

**March 23, 2008:
For Immediate Release**

**SANTA CLARITA CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE MARIA GUTZEIT RECEIVES
IMPORTANT ENVIRONMENTAL ENDORSEMENT FROM
LOS ANGELES LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS**

Los Angeles – The Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters (LALCV) has endorsed Maria Gutzeit for Santa Clarita’s City Council. Ms. Gutzeit is running for one of two council seats in the upcoming April 8 Santa Clarita contest.

“Our endorsement team was very impressed with Maria’s grasp of the environmental issues facing Santa Clarita,” said Mitchell Schwartz, LALCV president. “Gutzeit will be an effective leader who will who is committed to improvements in the critical areas of transportation, water conservation and health for all residents.”

Santa Clarita is one of the fastest growing cities in Los Angeles County. It is located off the 5 Freeway and there is significant development pressure within the city from adjacent county locations. The provision and management of water for the current and projected population, as well as the preservation of Southern California’s last free flowing rivers, are of great concern.

Gutzeit is a Santa Clarita Valley resident with an impressive resume of community and civic involvement. Chief among her qualifications is five years on the Newhall County Water District board. Building on a career in environmental consulting, she has been involved with regional water management planning as well as regional bicycle route planning.

Maria Gutzeit is campaigning on the following issues:

- Green Development Checklist – including elements such as trails, “dark skies” nighttime lighting, stormwater infiltration programs, solar panels offered as part of construction cost, transit pass mandates for occupants, etc.
- Waiver of Permitting Fees for Solar Panel Installations
- Adopt City Wide Drought Tolerant Landscape Ordinance, including mandates for weather-based irrigation controls
- Insist that every new road accommodate bikes either with traffic calming, trails, or bike lanes
- Ensure public review of annual workplan for recently passed Open Space measure, to ensure land is being purchased based on habitat and greenbelt benefits.

“Ms. Gutzeit has broad support in her community, from environmentalists, as well from business and government leaders,” added Schwartz. “We are proud to be a part of her campaign, and look forward to her effective environmental leadership on the Santa Clarita City Council.”

The Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters is dedicated to endorsing and supporting candidates who are committed to preserve, protect and enhance the environment throughout Los Angeles County. Throughout its twenty year history LALCV has helped elect more than one hundred environmental leaders to local offices throughout Los Angeles County.

For more information on LALCV activities and our endorsements in the upcoming election, please go to www.lalcv.org.

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