Connie Chan

Meet the candidates, week 24: "Residents in the Outer Richmond complained they don't receive enough resources. Do you agree? How do you plan to address these complaints?"

When I first took office in 2021, the Outer Richmond faced the immediate shut-down of our beloved Cliff House. One of my first pieces of legislation as supervisor was to urge the National Park Service (NPS) to keep the Cliff House maintained and open, and we were successful in creating a partnership with the NPS and the Western Neighborhood Project to reactivate the space and host a museum while the NPS was seeking the next tenant. They now have a new tenant and we are anticipating they will open this year.

Additionally, the Seal Rock Inn was working to renovate and reopen during the pandemic after the initial shelter-in-place closure but faced difficulty reopening their restaurant due bureaucratic red tape. So in 2023, I passed legislation to grandfather their restaurant location's encroachment right and reduce their operation cost. We expect the restaurant to open in the coming months.

From day one, I have been a forceful advocate for every part of District 1 because we need to push for action when these types of problems arise. That is why I have fought so hard for legacy businesses in the Outer Richmond — these businesses don't just provide jobs and economic opportunity; they are the strong anchors that help us build a more vibrant community for residents.

We are also activating the Outer Balboa commercial corridor with community partners to host and support events such as a Stephen Chow Film Fest, Art Walk, Far Out Fest and more. The Stephen Chow Film Festival at the Balboa Theatre was a tremendous success, attracting hundreds of people to the corridor to dine out, catch a movie and shop the local shops for the entire weekend. We have two other film festivals coming up this year, one in September and one in December. We have been building momentum to bring new vibrancy to the Outer Richmond and we are making progress.