



# SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

## June 2022 Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire

**Must be completed and submitted no later than \*\*\*March 20, 2022:**

Santa Cruz County Democrats, PO Box 7763, Santa Cruz, 95061,  
or by email: [endorsements@cruzdcc.groups.io](mailto:endorsements@cruzdcc.groups.io)

The Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee will be considering endorsing eligible Democrats who have qualified to appear on the ballot in the June, 2022 election for both contested and uncontested positions. In order to be eligible, a candidate must be a registered Democrat for at least six months prior to the final filing date for that candidate's race in this election. An endorsement by us automatically carries an endorsement by the California Democratic Party.

All eligible candidates who wish to be considered for endorsement are invited to complete our Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire and return a copy electronically (1) via Google Forms, or (2) by email to [endorsements@cruzdcc.groups.io](mailto:endorsements@cruzdcc.groups.io) no later than March 20, or (3) by USPS Mail postmarked no later than March 16 to Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee, PO Box 7763, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. Due to recently implemented USPS delays, we encourage an electronic reply.

Questions: Please email us at [endorsements@cruzdcc.groups.io](mailto:endorsements@cruzdcc.groups.io)


### **\*REQUIRED**

Untitled Section

1. Candidate Name:\* Jimmy Dutra
2. Elected Office You Seek:\*
  - a. Santa Cruz County Supervisor, 3rd District
  - b.  Santa Cruz County Supervisor, 4th District
3. Email Address (this will be our default manner in which to communicate with you, unless you specify otherwise): \*

[electjimmydutra@gmail.com](mailto:electjimmydutra@gmail.com)

4. Preferred Mailing Address (for correspondence relating to endorsement only):\*

5. Home/Office Phone\*:
6. Cell Phone:\* 
7. Name of Campaign Committee and FPPC#:\* Dutra for Supervisor 2022/FPPC#1444297
8. Campaign Website: [www.jimmydutra.com](http://www.jimmydutra.com)
9. Social Media Handle(s): [facebook/jimmydutra](https://www.facebook.com/jimmydutra)

#### Democratic Affiliation

10. Approximate number of years as a registered Democrat:\*

Almost 30 years

11. Describe your involvement with the Democratic Party at the Local, State or National level over the last few years:\*

Over the past years I have been a delegate at the convention, an alternate member to the DCC, a member to the Democratic Women's Club of Santa Cruz County and I have led with democratic values.

#### General Informational Questions

12. List the ten (10) organizational or personal endorsements of your candidacy that you consider to be the most important or most representative of your campaign:\*

1. The over 300 District 4 voter's endorsements listed at [www.jimmydutra.com](http://www.jimmydutra.com) 2. Highest elected Latina in south county, Council Member Rebecca Garcia 3. Community Organizers Mas and Marcia Hashimoto 4. Pajaro Valley Chamber Woman of the Year Barbie Gomez 5. Metro Bus Drivers (SMART) 6. Equality California 7. Santa Cruz County Board of Education Board President, Abel Sanchez 8. Watsonville City Council Member Eduardo Montesino. 9.

Dana Sales, Santa Cruz County Board of Education, Former Trustee District 4 10. Women's Studies Professor Shirley Flores Munoz

13. Briefly describe aspects of your background and experiences that indicate your qualifications for the office you seek:\*

As a mayor, vice mayor, city council member, teacher, small business owner and a person whose family dates back three generations in our valley, I believe I have the experience and care that south county deserves.

### **Major Constituency Issues**

14. What are the top five major issues facing this office?:\*

Homelessness, infrastructure, housing, public safety, levee upgrades and maintenance, mental and social health services.

15. Candidates in the past have said, let the voters decide on controversial issues such as Greenway. Now that the voters will decide, specifically how are you going to vote on the Greenway initiative?\*

- Support the Greenway Initiative as written
- Oppose the Greenway Initiative as written

16. Many people look at the big issues facing us and are frustrated at the lack of progress; they feel government just isn't being effective. Given that our housing challenges are complex, what should be the top priorities for the Board of Supervisors in tackling the housing crisis in our county:\*

Making sure the responsibility of building housing is shared equitably throughout the county. Also, looking to other municipalities who have been able to successfully build housing for guidance and direction.

17. Can you give us an example of when and how input and/or evidence has convinced you to override your initial opinion on a public policy issues?:\*

Utility rate hikes. I changed my vote once the seniors in our community shared their concerns and the impact it would have on the residents. I thought we should have waited for the infrastructure bill's funding to see if the utility rates could be adjusted.

18. Anything further you would like us to know about you?:\*

Below, please find my bio.

Jimmy Dutra has deep roots in the Pajaro Valley. He was born and raised in Watsonville and attended local schools, including Salesian Sisters, E.A. Hall Middle School and Watsonville High School. Jimmy earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science from Santa Clara University and received his Masters in Executive Leadership at the University of Southern California's Sol Price School of Public Policy. While in college, he was a White House Intern in Washington D.C. Immediately upon graduation he worked on two high profile campaigns before pursuing another one of his dreams of working in Hollywood. He worked for several high profile companies including Paramount Pictures and Nickelodeon Films. Jimmy received his real estate license in 2005 and was an award winning real estate agent for several years.

In 2010 he moved back home to Watsonville and opened a small business, Jimmy's Pumpkins. Jimmy was known for working with local schools and teachers by donating a portion of his proceeds and pumpkins back to them. He had so much admiration for education that he decided to be part of the profession. As a teacher, union member and now lead teacher for the after-school program for the Pajaro Valley Unified School District, Jimmy has always championed for his colleagues and students.

In 2014, Jimmy was the first openly LGBTQ person elected to the Watsonville City Council. During his first term he advocated for an improved infrastructure, worked with Watsonville Wetlands Watch to clear brush out of the sloughs to prevent fires and to provide safer access, and he collaborated with the community to build a park and community garden on Davis Avenue. Recently, he was elected for a second term in 2020 and was Watsonville's first openly gay mayor in 2021. As the mayor he was a big voice in securing the vaccine for south county residents, including prioritizing farm workers, seniors and essential workers. Jimmy helped advocate and acquire 30 million in funding for our parks and infrastructure. He worked tirelessly with community members and organizations in raising thousands of dollars to bring back holiday lights on Main Street.

In addition to recently being the former mayor for Watsonville and currently a city council member, Jimmy is a part of the following organizations, boards and commissions:

- Santa Cruz Metro, Current Board Member and Former Board Chair
- Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Board President
- Community Action Board, Former Board Member
- The Diversity Center, Board Member
- California League of Cities, Member
- California League of Cities, Transportation Committee Member
- California League of Cities LGBTQ Caucus, Board Member
- Pajaro Valley Shelter Services, Past President and Board Member

Jimmy is focused on making the Pajaro Valley a better place to live. He cares deeply for his community and believes by working together we can build a better and more robust place we call home.

Thank you for submitting your questionnaire. We look forward to hearing from you at the forum on Wednesday, March 23 at 7pm via ZOOM. Questions? [endorsements@cruzdcc.groups.io](mailto:endorsements@cruzdcc.groups.io)