



**\*\*UPDATED APRIL 2017\*\***

## **Biographies for Members of the Balboa Reservoir Community Advisory Committee**

### **Mike Ahrens**

Mike Ahrens is a San Francisco native, having lived in various areas of the city throughout his life including Bayview, Richmond, Sunset and the Parkside. He has lived with his wife Sandy in Westwood Park for the last 16 years. He attended St. Anne's grammar school, Riordan High School, obtained his Bachelors degree in Political Science from the University of San Francisco, and his JD from the University of San Francisco Law School. Mike specializes in Chapter 11 corporate reorganization law and bankruptcy law, representing debtors, creditors and creditors committees. Mike was with Bronson, Bronson & McKinnon for 27 years. For the past 18 years Mike has been a partner with Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton in its San Francisco office. Mike retired as a partner from Sheppard in 2015, and is now Of Counsel to the firm. Mike is active as a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. He has been selected by Chambers USA as a leading Bankruptcy lawyer from 2004 to the present. He also has been selected by Best Lawyers in America from 2003 to the present. He was appointed as a mediator by the United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of California in 1994 to the present, and has successfully resolved many major disputes as a court appointed mediator. As an example, he has had major representation in the following cases: Pacific Gas & Electric; Dillingham Construction; Trailways Bus Lines; Joseph Magnin; Humboldt Creamery; and, Knudsen and Foremost Foods.

### **Howard Chung**

Howard Chung is an attorney who practices in the areas of real Estate, Corporate, and General Business Law. Prior to founding his own law firm, he was an Adjunct Professor of Law with the University of San Francisco School of Law, then worked with the law firm of Bronson, Bronson & McKinnon in San Francisco. Howard served on several boards and committees; he is the current Vice Chairperson of Ocean Avenue Association, Community Benefits District; current board member of Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC); former President & Member, Board of Directors, California Alumni Association--Chinese Chapter; former Member, Board of Governors, Central YMCA; former Member, Board of Directors, McLaren School of Business Advisory Council, University of San Francisco; and current Vice President of the UC

Chinese Alumni Foundation. Howard has a B.A. in Business Administration from the University of California, Berkeley and a J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of Law.

### **Brigitte Davila**

Brigitte Davila is a resident of the Mission Terrace Neighborhood and is dedicated to the quest for affordable, accessible, and quality higher education for all Californians. Brigitte is a Professor in the Latina/Latino Studies Department in the College of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University (SFSU), where her area of focus is law and public policy, with an emphasis on community activism. As Program Director of the Latina/Latino Studies Community Service Learning Program, Brigitte has the opportunity to work closely with community-based organizations actively supporting Latinos. She serves on the Executive Board of the SFSU Academic Senate and is currently a Higher Education Representative to the statewide California Teachers Association. Brigitte is also a Trustee with San Francisco City College, a Board Member with Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth, President of the San Francisco District 11 Democratic Club, and Vice-President of the San Francisco Latino Democratic Club. Brigitte received a B.A. in Rhetoric at the University of California, Berkeley, and a J.D. at Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley.

### **Christine Godinez**

Christine Godinez is the Director of Student Inclusion, Leadership and Civic Engagement at Lick-Wilmerding High School. She leads Lick-Wilmerding's commitment to full inclusion and success for all students, including students of color, through the creation of programs for families, particularly families of color, to provide support for and access to all school programs and services. Working with community organizations serving Districts 7 and 11, Christine also develops programs and collaborates with faculty to expand students' participation in public service and political discourse. Prior to working at Lick-Wilmerding, Christine mentored with I Have a Dream, assisting Dreamers through high school to prepare for college. She also serves on several boards and committees, including the Ocean Avenue Association. Christine received a B.A. in Psychology and Sociology from the University of San Francisco and an M.A. in Educational Leadership from Mills College.

### **Rebecca Lee**

Rebecca Lee is a senior analyst at California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Rebecca currently develops regulatory policy for emerging technologies affecting traditional energy, water, and telecommunications regulation in California. Previously, she managed legislative affairs for the Office of Ratepayer Advocates at the CPUC and frequently testified before legislative committees to advocate for the interests of utility customers. Prior to CPUC, she worked in the areas of public transit development at Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and private air quality consulting. Rebecca is also an avid animal welfare and wildlife conservation activist in her spare time.

### **Robert Muehlbauer**

Robert Muehlbauer is an active member of the Ingleside District and has been a resident for 36 years. He is committed to contributing his time to community efforts aimed at improving the neighborhood and his home. He currently chairs the Balboa Park Station Area Citizens Advisory Committee with an interest in traffic circulation, public transportation and ensuring high quality infrastructure. Prior to the Balboa Park Station Area Citizens Advisory Committee, Robert's career spanned 25 years in managing affordable housing, economic development and neighborhood preservation programs for local government. He was the Neighborhood Improvement and Housing Manager for the City of San Mateo, and worked for the Housing Conservation and Development Corporation in San Francisco.

### **Maurice Rivers**

Maurice lives in the Oceanview-Merced Heights-Ingleside (OMI) and is a Board Member of the OMI Cultural Participation Project and the OMI Community Collaborative. He is a graduate of City College of San Francisco and the owner of the Umbrella Tree, a small business consultancy for office management and spatial organization. Maurice is also the Neighborhood Lead for Nextdoor Ingleside, a neighborhood blog that connects neighbors and businesses in the OMI.

### **Lisa Spinali**

Lisa Spinali, a nationally recognized leader in the field of volunteerism and civic engagement, has more than 30 years of cross-sector experience. As Executive Director, she ran and successfully merged San Francisco School Volunteers with the San Francisco Education Fund. Prior to that, Lisa led civic engagement funding for the Omidyar Foundation; founded Ripple Effect Consulting, working with more than 100 public sector organizations to improve their organizational effectiveness; and served as lead consultant for the Corporation for National Service's Presidio Leadership Center in San Francisco, designing innovative leadership training programs and providing instruction to more than 300 nonprofit executives. While working at

American Express, Lisa was appointed as an executive-on-loan to the White House, serving on the launch team for President Clinton's national service initiative, AmeriCorps. She currently serves as an Advisor to Reimagining Service and Greenlight Fund as well as Board Chair for SFCASA. Lisa serves on the board of commissioners for California Volunteers (appointed by the Office of the Governor), and has served on the Citizens Advisory Council for San Francisco's Department of Children, Youth and Families. Lisa earned a masters degree in business administration from the Harvard Business School and a bachelors degree in Italian literature from the University of California, Berkeley.

### **Jon Winston**

Jon Winston is a resident of the Sunnyside Neighborhood. Jon's career has spanned over 30 year in the graphic arts, and he owned a small business for many years. Jon is an active member of several advocacy and advisory groups focused on bicycle and pedestrian safety, including Livable City, the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition (SFBC), Walk San Francisco, Friends of Monterey Blvd., the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Traffic and Safety Committee, and the San Francisco Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee. He implemented several street policies to make San Francisco streets safer and more complete, including working with SFBC to start the Valencia Street bike lanes, publishing a report on traffic calming measures on Monterey Boulevard with Friends of Monterey Blvd., and working with Walk SF to limit speeds in school zones to 15 mph citywide. Jon is passionate about reducing people's reliance on their cars.