

2020 Endorsement Questionnaire South County

Email address *

salwanforfremont@gmail.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 *

Raj Salwan

City and zip code of residence.

Fremont 94539

What is your campaign website address?

www.rajsalwan.com

What is your campaign email address?

salwanforfremont@gmail.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.

since age of 18 years

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

The endorsement of the Caucus will let our residents know that I have support of the premier API Democratic organization in Alameda County. It would also be satisfying personally since I was a former board member of this caucus.

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

Betty Yee, California State Controller
Ro Khanna, United States Congressman CD 17
Eric Swalwell, United States Congressman CD 15
Bob Wieckowski, California State Senator
Bill Quirk, Assemblymember, 20th District

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?

10 years in district, approximately 40 in city

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

University of California, Irvine 92-95

Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine 1995-1999

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

City of Fremont 2016-present

Veterinarian - self 1999-present

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

I have been a board member of Abode Services, Kidango, Associate member of Fremont Education Foundation.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

Experience, endorsements, fundraising

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

Traffic congestion- reducing cut through traffic

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

58%

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

Chinese American, Indian American, Filipino American

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

The most at-risk APA group in Fremont is the Afghan community. They are primarily refugees from Afghanistan during the war with USSR. Many suffer from PTSD, mental health issues, and many other social and health issues. Our City does try to support them in their many causes.

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

Education, Public Safety, Traffic

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 been vocal on social media and in many forums in vocalizing my concerns about xenophobia and racism. We cannot tolerate any form of racism or disunity by anyone.

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

I believe the primary APA groups in Fremont are well represented, although I will not e that Indian Americans are underrepresented for the size of their population.

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.

Phong La, Rob Bonta, Anu Natarajan, Ro Khanna, Evan Low, Jennifer Toy Harrison

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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