

## Candidate statement for Karen Martien

I have lived and worked in University City for 26 years. I came here as a graduate student at UCSD. Since completing my Ph.D. in conservation genetics, I have worked at a lab on the campus of Scripps Institution of Oceanography, where I use genetic data from whales and dolphins to inform marine conservation and management decisions.

My diversity of experience as a UC resident will enable me to consider issues from multiple perspectives. I've lived in both north and south UC, and have been both a renter and a homeowner. I've lived here as a UCSD student, as a young professional, and now as a parent raising two children.

We know that density will increase in UC in coming decades. As a member of the UCPG, my goal would be to ensure that growth happens in a way that enhances the quality of life of all residents. Future development should celebrate and protect the natural beauty of our area. It should help people live close to where they work, shop, and play. It should also make it easier, safer, and more appealing for UC residents and workers to walk, bike, or use public transit for their transportation needs.