DOUG NICKLES

January 2021

## Bio

Doug was raised in a family that was very active in organized and outdoor sports: baseball, camping, water skiing, fishing and hunting. While in college, he coordinated the Sports Ministry Program at his church for two years. His passion for recreation and open space started early and remains strong.

Doug has been backpacking in the Sierras, trekking in Tibet, hiking to the top of Half Dome, and running in the Avenue of the Giants half-marathon. Locally, he's been a CRPD softball umpire, participant in adult softball leagues, active in Conejo Valley United soccer, and an AYSO Region 9 soccer referee, coach and Board Member. As a fitness hiking instructor, for the Conejo Valley Adult School, he enjoyed leading residents on fitness hikes utilizing local trails while distracting the hikers' workouts with local history lessons, safety tips and plant identification quizzes.

As the Open Space Planner for the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency (COSCA), Doug's passion for our local open space resources and trails was kindled. While he was impressed with the hillsides and abundant open space upon moving to Thousand Oaks, he considers being able to actively participate in the preservation, protection and management of our open space and trail system a gift. While serving in that role, the COSCA Trails Advisory Committee was started, leading to a trail patrol program, the first trail work day, trail education days for elementary students, and the whole access trail was planned (it was/is an active committee).

Doug and his wife, Leesi, raised their three children in Thousand Oaks moving as a family, in 1984. They have spent many hours at the local parks, participated in organized CRPD recreational programs, and hiked many trails. They always actively supported their children in high school sports programs, as team parents. Two of their children still reside in the Conejo Valley with their families. They are blessed with three grandchildren, who now also participate in CRPD recreational programs. Leesi's mom is a resident of Thousand Oaks as well, having moved here with her husband and family

in 1963. Four generations of CRPD residents spanning the entire life history of the District!

Doug recently retired from the City of Glendale Fire Department, as the Assistant Fire Marshal, where he managed all of the annual inspection programs, including fire and life safety, hazardous materials, vegetation management and open space protection. Prior to being elected to the District Board, he served for six years as a City of Thousand Oaks Planning Commissioner. Doug has also served on the City of Thousand Oaks Landscape Advisory Committee, Conejo Valley Days Committee, Conejo Future Foundation Environmental Task Force, and Site Councils for Colina Middle School, Thousand Oaks High School and Westlake High School. He has an MBA degree from California Lutheran University and a BS degree in Forestry, from Humboldt State University.

Doug has lived in the community for 37 years and participated in a wide variety of recreational and community activities. With his education and professional training and experience, Doug has a unique perspective on the issues facing the District and its residents. This allows him to contribute significantly, as a CRPD Director.