



SUPERVISOR ENDORSEMENT

Steve Ding for District 4

Earlier this month the Chamber's Endorsement Panel consisting of members of the Board of Directors, the Government Relations Committee and members at large interviewed Steve Ding, and Steve Colangelo, both gentlemen running for District 4 Supervisor. District 4 contains much of the agricultural lands in the county. It also surrounds several cities the largest in population growth by quite a bit is Lodi.

Mr. Ding is a restaurant owner in Woodbridge, Mr. Colangelo a longtime small business owner who lives in Linden. The candidates were interviewed independently by the chamber panel but asked the same pertinent questions about their governing style, their approach to grave situations concerning SJC wells, water and other unwanted political advancements from Sacramento.

Mr. Ding separated himself from his competition early on when he said. We need to form coalitions built on relationships of trust. If Sacramento types are bulling us, you can bet they are giving the same treatment to Elk Grove and Stanislaus. He was not suggesting starting war but to work with people finding common ground and work together for mutual satisfaction and move things forward. When this happens, it is easier to work with people across the aisle on any number of items.

Community Separators are something that are important to the people of SJC as they are prominently mentioned in the County's General Plan. The people of SJC believe that the different communities should maintain their unique charm and personality. Steve, understanding the location we used in the question, as he began talking about Armstrong Road, how it already has many attributes that lend it to a unique space where elegant homes, can share spaces with other homes on small parcels that have their grapes custom farmed. Where other spaces could house a boutique winery or small lavender farm, a tourist-oriented Bed and Breakfast, complement existing property owners. It all has to fit together so everyone's place is their own and we did not bend the land regulations to where they work for people and an improvement for all concerned, fair for all concerned.

Mr. Ding recognizes that Homelessness is on everyone's mind. He would not have placed the Access Center on Sacramento Street. This is where the city relies on business to be conducted. He sees business in the area as being handicapped in the current location. Countywide, Mr. Ding is also concerned about the ability of the County Health Workers to service all 4 new Homeless Centers within the county. The cities do not have Mental Health or Drug Specialists of their own.