

# DON'T Vote for Mayor Schroder or Councilmember McKillop



The Mayor claims he's "Getting Things Done"  
But are they the right things for Martinez?

## CANDIDATE STATEMENT

### ROB SCHRODER

Mayor of Martinez

I am honored to serve as your Mayor and will continue to work hard to maintain/improve the quality of life for Martinez citizens. I remain focused on **GETTING GOOD THINGS DONE**. Together we have:

Balanced the City budget with a **healthy reserve for emergencies** ①

**Repared roads** – in nearly all areas of the City (continuing) \*

Hired **new Police Chief**, approved plan to **retain/hire more police officers** \*

Created 2-1-1 strategy to move homeless off the streets/into treatment \*

Renovated ballfields, ② bringing Martinez's first baseball team (GO CLIPPERS)

Supported new shops, restaurants, coffeehouses, breweries **awakening the Downtown** ③

Upgraded our parks, picnic areas, lighting; remodeled Rankin Pool, our library, ballfields ②

Preserved hundreds of acres of **open space/future hiking trails**, created Martinez's first off-leash **dog park** ④

**Working together** we can continue to **GET GOOD THINGS DONE**. Here is my "TO DO" \* list should you re-elect me Mayor:

Develop funding plan to **hire additional police officers** to prevent/investigate home/car burglaries, to maintain/improve 911 emergency response times; **Replace faulty water mains** to maintain water quality/prevent seasonal flooding; **Strengthen the City's finances** should a future recession occur; Plan and **rebuild Waterfront/Marina**, ⑤ with a restaurant/event center, a boutique hotel, and **provide Martinez with future ferry service** to San Francisco.....



① **THE TRUTH** — The Mayor's reserve was created by underfunding roads, police, parks and more. His "balanced budget" now requires a \$48,000,000\* tax increase for roads (Measure D)... and another \$48,000,000\* tax increase for police, parks, etc. (Measure X) ❖ **THE LARGEST TAX INCREASE IN CITY HISTORY**. ❖ This may be the largest percent tax increase in the entire county — 30%. (\*That's \$3.2M per year for 15 years for each tax.)



② **THE TRUTH** — Citizens made all this possible through Measure H. **ALL THE MAYOR DID WAS SPEND YOUR MONEY**. Citizens created Measure H, with very clear use guidelines, and got it passed without the Mayor's help. ❖ The Mayor DID GIVE \$400,000 from our underfunded General Fund to "help" the new privately owned baseball team.



③ **THE TRUTH** — The Mayor got the Council to approve the Martinez Redevelopment Agency in 2004. The Agency would have ruined Downtown with generic development and special developer deals. Citizens stopped it with a referendum, preserving our historic, small-town nature. ❖ Citizens created "Main Street Martinez" in 2001, which has done much more for Downtown than the Mayor, including many large promotional events — all with citizen volunteers.



④ **THE TRUTH** — The Mayor has not "preserved hundreds of acres" of anything. He has been a major OPPONENT of Open Space and Parks. He's (1) voted at least three times to convert Open Space to housing, (2) opposed Measure I and broke the law to try to stop it, (3) continues those efforts today using taxpayer money from our underfunded General Fund. ❖ He said "we have enough parks." He opposes putting a plan for future parks and trails in the new General Plan Update. ❖ Only strong citizen efforts made the dog park and protection of our open space and parks a reality.



⑤ The Marina should be preserved for recreation and marine use. A fine restaurant and half a dozen recreation/marine oriented shops should be our goal — not an overdeveloped commercial/tourist center which the Mayor proposes. And more housing has no place on our Waterfront, even though the Mayor supports it. ❖ The Mayor tried to get all of this in 2001 and citizens rejected it then.

## Thousand Friends of Martinez

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\* That's what a Mayor is supposed to do!

# **DON'T** Vote for Mayor Schroder or Councilmember McKillop

## **SOME ITEMS LEFT OFF THE MAYOR'S CANDIDATE STATEMENT (PARTIAL LIST)**

**Failure to protect Alhambra Hills** as open space ten years ago. The Alhambra Hills development plan was at the City for at least 10 years, during which the Mayor could have led efforts to secure the land for public open space. Instead, he waited **until after he approved the final project - sky-rocketing the price**. He then waited several more years until a citizen committee, the Alhambra Hills Open Space Committee, and thousands of supporters forced him to take a stand.

**Favoring developers over citizens** is a consistent pattern for the Mayor. Examples include; (1) his active support of every overdevelopment project in the neighborhoods outside of Downtown—including the Seeno development which he approved going from 5-9 houses to 74 units; and (2) his representing the developers' interests in opposing Measure I, even using developer letters as a key basis for the suit his Council brought against citizens—with taxpayer dollars.

**Failure to complete General Plan Update**...after ten years of trying, and spending hundreds of thousands of dollars. The current Update version gives citizens and neighborhoods NO protection, and allows the Council to develop what they want where they want. (**Measure I ensures that at least open space and parks will be protected in any new plan.**) The process stalled two years ago, and the Citizen Advisory group was disbanded before making any recommendations. **It must be started from scratch and done right—with true citizen input and clear development standards and rules.**

**Setting up gerrymandered voting Districts** that make no sense and don't work. The map he approved disenfranchises numerous Martinez voters, taking away their polling stations. His map increased the City's election costs, and now we face even more costs to do it all over again to get it right.

**Failure to manage Pleasant Hill-Martinez Joint Facilities Agency** has now cost taxpayers over \$4,000,000. According to the City letter to the Grand Jury, "**The Agency is controlled by the City of Martinez and has the same governing body as the City.**" State law requires "...an annual audit...and records of every agency..." As a member of the governing body for 22 years, did the Mayor exercise good management of this Agency?

**Opposition to Measure I using taxpayer dollars—The Mayor used every resource and trick possible** to defeat this citizen-based open space/park protection Initiative—including actions that broke the law and authorizing \$100,000 taxpayer dollars for S.F. lawyers. He spread fear and confusion through campaign fliers and City-funded "reports" and publications. He continues his efforts today using more taxpayer funds, even though Measure I won the election.

**The Mayor mismanages the City and alienates the citizens.** According to the recent **City Poll** (1) the Council is the least respected government body, (2) **voters who Strongly Disapprove of the Council doubled** in the last ten years from 9% to 18% and the Council overall approval rating fell, and (3) **65% of voters think waste and inefficiency of government is an issue.** ❖ The City has **gone through five City Managers** and five Planning Managers in recent years. ❖ The Mayor controls the Council Meeting Agenda and commission appointments and public comment. That is too much power to have in just one person's hands. ❖ The Pine Meadow SLAPP suit brought by a developer and landowners against citizens unfortunately left citizens scared to speak their opinions, even after winning the suit. **Despite numerous requests, the Mayor has done nothing to help even his own citizens understand they have nothing to fear in speaking their thoughts and opinions.**

**“Martinez never seems to reach its full potential.” *The East Bay Times* (5/29/18 & 9/14/18) sums it up well. “Too many Martinez residents don't trust their City Council — with good reason.” “Schroder...should have called it quits. He's had his chance.”**