**STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

**1. Name**
Dana Yates Sahae

**2. Office Sought**
San Mateo City Councilmember, District 5

**3. Present Residence and Occupation**
San Mateo, California
Community Advocate / Parent

**4. Business or Employment During the Past Five Years; Positions of Importance and Trust**

I have served the San Mateo community through nonprofit, school, and neighborhood leadership while raising my family.

I served on the Fiesta Gardens International School PTA for three years, two of which were as President of the Board.

As a board member of the Beresford Hillsdale Neighborhood Association, I manage newsletter coordination, layout and delivery. I also help manage meetings and organize social events for the community.

My professional background includes serving as a nonprofit executive and as a local journalist. I previously managed Millbrae Community Television and worked as a reporter for the *San Mateo Daily Journal*.

**5. Civic, Improvement, or Other Organizations During the Past Five Years; Positions of Honor or Trust**

I am also a founding member of Checkpoint Hillsdale, a group of concerned citizens seeking best outcomes for the redevelopment of Hillsdale Mall.

Through these organizations, I have worked on behalf of local families and residents, managed budgets and volunteers, organized community events, communicated about neighborhood and school issues, and advocated for the needs of the community.

**6. Public Offices Held as Principal, Deputy, or Employee**

I have not held elected public office.

**7. Experience, Training, or Education Qualifying Me for Office**

I am a San Mateo native with professional and volunteer experience in local government, journalism, nonprofit management, public education, and community advocacy.

As a journalist,  covered local government, public safety, small businesses, and community issues. That experience gave me a strong understanding of municipal government, public policy, budgeting, and the importance of asking difficult questions and considering different perspectives before making decisions.

My experience as a nonprofit executive, neighborhood leader, PTA president, and community volunteer has also given me practical experience managing budgets and diverse teams, building consensus, communicating with residents, and working collaboratively to solve problems.

**8. Length of Time as a Taxpayer in the City**

I have been a San Mateo taxpayer for approximately 30 years.

**9. Principal Public Improvements or Betterments I Would Urge if Elected**

I will prioritize the quality-of-life issues directly affect San Mateo residents, including:

• Maintaining well-funded and effective police, fire, and emergency services;
• Responsible, transparent city budgeting that protects essential services and addresses long-term financial obligations;
• Investing in streets, roads, sidewalks, parks, and other public infrastructure;
• Ensuring infrastructure and public services keep pace with future development and population growth;
• Supporting a strong local economy and creating a City Hall that is responsive to residents and businesses; and
• Improving communication, transparency, and public engagement so residents have a meaningful voice in decisions affecting their neighborhoods and community.

**10. Names of Not More Than Fifteen Residents Familiar With My Character and Abilities**

1. Linda Yates
2. Michael Ragan
3. Don Leydig
4. Natalia Guillen
5. Sandi Arata

**11. Other Information Regarding My Qualifications**

I grew up in San Mateo and am now raising my own family here. My experience as a journalist taught me to ask questions, seek out different perspectives, examine the facts, and hold

government accountable. My community leadership has reinforced the importance of collaboration, fiscal responsibility, and listening to residents — even when there is disagreement.

I am running for City Council to bring an independent, practical approach to City Hall focused on action over ideology. I will ask tough questions, listen to residents, and work collaboratively to ensure San Mateo remains a safe, financially responsible, well-managed, and welcoming community.

**12. Signature**

I declare that the foregoing Statement of Qualifications accurately represents my qualifications for the office of San Mateo City Councilmember, District 5.

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Dana Yates Sahae

Date: _____