

COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Melanie Coto

Ms. Melanie Coto is a self-made entrepreneur. Immigrating to this country in 1983 from her native Costa Rica with no visible means of support, Ms. Coto, taught herself the English language, put herself through Cal State University's Spanish Interpreting Program and developed a successful professional career as a Spanish interpreter. Her professional career led her to a series of entrepreneurial ventures creating and growing service-oriented businesses including the second largest over-the-phone interpreting company in the US. In addition to her business success, during this period she raised a son and two daughters as well as vigorously supporting a number of her passions including charitable and humanitarian aid to worthwhile causes.

Having successfully transitioned her language business, Ms. Coto is active in a number of business ventures that include owning a large horse boarding facility which is the home of the California Polo Club, and real estate investments.

Ms. Coto founded a charitable foundation through which she supports a number of worthwhile causes that include supporting the homeless, youth at risk, education for underprivileged students, people with disabilities, conservation of Los Angeles County's natural trail system, and animal and environmental protection programs.

Ms. Coto is a horse lover, horse owner, and a strong advocate for the protection of the rights of horses and horse owner's.