

2020 Endorsement Questionnaire South County

Email address *

vinnie@bacon4supervisor.com

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 *

Vinnie Bacon

City and zip code of residence.

Fremont, 94536

What is your campaign website address?

<https://www.bacon4supervisor.com>

What is your campaign email address?

vinnie@bacon4supervisor.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 Sanitary District

Ohlone Community College

Alameda County Water District

AD 20, State Assembly Representative

AD 25, State Assembly Representative

Ohlone Community College, Area 2

Other: Alameda County Board of Supervisors, District 1

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.

12 years

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

I have always believed that the Democratic Party needs to be a 'big tent' and be as diverse as the populations our elected representatives serve.

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

Alameda County Democratic Party
Ro Khanna, Congressman CA District 17
Alameda Labor Council
Sierra Club
SEIU 1021

Full list at <https://bacon4supervisor.com/endorsements/>.

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?

26 years

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

MS Transportation Engineering, UC Berkeley, 1994

Master of City Planning, UC Berkeley, 1994

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

Dama Financial, Senior Salesforce Developer, 1.5 years

KQED, Senior Salesforce Developer, 2 years

Sungevity, Senior Salesforce Developer, 1 year

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

Sierra Club

FUN Progressives

Alameda County Democratic Party Central Committee

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

I am the only Democrat in the race. I am also the only clean money candidate in the race. I don't take campaign contributions from developers, corporations or any political action committees

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

I have repeatedly said that affordable housing is the most pressing issue facing local elected officials and the issue that they have the most control over. I have never voted against an affordable housing project that has come before the Fremont City Council.

Developers make their largest profits by building market rate housing. Thus, this is what they've been building more than anything else. There is a nexus that shows that building market rate housing yields a demand for affordable housing. Cities like Fremont allow developers to pay in lieu fees as opposed to building affordable housing. But these fees don't allow cities to build the affordable housing that they need. This has been the case for decades resulting in the affordable housing crisis that we have now.

There are two things I would suggest to address this. First, we have to look at public lands as places to build affordable housing. Being public land, the profit motive is not present. We can build for the interests of the community, not the interests of private corporations.

Secondly, we need to push our State legislators to enact legislation that first and foremost leads to the construction of affordable housing. I have been disappointed by some of the housing legislation that simply pushes 'more housing' assuming that providing a lot of market rate housing will somehow all affordability to trickle down to those who are struggling to afford a place to live.

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

Fremont is over 50% APA. Dublin is about 26% and Livermore is about 8%

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

Chinese and Indo-American

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

I am not sure.

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

Affordable housing, traffic and economic recovery from COVID.

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 would speak out strongly against any reference to the virus as the 'China virus' or against any attacks based on one's ethnicity. I have emphasized that this is a medical issue that has nothing to do with one's ethnicity nor one's political persuasion. Any crimes that are hate crimes should be fully prosecuted as such.

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

Overall, yes for the most part in Fremont. Four of the seven Fremont City Councilmembers are APA. However, other local municipalities don't enjoy that much representation. I am always happy to support new candidates regardless of their ethnicity.

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.

I have formally endorsed the following people in this election cycle: Lily Mei, Alex Lee, Raj Salwan, Kristie Wang, Yogi Chugh, and Teresa Keng.

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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