

2020 Endorsement Questionnaire

Email address *

amos4alameda@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 *

Amos White

City and zip code of residence.

Alameda, CA 94501

What is your campaign website address?

www.amoswhite4alameda.com

What is your campaign email address?

amos4alameda@gmail.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- Alameda City Council
- Alameda School Board
- Berkeley, Mayor
- Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 2
- Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 3
- Berkeley, City Council, Dist.5
- Berkeley, City Council, Dist. 6
- Berkeley, Unified School District Trustee
- Berkeley, Rent Stabilization Board
- Oakland, City Council, Dist. 1
- Oakland, City Council, Dist. 3
- Oakland, City Council, Dist. 5
- Oakland, City Council, Dist. 7
- Oakland, City Council, At-large
- Oakland City Attorney
- Oakland USD, School Trustee, Dist. 1
- Oakland USD, School Trustee, Dist. 3
- Oakland USD, School Trustee, Dist. 5
- Oakland USD, School Trustee, Dist. 7
- AC Transit, Bd. of Directors, Ward 1
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- AC Transit, Bd. of Directors, Ward 2
- AC Transit Bd. of Directors, At-Large
- EB Regional Park Dist, Bd. of Directors, Ward 1
- AD 15, State Assembly Representative
- AD 18, State Assembly Representative
- Peralta Community College District, Bd. of Director, 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.

37 years

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

Asian Pacific Americans are impacted every day as people of color. As the only Black candidate in this race, the APA Caucus endorsement would signify to our Asian Pacific American community that I and my candidacy are best suited to represent and to fight for the concerns and interests of Alameda's Asian Pacific residents.

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

* Frank Mattarese, Fmr. Council Member

* Henry Levy – Alameda County Treasurer/Tax Collector

* David Kakishiba – East Bay Asian Youth Center, Former OUSD School Board Member

* Mike & Cookie Robles Wong

* Al & Candy DeWitt

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?

8 years

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

CORO Foundation, Leadership Training in Public Affairs, Public Affairs Fellow 1992

Wittenberg University, BA Political Science, 1988

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

100K Trees for Humanity, Founder & CEO, 2019 - Present

Amos White Marketing, Consultant & Executive Coach, 2007 - 2019

Marketing Director/Sr. Account Executive, Baynet World Inc., 2005 – 2007

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

- 100K Trees for Humanity, Urban reforestation initiative. 2019 - Present
- Bay Area Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force, Vice Chair. Since 2019.
- ACLU People Power Alameda, Lead Organizer. Since 2017
- CASA-Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda, Steering Committee. Since 2017
- Alameda All Faiths Coalition, Subcommittee Chair. Since 2018
- Encinal High School Athletic Boosters, VP Marketing. Since 2019
- Bay Area Generations: literary reading series. Board 2015; President, since 2016
- Rhythmix Cultural Works, Board Member, 2015-2018
- California Writer's Club – Berkeley Branch, 2009 - Present
- Alameda Island Poets, Fmr. Board Member. Since 2009 - Present

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

I am the only Black candidate and non-attorney that brings a unique, fair and hard working enthusiasm to our city.

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

I want to lead our city in addressing systemic racism and equity in our city. Alameda is in the midst of deep challenges. This summer showed our city's public safety failure in justice and humanity. It's time for a change. We need accountability of our city officials and police department. As council member, I will:

- * Assure our departments, ordinances, policies and trainings address the inherent systemic racism,
- * Actively monitor our Citizens Oversight Committee process to assure equity in representation and proposed solutions;
- * Call for the reallocation of funding from APD nonessential calls for service and to demilitarize the spending, training, materiel and ordinance in the department.
- * Reallocate freed up funding to Public Health and Wellness programs for care to our unhoused and homeless population.

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

31%

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

Chinese, Filipino, Korean

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

We cannot allow racism upon our Asian Pacific Americans to happen anywhere. I believe the Chinese community is the most at risk in Alameda due to their large population and presence in the community. This was seen when COVID virus hit and was wrongfully being stigmatized as a "Chinese virus." That is when the attacks on Asian Americans started again.

This racism is not acceptable, but due to the size of the Chinese community makes them a vulnerable target in times of xenophobic authoritarianism. This is what happened to the Alameda Japanese community in WWII when neighbors turned their backs on longstanding community members and allowed them to be taken from their homes and from the community because of xenophobic racism.

That is why I fight back with the ACLU People Power Alameda to defend our Constitution and the civil and human rights of everyone in our community.

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

Housing security, local business economy, and mental health care for stress are their greatest concerns.

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:

- * Call on our interfaith community to join in an education and information campaign to ask their communities to come together and celebrate our differences as the core of our community's strength.
 - * Work with city public information staff to educate the community with science and facts to dispel myths and racist lingo.
 - * Hold townhalls to address the facts and to share in community as a diverse group of neighbors.
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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 that APA community is fairly well represented. But we can do better. The APA population is 31% in Alameda, but our commissions, boards and organization board are nowhere near that. As council member, I would:

- * Establish a student internship program to get APA students direct experience in government.
 - * Invite our APA council members to join me in public meetings to model successful Asian elected officials to citizens and students.
 - * I would personally recruit APA students proportionately to submit to join our city's boards and commissions.
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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, for Alameda County Assessor
 - * Austin Tam, ADEM 18 Candidate
 - * Stewart Chen, for Alameda Hospital Board
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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 North County Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for Thu., Sept. 24 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