

Candidate Statement for Steven Scharf
Occupation: Embedded Systems Engineer

School-overcrowding, traffic congestion, and environmental degradation have the same underlying cause: unplanned over-development by developers exploiting the qualities that attracted us to Cupertino.

I've worked for 16 years against the exploitation of Cupertino by developers. I support sensible growth, with long-term planning, to ensure that Cupertino grows in accordance with the community's values and vision. Sensible growth ensures that development conforms to the General Plan, is environmentally sound, and pays for infrastructure, including transportation, schools, and parks. I oppose developers bypassing California's Environmental Impact Report requirement with expensive, misleading, ballot initiatives and campaigns.

I will bring much-needed healthy skepticism to the council, especially when dealing with developers that have histories of unfulfilled promises and failed projects. I will ensure that projects that are approved match what is ultimately built.

By attending City Council meetings for decades, and reading campaign finance reports, I've identified which council members legislate on behalf of developers, and which members advocate for residents. Even when out of office, many former council members are paid to lobby for developers and against residents; this isn't illegal but it's unethical. Elect council members that will advocate for Cupertino.

<http://scharf4cupertino.com>.