

Chair, Contra Costa County
Board of Supervisors

Contra Costa County



2023 Biography for Supervisor John Gioia (joy-a)

John Gioia is Chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. First elected in 1998, John has been overwhelmingly re-elected six times and represents 220,000 residents in the western most urban and diverse area of the county. He previously served for 10 years on the East Bay Municipal Utility District Board, serving as President in 1995 and 1996.

John is a recognized leader in Bay Area regional government and air quality and climate change issues. He served as Governor Brown's appointee on the California Air Resources Board from 2013 to 2020 and has been on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board since 2006, serving as Chair in 2012.

John has served as President of the California State Association of Counties. He is an environmental justice leader and serves on the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) and as Vice-Chair of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority where he helped lead an effort to pass an historic measure to raise \$500 million for San Francisco Bay.

John grew up in Richmond, graduated from El Cerrito High School and the University of California, Berkeley with a B.A. in Political Science and earned his law degree at U.C. Berkeley. He completed the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. John practiced law until his election to the Board of Supervisors.

John's public service was inspired by his father, who was a popular civics and history teacher for 20 years at Kennedy High School in Richmond. He is the proud parent of Emilia and Christopher who attended local public schools.

John has successfully built coalitions to address issues such as affordable housing, homelessness, violence prevention, environmental justice, equity, immigrant rights, access to healthcare, air and water quality, San Francisco Bay restoration, and expanding opportunities for our youth.

John helped found the RYSE Center, an innovative and popular youth center in Richmond, which is grounded on principles of social justice and youth development. He is currently working with non-profit Urban Tilth to develop a community farm in North Richmond.

Email: John_Gioia@bos.cccounty.us • Website: www.cocobos.org/gioia

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