

August 20,2012
Galpin Ford-2nd floor Community room
Candidates for State Assembly
Fran Pavley and Todd Zink

(Report prepared by Denny Schneider and Joe Vitti)

The material for this August meeting report is presented in 3 Emails.

The first **Email (1)** has a brief bio of the 2 candidates.

Emails (2) and (3) will consist of the candidates responses to questions from Valley VOTE members.

State Senator Fran Pavley

Senator Pavley has represented the San Fernando Valley(SFV) since 2000 when she was on the Agoura Hills City Council and its mayor. She grew up in the SFV. She has a 50 member advisory citizen council to be eyes and ears to identify issues.

Education is important to Senator Pavley. She has a masters degree in planning. She indicated her concern that shrinking general fund revenues have made it difficult on K-12 and higher education. She has called for rebuilding our system with one that helps both those going on to college and those non-academics as well with job related apprenticeships and training.

She believes in innovative ways to relieve burdens. Energy workshop held locally In order to support energy cost reductions. She fought for creation of a \$25M revolving loan program.

Ms. Pavley supported SB617 regulation reform requirements to bring high paying jobs to California; compliance economic cost and health costs for health and is a strong advocate for jobs for clean energy and the valley green team. Supports Valley Green Team to ensure MTA and DWP bid preferences are available for small business and local businesses.

This year 20,000 energy jobs have been created in California. She is also working with DOD to ensure that energy sources are secure. She supports E2.com efforts for consumer savings.

Being safe in our communities is important. Ms. Pavley supports government efforts to increase security to protect children and seniors from elder abuse. Sex violators are a particular problem. She wants to ensure that they are subject to a long parole.

As a former middle school teacher she pushed for SD 27 and to listen to all sides, work with all. Her position on transportation is that freeways remain important and must still have a fair share of the funding. She worked with Keith Richman on the transportation committee to ensure bipartisan support for funding of the Orange Line and other expedited infrastructure projects like the 405 widening. She advocated for the Highway Patrol Car seat enforcement.

She has an open door policy to listen to all and welcomes all opinions. For questions go to her Facebook page.

Deputy DA, Todd Zink, Candidate for State Senate District 27

He has the leadership and experience necessary to help lead us to a better California. He is a Marine officer who lead a 800 unit in Afghanistan. As a Deputy DA in Van Nuys he prosecutes violent crime suspects. Todd Zink is results driven. He believes in taking responsibility. He has received regular promotions in all of his career because he has demonstrated good judgment.

He is frustrated by the partisan gridlock and will work with everyone in Sacramento. Government has been ignoring priorities; his three pillars of action focus are: public safety, job creation, and education improvement.

“There is never an excuse to put our safety in jeopardy.” proclaimed Mr. Zink who is concerned about and opposes court mandated prison “realignment.” We should not be releasing felons early. The State needs to solve this problem and not defer it to County government. Todd is endorsed by DA Steve Cooley. The headline of the Daily News – “Realignment Gone Wrong” provided a perfect example of what happens when a serial robber is released early. There are alternatives. Mr. Zink will propose ideas such as not automatically sending parole violators back to prison, but certainly if they commit new crimes. Rehabilitation in prison should be beefed up and include job training.

Businesses - JOBS should be a series of balanced policies to keep and obtain jobs for California. We have the 3rd highest rate of unemployment. The 11.8% unemployment in LA County is a big issue – we've lost 400,000 jobs over the past couple years Mr. Zink reminded the audience. This is just unacceptable. He blamed over-regulations for strangling businesses. The CA Chamber of Commerce tracks Job Killer Bills and my opponent voted for 115 of 117 since 2001. I am endorsed by the CA Small Businesses association.

Oversight agencies have acted as rogue outfits and are out of control. They must have oversight. They must not make business compliance cost prohibitive to operate in California. Todd Zink will hire staff based on business experience to address this issue. To improve the job outlook will require bipartisan efforts, he told us. We must actively recruit businesses, not just wait for them to decide whether to stay. When businesses thrive.... communities flourish.