



santa clara county ★★
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
the democratic party of silicon valley

The Road Ahead



Dear Democrat,

We did it! Four years ago, we came together as a community moved to action by the realization that our country had elected a President who was a danger to our democracy. It was only the beginning. How could we know the depths to which he would drag us?

We battled to take the House in 2018 and worked tirelessly to elect Joe Biden and Kamala Harris in 2020. We succeeded, and now our country is well on its way to getting back on track.

Every Vote Counts

It was hard to be patient while votes were counted, but the process showed that each and every vote matters. As I told our volunteers at our very last phonebank shift, at 6pm PST on election night, nobody could know which votes would put Biden and Harris over the top. When the result of our work finally became known, and Biden and Harris were declared the winners, fewer than 20,000 votes separated Biden and Trump in states like Georgia, Arizona, and Wisconsin, reminding us that each and every vote is worth fighting for. We'll keep this in mind as we turn to the Georgia Senate runoff and prepare for the 2022 midterm elections.

Unite and Heal

In his victory speech, President-elect Biden vowed to be President for all Americans, and called for us to unite and heal.

This isn't some trite platitude, nor a call for superficial niceties, and certainly not a request to compromise on our beliefs. We need to understand why more than 70 million Americans supported Trump to the very end, not just to unite

and heal, but to ensure that our party is able to anticipate and respond to the needs of millions of voters.

A call for unity is not an invitation to “meet half way” on issues of basic dignity and human rights. Some things can’t be tolerated: racism, violence, stoking division for partisan gain, kids in cages, disregarding truth, ignoring experts, and humiliating career public servants are among the many indignities our nation has suffered over the past four years.

There should be consequences for leaders, in their electoral and public lives, for engaging in and enabling such conduct.

However, we shouldn’t demonize any ordinary Americans - our friends, family, and neighbors - who hold genuine and deeply held convictions informed not by malice but by love of country. We need thoughtful conversation and introspection on both sides. Let’s work to see the common humanity of those who have a conservative political philosophy but reject Trump’s shameless manipulation and exaltation of the darkest aspects of human nature.

Challenges Ahead

While we take time to celebrate our victories, we face great challenges as a country and a movement.

We’ll need to win one or both of the Senate seats in Georgia to avoid the Mitch McConnell road block in the Senate.

We’ve reclaimed the White House, but our House majority has narrowed, heading into a midterm election in which the President’s party most commonly loses seats. Will we allow the House, which we fought so hard in 2018 to retake, to fall into Republican hands? If you need two words to help you focus try these: Speaker McCarthy.

Meanwhile, we face myriad challenges, many of which grew worse during Trump’s term, including a surging pandemic, an economic recession, ever growing income inequality, the existential threat of the climate crisis, systemic racism, and others.

There’s a hard road ahead, but as Joe Biden has said, there isn’t anything Americans can’t do if we work together.

We Can Still Flip the Senate and Save Seats in the House

We have much work to do. Check our [action center](#) for ways to get active in the battle to flip the Senate, and also ways to help track down votes that may help save a seat in some of the closely contested House races in California, including TJ Cox, Harley Rouda, and Christy Smith. Sign up [here](#) to join our SCCDP phone banks for the January 5 GA Senate runoff, Sundays and Mondays at 1pm PT.

Our Campaign 2020 by the Numbers

While we have much to do, let’s take a moment to acknowledge our hard work and the results we’ve achieved, including:

- With the help of 800 phone bank volunteers, made over 310,000 calls and reached 32,000 voters in order to elect Joe Biden and Kamala Harris and to flip the Senate
- Wrote and sent 15,000 postcards to voters in North Carolina and Virginia
- Locally, we sent slate mailers to over 100,000 Democrats in Santa Clara County, reaching voters in every corner of the County
- Sent 2,500 postcards, 40,000 emails, and 45,000 text messages, and placed 3,500 calls to Democrats in Santa Clara County to support our local candidates

- Helped elect nearly 70% of our local endorsed candidates and all California Democratic Party endorsed candidates for the Assembly, State Senate, and U.S. House
- Trained and supported the activism of over 50 SCCDP student interns, including 10 Student Leads, who organized and led work with their peers

These efforts and results prove, once again, that together we can accomplish great things.

Democratically,
Bill James
Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair

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Action Center

