



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CUPERTINO-SUNNYVALE

PO Box 2923 • Sunnyvale CA 94087-0923

www.lwvcs.org

February 27, 2020

CREST Nomination Committee
City of Cupertino

Dear CREST Nomination Committee,

We enthusiastically nominate Roberta Hollimon for the Cupertino CREST Lifetime Achievement Award. Roberta has been a dedicated volunteer in our community since 1964. Her 56 years of contributions span a multitude of areas including; empowering voters, enhancing the quality of local education, helping with arts enrichment as well as embracing Cupertino's changing demographics.

We nominate Roberta Hollimon not just for the length of service to the community or the breadth of her activities but because of the sustained leadership and resulting impact of her volunteerism. Roberta is deeply deserving of this award and we hope that after reading this letter you will agree.

Below are the responses to your specific questions.

How many years has Roberta Hollimon volunteered in Cupertino and for which organizations, events, or programs?

For the last 56 years Roberta has volunteered in our community.

1964 - 1980

CUSD PTA (1964 – 1975)

Brownie/Girl Scout leader 8 years (1964 - 1972)

Volunteer classroom music teacher – Regnart School grades 1 – 3 (1969 - 1973).

LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale member (1973 – current)

Monta Vista High School Music Boosters (1973-1979)

Organized auditions for the El Camino Youth Symphony (1974 - 1979)

Young Audiences - Bringing professional musical performances to young people (1974 - 1980)

1981 - 2000

LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale President or Treasurer - several times

LWV California Board, Development, Treasurer, or budget Chair (1991-1997)

Founder of Voter's Edge, formerly Smart Voter (1996 – 2015)

Facilitated City of Cupertino's 5Cs (Citizens of Cupertino Cross-Cultural Consortium) organization (1993 – 2003)

Member of the City of Cupertino Fine Arts Commission (1991-1997)

Served on two City of Cupertino General Plan Committees

2001 - 2020

LWV Cupertino-Sunnyvale Voter Editor (2004 – 2018)

LWV California Finance Committee or Strategic Planning Committee (2003 – 2009)

Peninsula Symphony Orchestra – Strategic Planning Committee, Board Governance Committee (2003 – 2004)

Member CUSD Bond Oversight Committee (2000-2005)

LWV Voter’s Edge County Coordinator (2015-present)

LWV County Council Chair, Santa Clara County (2016 – 2018)

Led LWV County efforts to pass 2016 County Ballot Measures A (Housing) and B (Transportation)

LWV Voter’s Choice Act Outreach Partner for Registrar of Voters (2017 – present)

Member FUHSD Bond Oversight Committee (2008 – 2018)

Member CUSD Parcel Tax Oversight Committee (2009 to present)

LWV’s Voter’s Choice Act Outreach Partner for Registrar of Voters (2015 to present)

What has been the impact of Roberta’s contributions and how has it addressed a community need?

1. Empowering Voters

Roberta has helped to empower local voters. She has helped voters gain access to voting through local voter registration campaigns and helped with voter education through numerous Candidate Forums and Pro Con events, which have led to increased voter confidence in making election decisions.

Roberta was the founder for Voter’s Edge (formerly SmartVoter), a website designed to provide factual information about candidates. This new website started in 1996 and is considered the gold standard in honest and unbiased election information.

2. Quality of Local Education

Roberta was a volunteer classroom music teacher for five years at Regnart Elementary School. She also advocated for the passage of bond and parcel taxes measures to support the local schools and junior colleges and secured the League’s endorsement for many of those measures. Additionally, she served on bond oversight committees to make sure that funds were spent appropriately for both CUSD and FUHSD.

3. Fine Arts Enrichment

Roberta helped with auditions for El Camino Youth Symphony for five years, which provided a place for young people to explore and express their interest in music. She assisted with the Young Audiences Program, which brought professional musical performances to young people in Cupertino. Roberta also worked with the Peninsula Symphony by assisting them with strategic planning

Roberta served on the Cupertino Fine Arts Commission from the time that the commission started in 1991 through 1996 and served as chair for several years. One of the accomplishments was to establish the need for art in new buildings.

4. Embracing Cupertino’s changing demographics

Roberta was one of the initial members of the Cupertino 5 Cs (Citizens of Cupertino Cross-Cultural Consortium) and facilitated this group for ten years. The 5Cs served as a place for people to come together to talk about difficult topics related to diversity in the community.

How have Roberta’s activities made an impact on, or a difference in, the community?

