

2 strong candidates for Lomita

As the Lomita City Council election nears, I would like to encourage your newspaper and the Lomita voters to support Ken Blackwood and Don Suminaga for the two open council seats on Nov. 6.

They both lived up to their campaign promises on such key issues as low density, fiscal responsibility and keeping special interests out of our city government. Both candidates are longtime Lomita residents who are sensitive to our history and can provide solid leadership for our future.

Regretfully, I cannot say the same positive things about Mark Waronek, the other candidate in this election. I supported Waronek at the last election, based on his pledge to support the key issues that were important to our residents, such as low density. Soon after his election, however, he started gathering private companies and became a paid lobbyist for them, some of whom have direct business dealings with the city of Lomita. He became prominent in the efforts to advance the massive, high-density Ponte Vista development in San Pedro, along Western Avenue, which would have a negative affect on the quality of life in Lomita. As a City Council member, he actively supported Ponte Vista even before the environmental impact reports were available for our City Council to study. That alone proved that his loyalties were to those he lobbied for and who paid him well, not to the city of Lomita and the residents he was supposed to represent.

Waronek is also a paid lobbyist for Time Warner Cable, which has a cable service contract with Lomita. How can Waronek honestly represent our city in contract negotiations with Time Warner and be paid by them? This and Ponte Vista are two examples of blatant conflicts of interest on his part. The Daily Breeze ran some very informative articles delving into Waronek's record as a City Council member and his paid lobbying activities that have directly affected Lomita.

Waronek showed how much he is out of touch with the wishes of our citizens when he advocated the return of so-called safe-and-sane fireworks for personal sales and use in Lomita, even though our

residents were strongly opposed and had voted that way in 1986.

In view of all these issues and others, I hope the Daily Breeze and the voters of Lomita will support Ken Blackwood and Don Suminaga for election to the Lomita City Council on Nov. 6.

— RICH
COLBARY

Lomita