



Candidate Statement: Shanti Ceane

Hi - My name is Shanti Ceane and I'm running for a second term on the Silver City Food Coop's Board of Directors. I first joined the board in 2018, served as the Secretary for a time, and am currently the board president. Serving on the board has been a rewarding challenge for me, and one which continually allows me to learn and grow. I expect the challenges and growth to continue in the coming years as we begin the physical process of expanding into the Pope Street location. Over my years serving on the board, I have gained an understanding of our policies and procedures, while working with a commendable group of professionals, both on the board, and in the management and staff of the coop.

The upcoming Pope Street build-out and eventual new store location will position the co-op to continue as a cornerstone of downtown Silver City and the community. With the relocation will come the work of an active construction project which will be followed by the hiring of additional staff and opening of what promises to be a fantastic new space. My professional experience as a civil engineer, project manager, and construction manager should lend itself well to my being a valuable presence on the board, and a resource during the construction process. The board must be prepared to provide oversight of the process and keep the membership informed of the progress. I'm excited to use the knowledge and experience that I've gained during my time on the board, as well as my professional experience, toward these efforts.

Next year's board will be composed of three, or four, continuing members and a minimum of four new board members. A balance of experienced board members and new is important; it allows us to foster new ideas and perspectives, while maintaining consistency in our processes and committees. The future of the coop is bright, and I hope to continue my work on the board to help foster a cooperative and successful future as we see big changes ahead!