

2020 Endorsement Questionnaire South County

Email address *

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APA Democratic Caucus of Alameda County



PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT BY SEPT. 9, midnight. Please take time to review the questions before filling in the boxes since you cannot save the responses for later completion. Thank you for your interest in being considered for an endorsement by the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Be honest and direct. Please note: your questionnaire will be posted on our website for Caucus members and the public to review.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Bryan Azevedo

City and zip code of residence.

94578

What is your campaign website address?

Bryanazevedo.com

What is your campaign email address?

bga252002@yahoo.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- City of San Leandro City Council
- City of San Leandro School Board
- City of Hayward City Council
- City of Hayward, Unified School District Trustee
- City of Fremont, Mayor
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 1
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 5
- City of Fremont, City Council, Dist. 6
- City of Fremont, Unified School District, Dist. 1
- City of Fremont, Unified School District, Dist. 4
- City of Fremont, Unified School District, Dist. 5
- City of Union City, Mayor
- City of Union City, City Council
- New Haven School Trustee, Area 1
- New Haven School Trustee, Area 2
- New Haven School Trustee, Area 3
- City of Newark, Mayor
- City of Newark, City Council
- City of Newark, School Board
- City of Newark, School Board, Short term
- Eden Healthcare District
- Washington Hospital Healthcare District
- Oro Loma Sanitarv District

Ohlone Community College

Alameda County Water District

AD 20, State Assembly Representative

AD 25, State Assembly Representative

Ohlone Community College, Area 2

Other:

Are you the incumbent?

Yes

No

Are you a registered Democrat? The APA Democratic Caucus can only endorse registered Democrats

Yes

No

How long have you been a registered Democrat? If less than 5 years, please explain your reason for becoming a Democrat.

Since I was 18yrs 1996 Always a Democrat

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

San Leandro's top demographic population is people of Asian ancestry which has been growing every single year. I have worked with labor groups to increase our diversity in our membership and leadership. My campaign has been about bringing everyone together to the table. I have many Asian supporters including elected officeholders. Having this Caucus' endorsement is important because of San Leandro's pre-dominant Asian population.

List ONLY the top 5 endorsements that you have received. (Please reference your website if you want to alert us to more).

Benny Lee San Leandro City Council District 4
Victor Aguilar San Leandro City Council District 3
Richard Valle Alameda County Supervisor
Aisha Wahab Hayward City Council
Francisco Zermano Hayward City Council

If we endorse you, will you use our name in your campaign materials?

Yes

No

Maybe

How long have you lived in the district which you are seeking to represent?

on and off my whole life. I moved back in 2009

Educational background: What schools have you attended, date graduated, major and degree(s) earned.

Castro Valley High School
Heald Tech Computer Degree
Sequoia Institute Automotive Degree
Sheet Metal 5 year Apprenticeship program

Employment: List the last three (3) paid positions, indicating name of employer, job title, and length of employment.

Sheet Metal Union since 1999

What are the names of any community or nonprofit organizations with which you have been an active volunteer in the past 3-5 years.

San Leandro Democratic club
San Leandro Rotary club
Davis Street Resource Center

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

1. What differentiates you from your opponents for the elected office that you are seeking?

Everyone in the city knows of my commitment to my community and the serving those underserved for the last several years. I ran unsuccessfully for the same seat in 2016 but never let up on my support for my community. Immediately after my lost, I began community clean-ups that involved many volunteers and this became a semi-annual event I consistently coordinated. I've worked every week consistently since then at the Bethel Community Church food bank serving many of the underserved and non-English speaking populations. I had recognized early that many of those in the lines spoke Chinese and solicited my good friend Councilmember Benny Lee and other Chinese speakers to serve these lines providing the much needed translations. I've organized many community rallies and candle-light events to serve those affected by tragedies. When Covid-19 hit and many of these services shut down, I have organized volunteer services to deliver food and basic services to elderly Seniors and the underserved communities. Generous small businesses have flocked to assist me in these services allowing me to provide over three thousand meals. The difference between the incumbent and myself is that I've continued to do these services as a natural extension of myself while he does very little for the community. The new Black Lives Matter movement is important to me as we must address officer involved shootings that have killed unarmed Black Men and I will keep these dialogues open to ensure that implicit bias is eradicated and equity is met for all – the incumbent has used this as an political opportunity to change his position on police and has raised signs such as “No Justice, No Piece” irresponsibly while holding the office seat. I will always seek for justice but will not use this seat as irresponsibly as he.

