWG meeting, members voted in favor of adding a seat to represent a neighborhood adjacent (or in close proximity) to the Berkeley Global Campus. This individual lives in an adjacent neighborhood, is active in their local neighborhood association and/or in other neighborhood activities, and is able to represent their neighbors as a CWG member.

About the Housing/Displacement Seat

At the May CWG meeting, members voted in favor of adding a housing and displacement seat. This individual will have expertise or experience in housing issues and is engaged in addressing issues related to affordable housing and displacement, including tenant concerns.

Neighbor Seat, and alternate

Name of Applicant: Edith Pastrano, Pullman Point.

Employment: Community Organizer with ACCE (Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment)

Why do you want to be appointed to the Working Group?

I live just across the I-580 from the Berkeley Global Campus. It is literally in my backyard. I have lived in Richmond my entire life. I have seen the best and the worst that Richmond has to offer. I remember times when I was growing up in Richmond when my parents would not let me or my brothers go outside because the crime was so bad. More recently we have seen dramatic changes with better community policing and less violence. Since graduating from University of California Santa Cruz, I have worked as a community organizer to improve Richmond. The Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay has the potential to change Richmond for the better. In order to ensure that me, my family, friends and neighbors can benefit from this campus it is critical that we put in place policies that ensure my family, friends and neighbors will not be pushed out of Richmond. I have been a part of the ongoing efforts to win community benefits for myself, my family and my neighbors and I would like to continue to offer my input.

Please provide a brief history of your community engagement work in Richmond, highlighting work relevant to the housing or neighbor seat. ACCE has a long history of organizing homeowners and tenants and pushing for policies that protect homeowners from predatory loans and foreclosures and protect tenants from unfair evictions and unreasonable rent increases. In 2013 and 2014 I, along with ACCE members and staff, advocated for the Richmond CARES program which would have allowed the city to use its eminent domain power to seize underwater mortgages in order to reduce their principal. At the time, I along with ACCE members and staff worked with the Keep Your Home California Board of Directors to implement better language so that the financial assistance could be better distributed to more underwater homeowners to prevent foreclosures. Most recently I along with other ACCE members and staff have been involved in an effort to win tenant protections like rent stabilization and just cause for evictions.

To learn more about the Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay and the Richmond Community Working Group visit chancellor.berkeley.edu/berkeley-global-campus-richmond-bay.

Berkeley Global Campus

AT RICHMOND BAY

What skills, strengths and resources can you bring to the Working Group? As a community organizer I have the ability to outreach to community members and leaders about important issues such as affordable housing, healthcare, raising the minimum wage. I am also an advocate for low income families of color.

Name of Applicant: Norma Labat, Eastshore

Employment: Retired

Why do you want to be appointed to the Working Group? I was born in Richmond, California went to Richmond Schools from K-12, a student at Contra Costa College. Worked at the UCB Field Station at Richmond for several years. I am a Richmond Property Owner. I am familiar with Richmond Politics and Richmond Residents. I am a natural informative person who will enjoy providing BGCRC information to the Richmond Residents.

Please provide a brief history of your community engagement work in Richmond, highlighting work relevant to the housing or neighbor seat. I was one of the first Contra Costa College Foundation Board Members who help create the Contra Costa Foundation. The Contra Costa Foundation Board was create to fund raise for low income students to attend Contra Costa College.

What skills, strengths and resources can you bring to the Working Group? I am a naturally inquisitive person I am constantly probing and inquiring until I find a satisfying answers. Then I share my investigated skills with other Richmond Residents.

Resources: Being, a native of Richmond I have developed political and business connections.

Strengths: Concentration and will power to create a BGCRC in Richmond Ca.

Housing/Displacement Expertise Seat

Name of Applicant: La Marla Stevens

Employment: Management Analyst, of the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Housing Counseling, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary

Why do you want to be appointed to the Working Group? Growing up in the city of Richmond has given me hands on experience with the community. My family has been in Richmond for decades and has been recognized by the city of Richmond as one of the first families to settle in the Richmond. Because of my family's history it is very important to me to see the city and its residents do well even through all of the violence and poverty that affects the residents every day.

Please provide a brief history of your community engagement work in Richmond, highlighting work relevant to the housing or neighbor seat. I currently work for the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development. I have had several roles within the agency including Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Division, Federal Housing Administration, Operations Division and my current role for the Office of Housing Counseling, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary. These roles have given me different perspectives and a wide range of understanding housing issues.

What skills, strengths and resources can you bring to the Working Group? If you are applying for the housing seat please include your experience in this area. My skills and strengths include years of experience with helping consumers with housing issues. Along with experience in Human Resources, Labor Relations, Project Management, Housing Assistance, Procurement, Contracting, Training.

To learn more about the Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay and the Richmond Community Working Group visit chancellor.berkeley.edu/berkeley-global-campus-richmond-bay.