

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 *

Ed Hernandez

City and zip code of residence.

94578

What is your campaign website address?

www.edhernandezforcitycouncil.com

What is your campaign email address?

ed@edhernandezforcitycouncil.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:

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.

I have been a registered Democrat since I was eligible to vote, 18 year of age (1994).
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Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

Being a first generation Mexican American, I value diversity and the contributions immigrants and working families have made to all our communities. I strongly support working families striving to meet basic needs and can build the trust to provide support necessary so they can thrive in this new environment.

Furthermore, I value diversity and the importance of the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County's role in affecting our democratic process towards more engagement, influence and promoting of inclusion in local politics and bolstering support within the APA community. It is this focus and engagement with the Asian Pacific community that I value and seek to be connected with, driving and enhancing my understanding of the community's challenges and needs in San Leandro.

With over 30% of the population represented by Asian Pacific American residents, and keenly aware of the challenges with multi-generational households, technology resource concerns, and food access worries, when challenged with housing and job issues, I value the support and endorsement of this Caucus to be an ally within this community, to serve the needs and ensure the City of San Leandro is an inclusive place for all residents, especially members of the Asian Pacific community.

I have a broad coalition of parents, people of color, and residents throughout the community—I welcome your endorsement!

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

- Rob Bonta, California State Assemblymember
- Scott Hagerty, Alameda County Supervisor
- Alameda County Firefighters
- South Alameda County Young Democrats
- Kenneth Pon, BZA/Planning Commissioner

Additional endorsements @ edhernandezforcitycouncil.com/endorse.

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?

I have lived in San Leandro's District 2 since 2004, 16 years.

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

- BS, Financial Management, CSU Long Beach, 1999
- MBA, Strategic Management, CSU Hayward (East Bay), 2001
- MS, Organizational Development, University of San Francisco, 2012

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

- Councilmember, City of San Leandro - 3 years 8 months
- Real Estate Operations Manager, Robert Half International, Inc. – 5 years
- Real Estate Broker/Consultant, Bay East Legacy & Associates – 9 years

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

- Board Member, Alameda County Fairgrounds Association
 - Board Member, East Bay Community Energy
 - Lead Usher, Church of the Assumption, San Leandro
 - Member, Urban Land Institute, Placemaking & Town Centers Council
 - Volunteer/Board Member (former), San Leandro Chamber of Commerce
 - Volunteer/Supporter, Davis Street Family Resource Center
 - Volunteer, San Leandro & All Saints Episcopal Food Pantries
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CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

Challenging times demand experienced leadership. I have worked to restore compassionate homeless services, championed mental health programs, and ensured San Leandro is prepared for any 911, natural disaster, or health emergency.

I am focused on the local recovery, leading efforts to retain local businesses and support our families with food, housing, and health services through the recession. Also, I have focused on ensuring that we can keep our streets and public areas safe, healthy, and clean, maintaining fire prevention and safety services, and ensuring San Leandro is ready for any emergency.

I have supported over \$1,000,000 to the San Leandro community for food, housing and crisis support by ensuring visibility to our financial obligations for the next 10 years, identifying and driving additional revenue and ensuring we were prepared for the next recession, resulting as of now, a reserve of \$52 million where we are drawing down \$10-12 million for this year.

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

An issue that I want to tackle is housing in District 2, specifically at the Bayfair TOD Area that is an Opportunity Zone to encourage development, specifically in partnership with BART on their surface parking area that would be transformed into affordable housing with a long term lease.

Ultimately, there is a plan of 2,000 homes in this area, where I have worked to bring additional housing such as the Bridge Housing developments of Marea Alta and La Verada with 200 affordable housing units plus the support of Eden's development for to build 62 rental apartments for individuals and households earning between 20% and 60% of the area median income, equivalent to an annual income of \$20,000 to \$60,000 for a two-person household, where half will be aside approximately half of the units for homeless and lower-income veterans.

Finally, there is also redevelopment of the San Leandro Marina with housing and additional resources that will support the overall success of deploying resources to support families who want to keep San Leandro as their home and not have to make a choice between paying rent or purchasing food for their nuclear and extended family.

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

Based on the 2010 census data 30.5% of San Leandro's population of 84,950 identify as Asian/Pacific Islander.

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

Chinese, Filipino and Vietnamese

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

Our youth and seniors, especially children in their elementary school years who are attempting to learn through distance learning, where they may not have the resources to learn and participate in the education offered by their teachers. These challenging times have been especially hard on our seniors as well, including our APA seniors. I have been helping with local food supplies for our seniors as well as wellness checks, we must make sure our most vulnerable are taken care of through this crisis.

Without providing technology solutions, on-demand tutoring/computer assistance or food access, when needed, this segment of the APA community will fall behind in their opportunity to survive in this pandemic and have a difficult challenge in reaching grade level proficiencies from their peers, where more resources were readily available for them. It is very important, as a Councilmember, to drive the necessary resources to the APA community, ensuring they can thrive in this environment and be ready for in-person learning and opportunities, post COVID.

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

- Education, ensuring access to resources for distance learning
 - Representation in local offices, ensuring APA voices are heard
 - Racism and Bias, ensuring support and resources towards minimizing these racial conflicts in the community.
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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 have zero tolerance for verbal and physical attacks, especially in this xenophobic environment against Asian Pacific Americans. Only through education and creating policy to mitigate racism and systemic bias can we truly create a more inclusive and just society for all Americans.

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

No, fortunately, we have Rob Bonta as the first Filipino-American and Chair of the California Asian & Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus who has endorsed my re-election to City Council. However, to better represent Asian and Pacific Americans in local government, elected officials must work with Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute for a local presence to drive civic engagement, such voter registrations, encourage/mentor potential APA candidates and get-out-the-vote in the East Bay.

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 personally supported and endorsed Rob Bonta's re-election efforts as an Assemblymember to the State Legislature. Of course, I have also worked closely with and view myself as a supporter of other significant APA leaders, such as County Supervisor Wilma Chan.

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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