

Brief Bio:

Zander Ford is a lifelong Monterey Peninsula resident with deep roots in Carmel, having graduated from Carmel High School (Class of 1996) and earned an Environmental Science degree from UC Berkeley. After leaving Berkeley, Zander founded three companies—two technology firms and his consultancy, Conscious Founders. Through Conscious Founders, he has advised prestigious organizations such as Stanford School of Medicine, the UC Berkeley Department of Neurosciences, and over 20 companies with cumulative exit valuations exceeding \$1B. In addition to his professional accomplishments, he is an active volunteer at the Community Hospital of Monterey (CHOMP) and has contributed to environmental stewardship through his work with the Ventana Wilderness Alliance's Trail Maintenance Crew. He brings extensive hands-on experience with the Carmel and Big Sur ecosystems, having hiked over 70% of the Ventana Wilderness and local trails.

Statement of Interest

I am eager to serve on the Carmel Highlands Fire District Board to advance fire safety initiatives within our community. I am committed to ensuring that our district secures the necessary resources by leveraging my extensive network of industry professionals, engaged neighbors, and local institutions. I plan to advocate for cross-organization coordination, cooperation, and the mutual benefit of fuel reduction, firefighting access, and resource acquisition and allocation to the Carmel Highlands Fire District. As a dedicated resident of the Carmel Highlands for the past 13 years, I bring a deep personal commitment to the safety and resilience of our area and look forward to collaborating with fellow board members to fortify fire and public safety while preserving our environmental and cultural heritage.