



City of San Diego  
**MARK KERSEY**  
CITY COUNCILMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 19, 2014  
**TO:** Council President Todd Gloria  
**FROM:** Councilman Mark Kersey  
**RE:** Nomination of Rachele Melious to the Community Forest Advisory Board

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It is with great pleasure that I nominate Rachele Melious for appointment to the Community Forest Advisory Board as the District Five Representative.

Rachele has had a lifelong passion for the environment and plant genetics. After serving her country in the US Navy, she quickly obtained certification in Aeroallergen Identification, became licensed in California for Pesticide Research and Plant Growth Hormones, and then studied Ornamental Horticulture at Cuyamaca College. In addition to the certification and licenses, Rachele earned her Associate Degree in Physics and Bachelor of Science in Chemistry/Biochemistry from UCSD.

For the last fifteen years, she has pursued her passion as an Independent Aeroallergen Identification Specialist, providing pollen, plant allergy, and genetic research to clients. She provides pollen collection, identification, and reporting services for clinical trials to the Allergy & Asthma Medical Group. Additionally, she has worked with the Scripps Research Institute on plant genetics, crossing of transgenic plant lines, DNA and RNA extraction, and genotyping. Along with her impressive biochemistry consulting and research, she operates Mr. G Trees, which specializes in low/no allergy plants.

Rachele Melious has an extensive background in plant genetic research and has a desire to work with the City of San Diego the urban forestry program. I respectfully nominate Rachele Melious to serve as the District Five representative to the Community Forest Advisory Board.

cc: Molly Chase, Protocol Officer, Office of the Mayor  
Diana Jurado-Sainz, Director of Legislative Affairs  
Adrian Granda, Council Representative, Office of Council President Gloria