2. Describe one issue for the district you want to represent for which you have provided leadership and about which you are passionate.

Serving the underserve and ensuring that we bring good jobs to people while prepping our young for multiple options including jobs in the trades. I've been a leader in the labor movement but I'm also well supported by small business. I believe in diverse outcomes and will work with the movement to ensure that our youths have many career choices. Having lead in the trades and mentored many, I believe I can work on these diverse outcomes.

3. What percentage of the district you [or intend to] represent are of APA heritage?

San Leandro has 33% Asian population and this number continues to grow.

4. Please identify the three largest APA ethnicities in your district.

Chinese, Filipino, Viet-nameese

5. Please identify the most at-risk APA community in your district and explain why.

Those that can't speak English. There was a report published by the City of San Leandro in Spring of 2017 that showed the most underserved population was Chinese only speakers followed by a close second with Spanish only speakers. We need to do more and I recognize this in the food bank lines I've served.

6. List the three top concerns of members of the APAs in your district.

Asians are concerned about Public Safety. The recent messages posted on the homes of Asians in Heron Bay telling them to get out has struck fear in the community. The racism that has started from the President on "Chinese Virus" and "Kung Flu" has increased incidents of attacks on Asians and we need the trust of our public safety to solve this concern.

Health is another concern as Asians were first to wear masks but underserved Asians may have challenges with health coverage. We need to increase awareness of the recent Asian Health Services Offices that opened in San Leandro to address those who are language challenged.

7. During the COVID-19 pandemic, reports of anti-Asian verbal and physical attacks have arisen. If you are the incumbent, how have you addressed this? If you are a candidate how will you address this?

I noted this above and the President's words have been horrible and have caused many of these attacks. Councilmember Benny Lee has championed this issue and have communicated this concern to me early on and I've addressed these at rallies and candlelight vigils. Councilmember Benny Lee has moved for a resolution that was adopted by Council against Covid 19 Asian racism and I will continue efforts. He's the last Asian on Council but we talk weekly so I have a strong advocate and expert that will channel these concerns. The incumbent has not spoken on this matter even once from the bench.

8. Do you believe that Asian and Pacific Americans are adequately represented in local government? What can elected officials do to improve participation?

No. Councilmember Benny Lee will be off the Council in the new year so there will not be an Asian representative. He talks to me regularly and advises on these issues so I wish to continue this work and work with the APA Caucus to ensure concerns are met.

9. Please identify all Asian Pacific American candidates whom you have personally endorsed over the past 5 years including this election cycle. If there are none, please explain.

Rob Bonta for Assembly, Benny Lee for Council/Mayor, Aisha Wahab for Council, Betty Yee for Controller, Fiona Ma for Treasurer, Kamala Harris for Senator. I lobbied two other San Leandro Councilmembers to get Councilmember Benny Lee to be Vice Mayor on his last year for all his years of service and him being the most senior in experience. The incumbent Ed Hernandez voted against Councilmember Benny Lee in favor of former White Police Captain, Councilmember Pete Ballew proving that Ed is not committed to top leadership diversity. I've supported and endorsed Benny Lee for San Leandro Mayor and Ed did not and has never supported Councilmember Benny Lee despite Benny mentoring all new Councilmembers with himself included on the National League of Cities training and advocacy.

10. If you were faced with a situation that involved an Asian Pacific American community, would you seek consultation with our Caucus as a resource?

Yes

No

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please submit your responses by Sept. 9, 2020 midnight. Our South County Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for Sat., Sept. 20 from 1 to 3 pm on Zoom. Only those candidates submitting the questionnaire on time will be on our endorsement ballot. No changes to your responses can be made after it is submitted.

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