

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 2020 ELECTION ENDORSEMENT FORUM
Protocol and Overview**

A Candidate Endorsement Forum is scheduled to be held on **Saturday, August 29th from 10 am to 1 pm** for those candidates who request endorsement and return the questionnaire on time. Due to the COVID19 epidemic, we will be holding our forum via ZOOM. Voting will be held from 1 to 2 pm via E-Ballot. Results will be posted on www.CruzDemocrats.org.

Voting

- A quorum of current Central Committee members, or their alternates in the member's absence, must be present in order for any endorsement to be valid.
- Only members, or their alternates in the member's absence, are eligible to vote;
- Voting will be held promptly after the forum has concluded;
- Per CADEM guidelines, all votes will be received by E-ballots (via google forms) and will be recorded and made public; and
- No proxy or absentee ballots are allowed.
- Club representatives may not vote.

Endorsement Vote Thresholds

- 55% of those members (or their alternates) present and voting is required for endorsement when there are no more Democratic candidates seeking office than seats in the race;
- 60% of those members (or their alternates) present and voting is required for endorsement when there are more Democratic candidates seeking office than seats in the race;
- A No Endorsement option will be on the ballot for each race; (Note: A "No Endorsement" vote is a vote to not endorse any candidate for that office")
- 70% of those members (or their alternates) present and voting is required for formal "No Endorsement" vote;
- Failure to reach any of the above thresholds results in a "No Consensus" position; and
- Thresholds apply to Democratic candidates seeking office, whether or not a candidate seeks DCC Endorsement or submits a questionnaire.

Candidate Panels

- All candidates for the same (or similar) race, who are not on the Consent Calendar, will be on a joint panel;
- Each candidate will be allowed a three (3) minute opening presentation; and
- Questions previously submitted by DCC members and alternates will be asked to all members of the panel with each member of the panel having the opportunity for a two (2) minute response.

No Campaigning at Forum

- No campaign signs, banners, etc., will be allowed at the Forum or on-camera during a Zoom forum; *and*
- During COVID19, there is no way to have information about candidates on a table at the forum. Therefore, we will post a list of all websites/social media handles for every eligible Democratic candidate seeking endorsement to our website as soon as possible. After endorsement, we will only post links for our endorsed candidates.