

Candidate Application Statement: Altadena Town Council Election, November 2020

Applicant Name: Amy Lyford
Census Tract: 4601

Statement of Qualifications for Office:

I have lived in Altadena for 21 years. I am a Professor of Art History at Occidental College in Los Angeles, where I have also served as a Department Chair, President of the Faculty, and Associate Dean of the College. I hope to join the Altadena Town Council at this moment because I feel strongly about connecting with, and working for, my community at a time in my life when I know I can carve out the time to do the work required. I will be a persistent advocate and active participant in Altadena governance.

Although I live in Census Tract 4601 on the Eastern side of Altadena, one of my goals will be to expand the reach of my work as a Town Council member to collaborate with, and work for, residents of other Census Tracts. I believe strongly in collaboration and consensus-building; yet I am also not one to shy away from the difficult work of engaging all perspectives in the community as a means of building trust so that we can advance our shared goals.

I do not have a personal agenda; I am invested only in working towards a more transparent, process-based, and community-centric approach to local governance. As a Professor at Occidental, I work with a wide range of students, staff and faculty from all different backgrounds, identity positions, and abilities. My goals as a Professor are to uplift and advance the interests of my students and colleagues; to listen to and to engage the diversity of voices that are part of the community; and to advance our shared goals through concrete actions on behalf of the entire community. I would bring this approach to my work with the Altadena Town Council, my Census Tract, and Altadena as a whole.