1. Educating the voters of Cupertino so they can make more informed choices on local government and ballot measures.

2. Helped Cupertino achieve and retain the quality reputation that it has in education because of the passage of bond measures, parcel taxes, and election of quality school board members.
3. Delivered at least twenty Pro Con and Candidate Forums events in each election year to help inform the citizens of Cupertino about important local decisions.
4. Founder of the website Voter's Edge that has now grown into a tool that over 6 Million California voters refer to for fact-checked information. That translates to about 10,000 users in the city of Cupertino.
5. Worked on county-wide transportation issues, including designing and funding for Highway 85.
6. Helped with the passage Santa Clara County Measure B which will hopefully translate into better transportation solution for Cupertino residents.
7. Helped with the passage of Santa Clara County Measure A which led to the County funding for the Veranda on Stevens Creek.
8. Helped to bring more fine arts to the community and enrich the musical education of local youth.
9. Facilitated cross cultural conversations among residents about issues of growing diversity in Cupertino for ten years

More about Roberta and the League of Women Voters

Roberta has been an active participant in the League of Women Voters for the past 47 years and has held a board positions for the Cupertino Sunnyvale League for all but a few years. She has also served on the Santa Clara County Council as well as the League of Women Voters of California, where she served for four years on the State Board as well as holding several key committee positions.

For local ballot measures, our League's endorsement is sought after. Roberta is known as the 'go to' person to for gaining this endorsement. Roberta has helped organizations secure the League's endorsement for a dozen local and countywide ballot measures.

Attached please find the CREST nomination form along with letters of support from the following community Leaders:

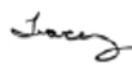
- Polly Bove, Superintendent FUHSD
- Shannon Bushey, Santa Clara County Registrar of Voter's Office
- Lori Cunningham, President and Trustee, CUSD Board of Education
- Orrin Mahoney, Former Mayor, City of Cupertino
- Hung Wei, Former Trustee FUHSD Board of Education

Thank you for considering this nomination. If you have any questions or need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact either one of us.

Sincerely,



Elaine Manley
Co-President
elaine.manley@comcast.net
408-246-5022



Tracey Edwards
Co-President
Tracey@edwards123.com
408-733-5570



FREMONT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Cupertino High School | Fremont High School | Homestead High School | Lynbrook High School | Monta Vista High School | Adult School

February 26, 2020

To the City of Cupertino,

The Fremont Union High School District is delighted to support the nomination of Roberta Holliman for the City of Cupertino's Lifetime of Outstanding Achievement Award. We know this honor is bestowed upon exemplary city residents who have dedicated a tremendous amount of their time, talents and expertise to the community at large, and Roberta Holliman has certainly given each of these in spades to our community over the last 60 years.

Roberta was a dedicated member of our Citizens Oversight Committee (COC) for a decade, ensuring that both our parcel tax and bond funds are being used as they were intended by the voters. Roberta was an incredibly thoughtful member throughout the entire ten years she served on the COC, reading every word of her committee packets and calling me between COC meetings to make sure she had a firm grasp of the issues so that she could properly carry out her duties and responsibilities to the District and its residents. Her deep knowledge and keen insights into the many financial and operational aspects of the bond were highly valued by her colleagues during her time on the COC.

As a committed member of the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale for five decades, Roberta has continually emphasized the importance of voting and civic engagement for our students and community members. She has cultivated a strong relationship between the League and our district, ensuring that its membership has a solid understanding of the issues facing local public education.

I give my highest recommendation to Roberta Holliman, who has selflessly cared for and about this community for more than 60 years. She has been a volunteer in our schools and for community organizations serving young people, served on City committees supporting the arts and cultural and advanced many causes related to civic engagement. As a gift to our entire community, she is truly deserving of this important honor.

Sincerely,

Polly Bove
Superintendent

Subject **Recommendation for Roberta Hollimon**
From bushey, shannon
To Tracey Edwards
Date 2020-02-18 17:57

Hi Tracey,

Thanks for letting me know that you are nominating Roberta Hollimon for the City of Cupertino CREST Lifetime Achievement Award.

If possible, please add my comments to your submission.

For many years I have worked with League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale and specifically Roberta.

Roberta puts voter's rights, voter access, and voter education as a priority in her volunteer work and she does so in a graceful and effective manner.

Among her many activities, Roberta has worked on voter registration, ballot measure Pro/Con presentations, and candidate forums.

Most recently she has helped get the word out on the Voter's Choice Act (VCA). She worked with the Leagues in the County of Santa Clara to incorporate a VCA discussion into all their presentations leading up to the March primary.

The Registrar of Voters relies on volunteers to fulfill our mission and Roberta is the best example of an effective and committed volunteer and has been so consistently for decades. Roberta is the kind of volunteer that makes our democracy better and stronger.

I hope you will agree with me that Roberta is very deserving of your Crest Lifetime Achievement Award.

Shannon

Shannon Bushey, CERA
Registrar of Voters
County of Santa Clara
1555 Berger Drive, Bldg. 2
San Jose, CA 95112

voterschoice@rov.sccgov.org



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Subject **CREST, Roberta Hollimon**
From Lorien Cunningham
To Tracey Edwards
Date 2020-02-18 23:56

Hi Tracey,

It has come to my attention that the League is nominating Roberta Hollimon for the City of Cupertino CREST Lifetime Achievement Award. I think that is an incredibly well deserved honor, and would be pleased if you'd kindly pass along my letter of support.

