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## Peninsula Open Space Trust Appoints Ken Yeager to Board of Directors

*Yeager brings extensive public service experience and environmental policy work to the organization*

**PALO ALTO, Calif. (April 16, 2019)** – [Peninsula Open Space Trust](#) (POST), a nonprofit dedicated to protecting open space throughout the Peninsula and the South Bay, today announced the appointment of **Ken Yeager** to its board of directors. Yeager joins POST with more than three decades of public service experience, including 12 years as District 4 Supervisor for the County of Santa Clara, where he championed fiscal stability in healthcare, public safety and social services. He was the first openly gay elected official to join the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, completing his last term in 2018. Yeager previously served as a councilmember for the City of San Jose from 2000-2006 and served two terms on the San Jose/Evergreen Community College Board from 1993-2000. He served on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County for seven years where he cast numerous votes to preserve agricultural farm lands.



*Ken Yeager, New Board Member at Peninsula Open Space Trust*

“I’ve always been a strong believer in the benefits that nature and open space provide to the physical and mental well-being of residents across our region,” said Yeager. “The accelerated development of Silicon Valley over the last 40 years has put open space at risk, and I’ve been impressed by POST’s efforts to balance this trend. I look forward to working with the POST board and the organization’s wider team to ensure that open space is preserved for the benefit of all.”

Prior to his career in politics, Yeager lectured in the political science department at San Jose State University for 12 years. He is also a former board member of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). In January 2009, then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

appointed Yeager as the BAAQMD representative to the California Air Resources Board, which is responsible for reducing air pollution and combating global warming. He was named Community Health Partnership's Community Health Champion in 2014 and won Breathe California's Clean Air Leadership Award in 2011.

Throughout his career, Yeager has sat on 16 public service boards and 11 community involvement boards, where he demonstrated a commitment to environmental issues. He has also published two books, *Trailblazers: Profiles of America's Gay and Lesbian Elected Officials* and *Child Care and Electoral Politics at the Local Level*.

"I'm proud to have Ken join our board. His vast experience working across government and other organizations on environmental issues in the South Bay will add an important perspective," said POST's board chair, **Dennis DeBroeck**. "His health-centered work and understanding of the communities in Santa Clara County will be especially valuable to our continuing efforts to protect and preserve open space across the Peninsula and in the South Bay."

Yeager holds a doctorate in education and master's in sociology from Stanford University, as well as a bachelor's degree in political science from San Jose State University. He resides in San Jose, California, with his long-time partner, Michael Haberecht. He is a triathlete, fitness enthusiast and enjoys commuting to work by bike.

For more information about POST, visit [www.openspacetrust.org](http://www.openspacetrust.org).

#### **About the Peninsula Open Space Trust**

POST protects open space on the Peninsula and in the South Bay for the benefit of all. As a private nonprofit land trust, POST has been responsible for saving more than 77,000 acres since 1977. POST works with private landowners and public agencies to create a network of protected lands so that present and future generations may benefit from the careful balance of rural and urban landscapes that makes our region extraordinary. Visit [openspacetrust.org](http://openspacetrust.org) for more information.

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