

Statement of Qualification for Bill Smith

Since relocating to University Heights from the San Francisco Bay Area, I have immersed myself in local history and planning matters. As a member of the University Heights Community Association (UHCA) board, in addition to being responsible for membership and information technology, I have served as the board's political and planning liaison.

In addition to a long career in the technology industry, I have acquired extensive knowledge and experience in urban planning and local government while serving four years as homeowners' association President for a 1,200-home community. More recently, I undertook extensive research into the planning history of University Heights, resulting in a detailed position paper on why UH is divided between two planning groups, how that impacts community participation, and why the division should be corrected. I am currently focused on the future of the SDUSD Education Center, a project of critical importance to the UH community. In each of these activities, my skill in geographic information systems (GIS), has allowed me to generate maps that inform and persuade based on detailed census, election, and other data.

If elected to the board, I promise to dedicate myself to understanding the needs and wishes of community members, to evaluate competing interests thoroughly and fairly, and to add value to the board's work regardless of which neighborhood is concerned.