

# 2020 Endorsement Questionnaire East 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 \*

Melissa Hernandez

City and zip code of residence.

Dublin, 94568

What is your campaign website address?

melissaformayor.com

What is your campaign email address?

melissa@melissaformayor.com

What is the office that you are seeking? \*

- City of Dublin Mayor
- City of Dublin City Council
- City of Dublin, Unified School District Trustee, Area 1
- City of Dublin, Unified School District Trustee, Area 4
- City of Livermore, Mayor
- City of Livermore, City Council, Dist. 3
- City of Livermore, Unified School District
- City of Pleasanton, Mayor
- City of Pleasanton, City Council
- City of Pleasanton, Unified School District Trustee
- AC Board of Supervisors, District 1
- AD 16, State Assembly Representative
- 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.

5 plus

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

I truly feel that is important to work in partnership with the APA caucus's I would be honored to represent the Asian community.

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

Supervisor Wilma Chan, Assessor Phong La, Congressman Eric Swalwell, Councilmember Shawn Kumagi, Former Mayor Tim Sbranti and Alameda County FireFighter who represent Dublin. melissaformayor.com for additional references

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?

21+ years

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

Cal State University, Eastbay -Political Science Public Administration

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

Health Care and Social Services- Alameda County for Supervisor Haggerty Dist.1, Dr. Stephen Reid D.D.S  
Dr. Wilkins D.M.D

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

Dublin Rotary Club, Parent Facility Student Organization and Dublin Little League, St. Raymond Basketball and Dublin United Soccer.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

What differentiates me from my opponents are a few main items. Since I have been on council I have been an active and involved councilmember. My agenda is not to say 'no, no, no', my position is to lead. It is to say 'we can' and 'let's work together' to maintain our quality of life in Dublin during challenging times. I have worked tirelessly to tackle tough issues in our city and regionally. I'm the only councilmember with great endorsements of dignitaries and local leaders. I will continue to work with regional, state and federal leaders to be a voice for Dublin.

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

During COVID 19 I have worked hard to provide food in vulnerable populations and I spearheaded our micro loan program for our small businesses. Our residents and businesses are my priority especially during these difficult times.

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

36.6%

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

Chinese, Asian Indian and Filipino

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

The most at- risk APA community would be our senior population because of the language barrier.

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

Education, Language barriers and public protection.

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?

We as a council have voiced our concerns about how the Asian community was being treated and that is not ok to treat the Asian community disrespectfully. As a woman of color it has been my priority that bullying is not tolerated in our community and that we are an inclusive Dublin.

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

I feel that there can always be more representation. Elected officials can make sure to include the APA in the conversation and provide a place at the table.

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.

Assessor Phong La, Councilmember Shawn Kumagi, Sabina Zafar, Olivia Sanwong

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 East County Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for Thu., Sept. 17 beginning at 6:30 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.

# Google Forms