First as a community member and volunteer, and now as an elected member of the Cupertino Union School District Board of Trustees, I have developed a strong appreciation for what the League contributes to our community, but even more specifically the contribution that Roberta has made over so many years.

I am particularly thankful for Roberta's contributions as a champion for public education in our community:

- When her own children were young, she spent many years volunteering in our local public schools; for example, as a classroom music teacher at Regnart Elementary and later, supporting the Monta Vista High School music program.
- Even once her own children had completed their schooling, Roberta has continued to quietly and continuously support local schools in many capacities over the years. For example, Roberta became a local expert in understanding the funding challenges in our schools and has worked to support many of the local school funding measures over the years, helping to secure desperately needed local funds for local schools.
- Roberta has served on both the CUSD and FUHSD Citizens' Oversight Committees for Bond Programs and Parcel Taxes, helping to ensure that the monies raised were spent responsibly and as promised to the voters in our community.
- Roberta is a key thought partner to many, representing the Cupertino-Sunnyvale League on the County Education Committee and helping to identify and educate others on education policy agendas locally and statewide. She's also taken the time to help recruit new education champions with a hand out and up to the next generation as a mentor and resource.

When assistance was needed this past year in helping secure the League's endorsement

and ballot argument signers on CUSD's Measure O on the March 3, 2020 ballot, Roberta as always was a leader in the effort to support and inform.

-

Roberta also cares deeply that voters have the chance to make informed decisions about local elections. For example, she has been instrumental in delivering high quality Candidate Forums for FUHSD, CUSD and SEDS School Board elections; ensuring the League puts on these forums so the community can have a professional and unbiased look at the candidates.

These are just a few of the many valuable, productive, and important activities that Roberta has led or been involved in for the benefit of our community that I am aware of — and knowing Roberta, I'm quite sure there are so many more.

Roberta Hollimon is an exemplary citizen volunteer and our community is a better place because of her involvement, volunteerism and leadership.

She is the ideal candidate for the Crest Lifetime Achievement Award.

Sincerely,
Lori Cunningham
Board President and Trustee
Cupertino Union School District

February 26, 2020

RE: Roberta Hollimon letter of support

To: The City of Cupertino CREST Awards Committee;

I am a former Cupertino Planning Commission Member, City Councilmember and two-time Mayor for the City of Cupertino, and Community Volunteer. It is in these capacities that I have had a chance to get to know Roberta Hollimon over the past 40 years and to enthusiastically support her nomination for the CREST Lifetime Achievement Award.

I probably first met Roberta when we served together on the 1990 Cupertino General Plan Goals Committee, where she worked hard to maximize the community input into the General Plan goals . After that as I participated in several unsuccessful and finally successful campaigns for public office, I experienced the great work that she did for the League of Women Voters, including the founding of the Smart Voter website. Roberta also was a Fine Arts Commissioner while I was a Planning Commissioner in the mid 1990's.

All my interactions with Roberta have been positive, and her dedication to the interests of good government for the City of Cupertino and beyond are unequalled

Based on my long term experience, Roberta is truly deserving of the CREST Lifetime Achievement Award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Orrin Mahoney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Orrin Mahoney

February 21, 2020

Tracey Edwards & Elaine Manley
Co-Presidents
League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale

Dear Tracey and Elaine,

I'm writing in support of the nomination of Roberta Hollimon for the City of Cupertino's CREST Lifetime Achievement Award.

I've seen Roberta in action as an active volunteer in our community in numerous positions. Her commitment and dedication in promoting democracy through her volunteer work with the League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale (LWVCS), since 1973 until present, goes without saying - Roberta has served as LWVCS President and Treasurer numerous times, was among the Founder of Smart Voter/Voter's Edge, acted as LWVCS Voter Editor for fourteen years, and she also served on many California State League of Women Voters Boards and Committees.

Among her many community volunteer work, I have personally witnessed her exemplary performance on the Fremont Union High School District Bond Oversight Committee from 2008-2018, while I was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Fremont Union High School District. Roberta volunteered on the FUHSD Bond Oversight Committee with dedication and commitment, checking over all expenses, attending regular Committee meetings as well as FUHSD Board meetings when reporting findings. Her stewardship in making sure that bond money is spent where it should be as voted by the people has ensured that FUHSD acts responsibly and manages bond resources prudently.

Roberta is a role model in volunteerism and community involvement. The City of Cupertino is lucky to have Roberta as an active citizen who truly cares! It is my pleasure and honor to support the nomination of Roberta Hollimon for CREST Lifetime Achievement Award.

Best regards,

Hung Wei

2008-2018 Governing Board Member, Fremont Union High School District
Current Board Member and VP of Development, Fremont Union High Schools Foundation
Current Member and Membership Director, League of Women Voters of Cupertino-Sunnyvale