

Please respond by Saturday, August 27, 2016

1. What are three major issues in Emeryville that need to be addressed now? What creative ideas do you have to address these issues?

Affordability. Cost of living is key concern for all Bay Area residents and Emeryville is no exception. With limited housing stock, care in adding new developments is key. I will fight to increase the percentage of 'affordable' and 'median' priced housing stock in the city of Emeryville and make sure that developers maximize the community benefits of any new housing in our city.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety. In an under 2 square mile city, residents should be able to safely walk or bike anywhere in town. Unfortunately, our bike boulevards see too much car traffic going too fast for cyclists to feel safe. San Pablo is frankly scary to cross on foot. Having advocated for better bike infrastructure at a state level, I will apply that experience to improve Emeryville's transit options. With the \$4 million allocated for San Pablo revitalization from measure BB, our city needs to lead the Alameda Capital CTC Improvement Program for this area in demanding contiguous protected bikeways connecting Emeryville to the rest of Alameda county. Providing protected bikeways on this corridor will improve bicyclist and pedestrian safety, as well as increasing foot traffic and patronization of local business.

Parks. Emeryville has significantly fewer acres of park space per 1,000 residents than surrounding communities. Increasing park and open space is a benefit for community relationships, health of residents and property values. I will prioritize street level park space in any new developments and seek to improve public spaces by advocating for mini parks and parklets that can add more green for residents to enjoy and play spaces for local families.

2. Who has endorsed you so far (groups and individuals of note)? Who are you endorsing, from President all the way down ballot to local races?

I have been endorsed by Mayor Dianne Martinez, City Council Member Scott Donahue Alameda Labor Council, and the Sierra Club with several endorsement interviews coming up in the next few weeks.

I am voting for:

- **Hillary Clinton for President**
- **Kamala Harris for Senate.**

No one local has asked for my endorsement at this time.

3. How much money do you currently have for this race? How much money do you plan to raise? Where will the money come from?

I have about \$5,000, I plan to raise \$20,000 in total. I will solicit contributions from local supporters and organizations that endorse me.

4. Why did you choose to run for this office? What strength/ skills would you bring to the Council?

I am running for Emeryville City Council because I believe I will be an effective leader on the key issues of affordability, availability of parks and open space, and safe transit options. My vision for Emeryville is to enhance the value of the small space we have and enable young professionals, families and small businesses to thrive in our community. Having worked on organizing and advocacy campaigns for nearly 10 years, I believe my community engagement skills will be an asset on the city council. I'd like to use my background in voter outreach to engage our city on issues concerning residents. We have a vibrant, growing community that will benefit from increased citizen input and oversight.

5. What major Emeryville development of the last 10 years do you least respect and why? Most respect?

6. How can we attract more families into Emeryville?

We can increase access to parks and open space, and build more housing units with 3 bedrooms. Families cannot live comfortably in studios and one bedrooms. We can also invest and create safe routes to schools, meaning that children 8 years and up should be able to safely walk or bike to school.

7. Traffic is a major problem in Emeryville and with all the development in the pipeline it seems likely to get worse. How would you work to lessen this?

Expanding AC Transit and Emery Go Round will be a necessity to attract new residents. I believe lowering the parking ratio and incentivizing car-free transit by providing safe alternatives are vital to not overwhelm our streets, some of which have surpassed their planned capacity.

8. The Sherwin Williams project as proposed will mean the demise of the Horton Street Bike Boulevard as defined by the General Plan owing to too much surplus project generated traffic. Additionally the 45th and 53rd Street bike boulevards will also be rendered impossible according to metrics defined by the General Plan because of the excess traffic generated by the Sherwin Williams project. The developers say the project is so good, it's worth destroying these bike facilities to get it. How will amenities from the project more than offset the loss of these critical bike corridors (presuming you agree)?

I don't necessarily agree. I believe augmenting our city's housing stock, in particular below market rate, is an important asset as our street level green park developments. I do not believe that worsening the conditions on our already not-really-bike-boulevards is a necessary evil. I am pleased to see the amount of bike parking offered but worried by the lack of infrastructure that would encourage residents to use it.

9. Without the re-development agency, how can small business be encouraged to come to Emeryville?

We are increasing our city's population and density considerably, which should make small business more viable. We absolutely need to prioritize increasing foot traffic and walkability on our city streets. Small business enjoy a significant increase in walk-in customers on streets that have pedestrian and bike safety improvements. We need to reach out to the local business community and engage them in leading efforts to improve our streets for residents and shoppers.

10. Do you believe that transparency in city decisions has improved in the past five years? Does this still need improvement? What changes would you suggest or support?

I believe our Council is upholding the letter and spirit of the Brown Act. City government can always work to be more open and inclusive, and I would look to include more renters in city decision making by specifically targeting them for to weigh in on issues and decisions made at the Council that directly affect them.

11. How do you see the role of the city manager in Emeryville with regard to both connection to the city council and the public? Can you comment on changes in this with our new city manager and your opinion.

I believe the city manager's job is to execute the general plan and the will of the city, and the role of the city council is to hold them accountable to that and help them as best as possible.

12. Do you support amending the Constitution to end corporate Constitutional rights and getting money out of politics? Have you [Taken the Pledge to Amend](https://movetoamend.org/take-pledge-amend)? (<https://movetoamend.org/take-pledge-amend>)

Yes and yes.

13. What is your current line of work, phone number, e-mail, and website?

I am Regional Political Organizer for SEIU UHW. You can reach me at 916 743 1099. You already have my email, my website is <https://allymedina.com/>

14. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about yourself?

I believe I bring a fresh perspective to the table after 10 years of advocacy on progressive issues throughout the Bay Area and the state. My experience as a community organizer taught me how important it is to listen to residents, civic and community leaders, and business owners and work toward solutions that provide the most benefit to our community as a whole. Organizing has also taught me the value of engaging marginalized communities in the civic process.

I am committed to public service and was recently appointed to the Emeryville Parks and Recreation Committee. I am excited at the opportunity to continue serving my friends and neighbors on the city council and would be grateful to have your endorsement.