JUST WANTED TO KNOW. With the November 8 City Council election more than three months away, Alert Santa Cruz has commissioned a public opinion poll on likely issues and candidates.

Alert's attorney, Tim Morgan, has said the poll is for educational purposes and is not intended to help any candidates. That means the group will not file a financial disclosure statement on who paid for the poll and will avoid the city's law limiting campaign contributions to \$75.

Former Alert board member Katy Sears-Williams, who ran against County Supe Gary Patton last year, is one of the five candidates mentioned in the poll. Sears-Williams will decide in the next few weeks whether she will run. Former Harbor High School counselor Arnold Levine, also likely to have the support of Alert Santa Cruz, is another would be candidate mentioned in the poll. Levine will announce for the election next week.

Mayor Bruce Van Allen and Councilmember Mike Rotkin, who have both indicated they will run again, are also listed in the poll. And Jane Weed, who described herself as a progressive feminist in announcing last week, fills out the would-be field in the poll.

Morgan has said the poll's results will be available to selected individuals at a fair market price. Alert Santa Cruz was born last year after discussions among landlords, realtors and other concerned moderates led to a decision to take the long road rather than start a recall against the more progressive members of the City Council.

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