

2020 Endorsement Questionnaire

Email address *

billwithrow4trustee@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 *

Bill Withrow

City and zip code of residence.

Alameda 94502

What is your campaign website address?

billwithrow4trustee.com

What is your campaign email address?

billwithrow4trustee@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
- 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: Peralta Community College District Trustee, Area 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.

28 years

Are you an APA Caucus member?

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement?

I value your endorsement.
.....

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

Carl Chan from Oakland's China Town; Alameda Mayor Marilyn Ashcraft; President Bill Pai of the Community of Harbor Bay Isle Owners Association; Former Alameda Mayor Marie Gilmore; Former Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris; and (billwithrow4trustee.com) for sixty more.
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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?

Over 40 years
.....

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

Harvard MBA (Finance) 1972 Colorado University BS (Finance) 1959

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

PearTrack Security Systems, Board Chair 15 years; Parallax Health Sciences 12 years, Director, Compensation Committee Chair, Audit Committee Deputy Chair, and Governance Committee Co-Chair; Monticito Biosciences Board Chair 15 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.

I am the Chair of the Robert L. Lippert Foundation; I am on the Alameda Hospital Foundation Board (Past President); I am President of the Bay View Harbor Homeowners Association; I am on the Finance Committee for a U.S. Navy Foundation; and I work for the Board of Admissions of Harvard College as an interviewer of applicants.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

My opponent is not a Registered Democrat and is an embittered former employee of the Peralta Community College District

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

Student Success. That is the name of the game for me. It has always driven me to drive for an Institutional focus for that bottom line.

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

Right at 35%

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

Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese and Japanese

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

The elderly and retired community because of the cost of living in the Bay Area.

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

Education: Access and quality. Cost of living. COVID-19 Pandemic

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?

Blaming the COVID-19 pandemic on the Asian Community is non-sensical and never occurred in any setting to which I have been associated. I would not tolerate that behavior. From a personal standpoint, I have an ethnic Chinese daughter-in-law with two Euro-Asian grandsons.

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

As Mayor of Alameda, I followed a strategy to recruit Asian and Pacific Americans into community service. I did not find it to be easy. Many were not comfortable with the idea of being a political type. One area that we must make some headway in is in the Police forces. At least 25 to 30 percent of the police force should be Asian and Pacific Americans.

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.

Bill Pai, HBIOA President; Lena Tam, Alameda City Council; Stewart Chen, Alameda City Council; Tony Daysog, Alameda City Council

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.

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